

Syracuse University



Education Model Program on Water-Energy Research

## EMERGING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH SEED GRANTS

**Synopsis of program:** A central goal of the EMPOWER NRT is to advance research at the interface of the water and energy cycles. Research themes in our program span the complete hydrocarbon energy cycle: from deposition and origin of hydrocarbons; to hydrocarbon production from shale; to use and effects of hydrocarbons in energy, industry and transportation; and how these phases of the energy cycle interface with the hydrologic cycle, with particular emphasis on water quality. To advance interdisciplinary research in this thematic area, seed grants are available to support student-centered, emerging lines of research. Trainees may apply for grants to support emerging research activities, including support for field work, laboratory analysis, and/or technical training. Research ideas should be developed by the trainee (student-centered), at the interface of multiple disciplines (interdisciplinary), and not currently funded by existing research programs (emerging). This seed grant program is intended to support the following desired outcomes for EMPOWER trainees:

1. Familiarize trainees with the three research thematic areas
2. Promote student-centered integration of technical and professional training
3. Facilitate development of technical and professional skills relevant to both research and research-related careers
4. Support trainees becoming productive researchers, publishing their work in high-quality peer-reviewed scientific publications and presenting at regional, national, and international conferences

**Funding available:** Trainees can apply for financial support related to (but not limited to) any of the following: travel expenses for research activities (transportation, lodging, meals, etc.) and specific costs related to the identified research activities (laboratory analyses, technical training). All funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis. Original receipts must be submitted for funds to be released. Funding requests should typically not exceed \$2,000 and costs should be clearly justified in the proposal submission materials. Collaborative proposals are encouraged.

**Submission Guidelines:** Proposals should be no longer than two pages and describe the following:

- 1) **Your purpose in requesting funds.** *In other words, what will the funding enable you to do?*
- 2) **Short-term outcome.** *If you had access these funds, what will you achieve?*
- 3) **Long-term outcome.** *How will achieving the goal above help with your longer-term research goals?*
- 4) **Linkage to goals of the EMPOWER NRT program.** *How does your proposed activity directly relate to the programmatic goals listed in this solicitation?*
- 5) **Timeline for activities.**
- 6) **Anticipated costs.** Please include a proposed budget, noting any grants or other sources of support secured to support the endeavor. Any costs incurred above the proposed budget will be at the applicant's expense.

**Review Criteria:** Successful proposals will demonstrate concrete plans for use of funds as well as clear connections between the plans and short- and long-term goals, as well as the objectives of the EMPOWER NRT. Proposals are reviewed by EMPOWER's Research Committee. Priority will be given to proposals submitted by trainees who have not previously received seed grant money from EMPOWER.

**Follow-up Report:** For each funded proposal, a short report will be expected within 6 months from the completion of the funded activity. In the report, please detail the activities undertaken and the status of your progress towards your expected outcomes.

By accepting funding, the proposer agrees to participate in evaluation activities associated with the grant program.

To apply for these funds, please email your proposal to Annie Pennella (apennell@syr.edu). In the subject line, indicate "Emerging Interdisciplinary Research Seed Grant." Proposals are considered on a rolling basis.