

1 UNITED ACADEMICS PROPOSAL

2
3 RESEARCH SUPPORT

4
5 **BRIDGE FUNDING**

6 **Section 1. Bridge Funding Pool.** The Employer shall make available annually a pool equivalent
7 to 3% of the previous year’s recovered F&A costs for the purposes of bridge funding. The
8 Employer is not obligated to distribute the entirety of this pool in a given fiscal year.

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10 **Section 2. Eligibility.** When a faculty member employed at 0.50 FTE or greater in a position
11 supported by external funding has their FTE reduced below 0.50 because of the loss of funding,
12 they will be eligible to apply for bridge funding.

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14 **Section 3. Application Process.** To apply for bridge funding, a faculty member must notify their
15 academic unit head of their expected need for bridge funding thirty days prior to the termination
16 or reduction of their current funding, except in cases of sudden unexpected reduction or
17 termination of external funds.

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19 Applications for bridge funding must be made in writing and outline the reasons for needing
20 bridge funding.

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22 Applications for bridge funding made by principal investigators should also detail the grant or
23 award applications they have outstanding, as well as a brief description of how bridge funding
24 will advance the research program of the faculty member before additional grants or awards are
25 secured.

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27 Applications for bridge funding made by those who are not principal investigators should include
28 a list of any outstanding grant or award projects on which their position is included, a statement
29 of support from their immediate supervisor, and a brief description of their research experience
30 and skills that support their program or university needs.

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32 **Section 4. Application Criteria.** Decisions to award bridge funding and the amount of support
33 to be given to a particular applicant will be made by the Office of Research in consultation with
34 the Dean of the college or program the faculty member is employed in, as well as the immediate
35 supervisor of the bargaining unit member.

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37 Decisions about bridge funding shall be made by the date that the termination or reduction of
38 FTE is expected, excepting cases of applications based on sudden or unexpected loss or
39 termination of funding. In such cases, decisions on applications shall be made as soon as
40 possible.

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42 **Section 5. Bridge Funding.** Faculty members whose applications for bridge funding are
43 approved shall be eligible for up to nine months of salary and benefits until such time as they are
44 able to secure a new source of funding.

1 Salary compensation will be based on the faculty member's base salary in the term immediately
2 prior to the reduction or termination of their funding. Bridge funding should bring a faculty
3 member to at least 0.5 FTE in order to maintain their eligibility for benefits.

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5 Bridge funding will not be used for the purposes of supporting summer salary for a 9-month
6 employee.

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8 No individual faculty member will be eligible for more than \$100,000 of bridge funding in a 9-
9 month period.

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11 **Section 6. Health Insurance Extension.** A faculty member who has been employed at an
12 average of 0.50 FTE or greater over for five or more years of continuous service but has an
13 unsuccessful application for bridge funding will be entitled to bridging support extending their
14 insurance benefits for up to nine months.

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16 **Section 7. Bridging Assignment.** As soon as it is known that a faculty member will be awarded
17 bridge funding, they will meet with their immediate supervisor, academic unit head, and/or the
18 Dean or Dean's designee to discuss what continuing or alternative duties will be performed
19 during the receipt of bridge funding. Faculty members only receiving a health insurance
20 extension through Section 6 will not be expected to perform work.

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22 **Section 8: Bridge Funding Report.** No later than July 1 of each year the Office of Research
23 will provide United Academics with a report of the total bridge funding distributed, the
24 percentage of applicants that were supported, list of the positions and ranks of successful
25 applicants, and the expected funding level of the next year's bridge funding pool.

26 27 **ADDITIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT**

28 **Section 9: FRA/RA Job Exchange.** The Employer will compile a list of all open Fixed-Term
29 Research positions and make this list available and searchable through the OSU Jobs website.

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31 Bargaining unit members with a current appointment in a Fixed-Term Research position, or who
32 were employed in an appointment in a Fixed-Term Research position within the previous six
33 months, can be hired into an open Fixed-Term Research position via the FRA/RA Job Exchange
34 without the need to conduct an open search. The Employer will tag all open Fixed-Term
35 Research positions with the appointment type of Fixed-Term Research on OSU Jobs. The job
36 posting for each of these positions will include a designation that such position is eligible for an
37 FRA/RA Job Exchange.

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39 **Section 10: Research Support Bonuses to Principal Investigators (PIs).** The Employer agrees
40 to return no less than 5% of the recovered F&A costs generated from an externally funded grant
41 or award directly to the principal investigator of that grant. This money may be used at the
42 discretion of the PI for any activities in support of research.

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44 In the event there are multiple PIs employed by Oregon State University on a single grant or
45 award, the money will be divided up among the PIs equally, unless an alternative arrangement
46 has been specified by the PIs.

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2 The total transfer of F&A funds directly to PIs is capped at a total dollar amount of \$100,000 per
3 grant or award.

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5 PIs on large grants that are shared with PIs at other institutions shall receive this returned F&A
6 on the portion of overhead directly received by Oregon State University.

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8 **Section 11. Discounted Tuition for Graduate Employees.** To increase grant and award
9 competitiveness, the rate of Graduate Employee tuition to be built into external grant and award
10 applications and charged to these sources will be 50% of the resident graduate tuition rate.

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12 **Section 12. Other Research and Grant Support.** The Employer will make all reasonable
13 efforts to assist bargaining unit members in the preparation, application, and management of all
14 external grants and awards. Upon request, bargaining unit members receiving grants and awards
15 will have a right to receive, in a timely manner, any and all updates, clarifications, and
16 information from the Research Office, Business Office, Human Resources Office, or any other
17 part of the university that is involved in the process for applying, administering, or managing
18 grant and award funding and research operations.