

FAQ regarding the CASA RSCA Infusion Funds Fall 2015

What is RSCA?

"RSCA" is a general term that refers to faculty research, scholarship and creative activity. What kind of projects are considered "RSCA" varies by discipline, and across the different departments in CASA. Generally RSCA work leads to accomplishments that would be listed in the Scholarly/Artistic/Professional Achievements category of the dossier (see Senate Policy S 15-8 for further guidelines). "Creative Activity" refers to those activities aligned with the Scholarly/Artistic/Professional Achievements category of the dossier for faculty in creative tracks of their disciplines.

How do these new CASA RSCA grants differ from the SJSU RSCA grants?

Each year for the past several years, the university has been able to fund a limited number of RSCA proposals, using SJSU and sometimes CSU funds. This year, the Provost allocated an additional 1.5 million dollars for RSCA, with most of this money allocated to colleges based on FTEF. These are the "infusion" funds behind this call. As far as we know, these are just one-time funds.

Can I apply for the CASA RSCA Infusion grants if I was awarded a university RSCA grant or a CASA RSCA Infusion grant for AY 15-16?

Yes. You will see the CASA application asks how the current project is *different from* or *extends* the work funded by the previous RSCA grant. However, if you were already awarded a CASA RSCA Infusion grant, note that additional proposals from a single faculty member will only be considered if funds allow; first proposals from faculty have priority for consideration.

If I applied for but didn't receive the SJSU RSCA or CASA RSCA Infusion grants, can I resubmit the proposal?

Yes, but you should revise the proposal based on the feedback you received.

Can I apply for release time *and* RSCA funds?

Yes. You will have the best chance for success if you make a clear and strong case in your budget justification regarding your need for each support requested. Note that if your proposal is awarded funding, you may receive only partial funding.

I have a great idea for a new course/service project/organization. Would this qualify for this funding?

Probably not. The purpose of these funds is specifically to support faculty RSCA. However, RSCA activities that support your idea might be funded. You could apply for funds to do research or scholarship on teaching, or test a new pedagogical strategy, for instance. Check with your chair, the new Senate Policy S 15-8, or the CASA Associate Dean for Research if you are unsure whether your idea would be considered "RSCA."

What is meant by “RSCA Agenda”?

Your RSCA agenda includes the long-term aim(s) of your RSCA work, and your plans for accomplishing those objectives. The project or work you propose to fund should fit within that framework, and support you in developing and furthering your RSCA agenda. It could be a specific project, or it could be training or supplies – you can apply for whatever you need to further and support your RSCA agenda. A successful proposal will make a clear and compelling case for how the request will support you and your RSCA work. (You can see [examples of RSCA agendas](http://www.sjsu.edu/carhs/docs/RSCA_agenda_examples.pdf) from CASA faculty on the CARHS website at http://www.sjsu.edu/carhs/docs/RSCA_agenda_examples.pdf).

What is a metric?

A metric to measure RSCA was required in each college before drawing the funds. A metric is a way to assess how much RSCA is happening in the college. It will enable us to learn whether more RSCA accomplishments result when funds to support RSCA are provided. Right now, we don't have a way of knowing about all the RSCA work being done across the college. Our metric was accepted by the Office of Research with the understanding that we will finalize it in AY15-16, through a process in which we work closely with all departments to make sure that the metric fairly accounts for the diverse range of RSCA work produced by faculty members in CASA.

I have more/other questions.

Please attend one of the upcoming Q&A sessions Please attend one of the upcoming Q&A sessions Wednesday September 9 at 12 noon MH 438A, or Tuesday September 15 at 2PM via WebEx (email amy.dandrade@sjsu.edu for the WebEx invitation).