RESEARCH INVESTMENT IN THE SCIENTIFIC ENTERPRISE (RISE) FUNDING PROGRAM

Introduction
The goal of the Research Investment in the Scientific Enterprise (RISE) program is to provide direct support for the Department of Medicine’s research faculty. For faculty who have obtained eligible extramural funding, the program provides fixed dollar amount unrestricted funds that may be used for research expenses, including PI and staff salaries along with any other expenses related to research. The RISE program is also designed to reward productivity and funding success by providing incentive funding for additional extramural grant/s awarded.

Research is a key pillar for the Department of Medicine, and the RISE program provides researchers funding to use at their discretion to bolster the spectrum of basic, translational, clinical, outcomes, implementation, and health services research across our Department.

Eligibility Criteria
- Must have primary faculty appointment in the Department of Medicine, regardless of work location (CU-Anschutz, Denver Health, National Jewish, or the VA).
- NIH R01, P-, and U-level Principal Investigators (PIs) are eligible. All R01, P- and U-equivalent grants from other funders are also eligible, including those from the Department of Defense (DoD), Veteran’s Affair’s (VA), professional societies, and foundations. Equivalents must be at least $250,000 in direct costs.
- Must be the PI, MPI, or co-PI on at least one eligible award, with direct costs ≥$250,000 to qualify. If MPIS are all in DOM, they will all receive credit for the full award amount (except some P grants, see MPI Conditions below).
- There is no FTE requirement to receive RISE funding.
- Eligible grants do not include: supplements, training or conference awards (K, T – unless PI of a T32 post-doctoral program, R00, R03, R13, R21, R25, R34, R35<400,000, R37, R38, R50, R90, U13<$400K).
- Grants in No-Cost Extensions (NCE) status do not qualify.
- Division Heads are ineligible for this program. Interim Division heads are eligible.

Program Details
1. RISE is based on direct costs of any eligible award/s.
2. RISE funding is additive, direct costs from all eligible awards will be summed to determine the level of RISE funding.
3. Awards routed outside of DOM are eligible if a faculty member with a primary DOM appointment is Co-PI or MPI, named as such on the funding agency notice of grant award (NOGA) or equivalent.
4. Subcontracts to a prime award outside of CU Denver do not count.
5. Only the direct costs of PI, co-PI, and MPI awards will be used to determine RISE funding level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summed Direct Costs for all eligible awards</th>
<th>RISE amount (DOM contribution only)</th>
<th>Approximate contribution to NIH maximal salary (DOM contribution only)</th>
<th>Approx. contribution to NIH max salary with Division Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$250,000 – 500,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500,001 – 1,000,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;$1,000,000</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RISE funds can be spent as unrestricted research funds, abiding by CU financial policies, at the recipient’s discretion, with the exclusion of sensitive expenses such as food and beverage. RISE may be used for, but is not limited to: PI salary, additional research tests/procedures/sample collection, statistical analysis of data, preliminary data generation, staff salary (including post-doctoral fellows, research professionals, graduate students), core facility fees, publication costs, research-related travel, reagent purchases, and equipment purchase or maintenance.

RISE funds will be issued as a single CU fund 35 account speed type to be managed by the recipient and the recipient’s Division Administrator. A yearly financial report including the account balance each year after the award account was activated must be submitted to DOM Research within two weeks of the year end date. Delay in report submission will delay issuance of the next year’s funding.

RISE eligibility assessment will occur three times per year, in April, August, and November. To receive any adjustments based on new awards, your NOGA or equivalent must be uploaded before the first of the month. All adjustments will be effective on the first day of the following month, i.e. May 1, September 1, December 1 for the April, August, and November cycles, respectively. Recipients of awards with start dates between RISE assessment and activation dates will receive funding in the next cycle. RISE funds will be active for one calendar year from the date of RISE activation rather than the award date. Awards already submitted and approved to receive RISE funding do not need to be resubmitted annually.

**Application Process**

Eligible applicants apply online by providing demographic information and uploading the Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) or equivalent. Only one NOGA per award can be submitted and must complete the online form including all co-I and/or MPI details.

Initial applications for the first round of RISE funding must be uploaded by December 10, 2023 (estimated) to be eligible for the first round of funding (estimated January 1).

**Conditions**

**MPI and co-PI grants**

Multiple PI (MPI) and co-PI awards will be treated as whole for each PI. That is, each designated PI will be assessed the full direct costs for the award. In the case of P-grants, each PI or MPI will be allocated the direct costs associated with the specific project/s that they lead, not the whole award. Only MPI awards made to the University of Colorado Denver count, MPIs issued as subcontracts do not qualify.

**Award Period**

RISE funds are available for the period of the eligible award/s. If a RISE eligible award is not renewed or expires, total RISE funding will be recalculated at the time of award expiration. No cost extensions (NCE) do not count toward the total direct costs for an investigator.

**Award Carry-over**

No funds carry-over is allowed until the final year of the base award. Any unspent funds will be deducted from the subsequent year’s award amount. For example, if you receive a RISE award of $25,000/year but spend only $22,000 in Year 1, you will have $3,000 remaining in your RISE account to start Year 2, and DOM will add $22,000 to provide a total of $25,000 in funding to start Year 2.

Carry-over will be allowed only in the final year of the eligible award. At that time, the recipient
may elect to spend final year funds over a total of 36 months. No extension beyond 36 months is allowed.

**Transition from RIFP to RISE**

Any faculty member who is eligible for the RISE program as of January 1, 2024, will stop receiving RIFP funding and start receiving RISE funding on that date.

Any faculty member who is ineligible for the RISE program as of January 1, 2024, but received RIFP in December 2023 will continue to receive RIFP funding at the current rate, with no adjustments, for up to one calendar year. If a faculty member holds a qualifying award but does not qualify for RISE due to the direct costs being less than $250,000 per year, they will continue to receive funding at the current rate, with no adjustments, until the grant period ends or as of December 31, 2024, whichever is sooner. If a faculty member is receiving RIFP on the basis of a no cost extension (NCE) to an eligible award, they will continue to receive funding at the current rate, with no adjustments, until the NCE period ends or as of December 31, 2024, whichever is sooner. In all other circumstances, funding at the current rate, with no adjustments, will end on December 31, 2024.

If a faculty member has a single award that will expire in the first quarter of 2024 (before March 31, 2024), they will continue to receive funding at the current RIFP rate, with no adjustments, until the grant period ends. To receive this funding, the NOGA must be submitted through the RISE application portal by the due date.