

CAHNR Equipment/Data set grant competition

In continued efforts to support the implementation of CAHNR strategic vision, the college has made available approximately \$200,000 for procuring a scientific equipment or data set that will strengthen faculty research capability and enhance research training of students. The funds will be allocated through a competitive process. The criteria for the grant are provided below.

1. The request must be at least \$15K and should not exceed \$30K.
2. A minimum of 25% match from PI and/or Department is required.
3. Multiple small equipment/data sets should not be combined to make a request.
4. The purpose of the equipment/data set must be research.
5. The college/PI must have license to access the requested data set for a minimum period of 5 years.
6. A current price quote of the requested equipment/data set must accompany the application.
 - a. **Please note the [updated bid thresholds](#).**
7. Preference will be given to applications that meet the following:
 - a. The equipment/data set will be used by multiple users and support multi-disciplinary research.
 - b. Applications from PI(s) that currently have active extramural funding.
 - c. A strong justification showing how the equipment/data set will enhance extramural funding.
8. Funds cannot be solicited for the repair of existing equipment, extending the license of existing data sets or for utility upgrades (e.g., electrical, plumbing) that may be necessary to accommodate the desired equipment.
9. Funds for maintenance/service contract or warranty of the equipment cannot be requested.
10. Only one application from a faculty member will be accepted.

The attached application form along with any other relevant other documents should be forwarded electronically as a single pdf file to Eva Wiggins (eva.wiggins@uconn.edu) by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

Recent Legislative Changes Affecting the Procurement of Goods and Services at UConn

University Business Services has worked with Government Relations and other state entities including UConn Health, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system, and the Department of Administrative Services, to propose Bill SB1184 to increase to the State of Connecticut’s public bid thresholds and simplify the prequalification process for construction contractors.

Effective October 1, 2023, the following changes will take effect:

Bid Thresholds

State of Connecticut Bid Thresholds			
Category	Range		Description
	1999-2023	Effective 10/1/2023	
Micro Purchase	\$0-\$9,999.99	0-\$24,999.99	Threshold applies to the total value of the procurement transaction; 1 quote required, multiple encouraged.
Informal Bid	\$10,000.00-\$49,999.99	\$25,000.00-\$99,999.99	Requires three quotes; stakeholder justifies the best value selection in writing if the lowest cost is not selected.
Public Bid	\$50,000.00+	\$100,000.00+	Requires a publicly advertised solicitation process; Procurement support/management required.

Please note that the micro purchase threshold for Uniform Guidance for purchasing with federal or sponsored research funds has also been adjusted as seen below.

Uniform Guidance Bid Thresholds			
Category	Range		Description
	Prior to 10/1/2023	Effective 10/1/2023	
Micro Purchase	\$0-9,999.99	\$0-\$24,999.99	Threshold applies to the total value of the procurement transaction; 1 quote required, multiple encouraged.
Informal Bid	\$10,000.00-\$249,999.99	\$25,000.00-\$249,999.99	Requires three quotes; stakeholder justifies the best value selection in writing if the lowest cost is not selected.
Public Bid	\$250,000.00+	\$250,000.00+	Requires a publicly advertised solicitation process; Procurement support/management required.

To support this change, UBS is in the process of updating relevant forms and information on its website and in HuskyBuy. As there are changes to the sourcing thresholds in HuskyBuy, UBS advises departments to wait until 10/1 to begin draft carts and submit requisitions to take advantage of these new rules. HuskyBuy will not be fully programmed for the new sourcing choices until 10/1.

Additionally, when determining the best strategy for acquiring goods and services, reach out to the procurement team appropriate for the commodity with UBS. There may already be existing contracts in place that will allow you to forgo the bidding process for a specific procurement.

Prequalification Process/Bid Threshold Increase

With respect to UConn capital projects, the law prior to 10/1/2023 requires UConn to separately prequalify contractors whose cost exceeds \$500,000. Effective 10/1/2023, new law (1) increases the threshold requiring separate prequalification to \$1 million and (2) allows the university to prequalify contractors for one year (rather than for each separate project) and renew the prequalification for up to two more years.

UBS anticipates that these changes will greatly ease the administrative burden on its customers, staff, and contractors. Additional announcements regarding other administrative and process changes resulting from recent legislation may be shared in forthcoming updates.

CAHNR EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATION FORM

PI Name: _____

1. Equipment Item: _____

Equipment Cost (attach company quote): \$ _____

PI Contribution \$ _____

Department Contribution \$ _____

Other Contribution \$ _____

2. List current active grants, including **Capacity grants** held by the PI. **If the requested information is readily available in another format, just copy-and-paste it to this space and leave the Table blank.**

Title	Co-PIs	Dates	Source	Equipment will be used for this project (yes/no)

3. If the equipment will serve multiple users who will assume responsibility for contributing to its maintenance, please list their names.

4. Please provide up to 1 additional page (double-spaced, size 12 font) that describes why the equipment is needed, how it will be used, and how it could help attract extramural funding etc.

Signature of PI: _____ Date

Signature of Department Head: _____ Date

Signature of Co-PIs

_____ Date

_____ Date

_____ Date