

Open Call for Faculty Interest on State Funding Related to SB 155

The Office of Research and Sponsored Projects (ORSP) is seeking faculty interested in applying for external funding opportunities as a result of the recent passing of SB 155 – the CA Public Resources Trailer Bill. [SB 155](#), authored by the Senate Budget Committee, allocates over [\\$15 billion](#) in funds over three years for various state public resource efforts, with a focus on water, wildlife, and climate resiliency projects. It is expected that Request for Proposals (RFPs) from applicable State of CA departments/agencies will be released in late Spring 2022. We are currently garnering interest from faculty (individual or teams) who conduct research in the following topics:

Research Focus:

- *Wildfire and Forest Resilience* (\$1.5 billion)
 - Will fund projects to reduce wildfire risk and improve the health of forests and wildlands. This includes investments for community hardening in fire-vulnerable areas, strategic fuel breaks and fuel reduction projects, approaches to restore landscapes and create resilient wildlands and a framework to expand the wood products market, supporting sustainable local economies.
- *Water and Drought Resilience* (\$5.2 billion)
 - Will support drought response and long-term water resilience, including funding for emergency drought relief projects to secure and expand water supplies; drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, with a focus on small and disadvantaged communities; Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to improve water supply security and quality; and wildlife and habitat restoration efforts.
- *Climate Resilience* (\$3.7 billion)
 - To build resilience against the state's multi-faceted climate risks, including extreme heat and sea level rise. Investments to address the impacts of extreme heat include urban greening projects, grants to support community resilience centers and projects that reduce the urban heat island effect, and funding to advance the Extreme Heat Framework as part of the state's Climate Adaptation Strategy.
 - Funds also support coastal protection and adaptation measures, efforts to protect and conserve California's diverse ecosystems, and community-based investments to build resilience, such as grants to support environmental justice-focused initiatives and funding for the California Climate Action Corps, which supports local climate action projects in disadvantaged communities.
- *Climate Smart Agriculture* (\$1.1 billion)
 - Will fund sustainable agriculture practices and create a resilient and equitable food system, including investments to promote healthy soil management, support for livestock methane reduction efforts, funding for the replacement of agricultural equipment to reduce emissions and technical assistance and incentives for the development of farm conservation management plans. The funds also support programs to expand healthy food access for seniors and in schools, other public institutions and non-profit organizations.

- Zero-Emission Vehicles (\$3.9 billion)
 - Funds will advance CA's Zero-Emission Vehicle goals and lead the transition to ZEVs on a global scale. The package includes funding to put 1,000 zero-emission drayage trucks, 1,000 zero-emission school buses and 1,000 transit buses, and the necessary infrastructure, on California roads – prioritizing projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

- Additional Investments (\$420 million)
 - Funds include \$270 million to support a circular economy that advances sustainability and helps reduce short-lived climate pollutants from the waste sector; and
 - \$150 million that will support urban waterfront parks, with a focus on underserved communities.

Incentive:

Faculty will receive a stipend of \$3,000 after submitting a successful and complete submission, accepted by the agency, in response to the upcoming RFPs and an additional \$3,000 stipend if the proposal is awarded. For proposals under \$500K, the Principal Investigator (PI) will receive the stipend. For proposals over \$500K, the PI and one co-investigator, if any, will receive stipends. Faculty will be limited to two RFPs per fiscal year.

Process:

If you are interested, please fill out the [survey link](#) as this will add you to the Canvas SB 155 Initiative site. The PI will need to follow the [Proposal Timeline Policy](#) to submit the proposal. In addition, if a reduced indirect cost rate is listed on the solicitation, the PI will need to fill out the California Model Agreement (CMA) documents. We will be hosting webinars to discuss available opportunities related to this initiative.

For further information, contact the Research Development Officer, Dr. Kristina Rigden at krigden@fullerton.edu or 657-278-4544.