

CALL FOR PAIRED APPLICATIONS

UDALL CENTER FELLOWS PROGRAM

Academic Year 2025–26

in association with the

BIO5 Institute

– Biosciences and Public Policy –



A major priority for the University of Arizona is catalyzing interdisciplinary research activities that lead to external funding. An obstacle for advancement in such activities can be the need for many faculty members to fulfill other academic obligations such as service and teaching, as well as lack of access to appropriate facilities and support. With limited availability of dedicated time and resources focused on research, many promising opportunities may be left not fully explored. The Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy and the BIO5 Institute have partnered to offer a connected pair of Udall Center Fellowships intended to develop novel ideas in Biosciences and Public Policy into a collaborative proposal submitted for external funding.

We're seeking **pairs of investigators from different disciplines** who have an interest in incorporating a policy dimension or applying their policy expertise to a health-related scientific project. Interested faculty members should consider applying for this one-of-a-kind opportunity. We encourage potential applicants to contact Dr. Laura López-Hoffman of the Udall Center (lauralh@arizona.edu).

Eligibility. Applicants should be investigators who wish to catalyze a new research area or develop new skills, with a goal to develop and submit a program-level grant application in Biosciences and Public Policy. They should be tenure/tenure-track or continuing/continuing-track faculty members working in an area of public-policy inquiry including ethics, financing, legislation, governance, public dialogue, Indigenous issues, and other germane subjects—relating to a biosciences, biotechnology, or bioengineering field.

Terms of the Fellowship. The Fellowship offers monetary support to one pair of faculty members to help defray the cost of teaching, and may also provide office and laboratory space, student or post-doc support, and/or core facility use funds to the team, depending upon justified need.

Monetary support can be provided to relieve each faculty member of teaching responsibilities for one semester (to be determined; up to \$15,000 as standard in the Fellow's department). The home department/unit must commit to fully releasing the faculty member from teaching and, to the extent practicable, departmental service obligations for the supported semester. Monetary support for the faculty will be for one semester, but other monetary support and activities may be for up to one year.

Up to \$5,000 in RII or BIO5 core facility use funds can be provided to the Fellow. Up to one person-year of a post-doc or 0.5 FTE graduate student at NIH standard rate can be provided with justified need. Additionally, Fellows may be provided offices, cubicles, and/or limited lab space in the Keating or Biosciences Research Laboratories (BSRL) buildings in accordance with justified needs of the project.

Over the course of the fellowship, successful applicants shall work with Research Development Services at RII to target, develop, and submit the proposal. By the end of the fellowship term, the Fellows will either have submitted a proposal or prepared a complete proposal draft (depending on submission due date). Fellows proposing projects with the potential to generate intellectual property will work with Tech Launch Arizona to develop a protection and promotion strategy.

Fellows are expected to present a colloquium on their work during the fellowship period and to

acknowledge the institutional sources of support in grants, presentations, and publications resulting from the award. They are encouraged to participate in BIO5 activities and Udall Center activities, and to serve on future proposal review committees.

Application Procedure.

Each team should submit the following element in a text field:

- (1) a one-paragraph lay abstract describing the significance and impact of the proposed effort.

Each team should also submit the following elements as individual uploaded PDF documents:

- (1) specific plans for the project to be undertaken during the funding period, including identification of a specific funding source and mechanism (e.g., program announcement) for the proposal to be developed (up to four pages)
- (2) information on the investigators to be involved, including any past relevant proposals submitted or funded, or joint publications (≤ 2 pages)
- (3) a brief CV or biosketch (maximum 5 pages) for all personnel involved in the project
- (4) a listing of the resources requested with justification, including fellowship support required by the department for teaching relief of the faculty, office, laboratory space needed (specific type and quantity), student/post-doc support, and core facility use funds as applicable
- (5) a letter of endorsement and commitment of teaching/service release (if applicable) from each team member's department head or director
- (6) a fully signed cover sheet bearing the signature of the department head/director.

Electronic copies of the full packet should be submitted to Carolina Pineda at carolinapineda@arizona.edu by **January 31, 2025**. For more information, you may contact Laura Lopez-Hoffman at lauralh@arizona.edu.

Selection. Applications will undergo internal UA peer review, and final selection will be made by the BIO5 director and the Udall Center Director. Specific award guidelines will be detailed in the Notice of Award and Letter of Acceptance. The Scholarship awardees will be announced by February 2025.

Review Criteria. Proposals will be judged on the potential of the proposed work to producing meaningful, societally-relevant work in translational bioscience. Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate strong interdisciplinarity with a clear focus on policy and the societal aspects of the project. In addition, if appropriate, proposals are encouraged to develop synergy from using BIO5 Institute and RII resources located in the Keating or BSRL buildings. Some information on BIO5 research resources is located at <https://bio5.org/about/what-bio5-institute>.

The specific criteria for review are:

- Alignment of the proposed research with the strategic goals of the BIO5 Institute, the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, and the University of Arizona
- Strong policy significance and impact of the project or program
- Partnership between two researchers representing different disciplines
- Excellence of the research plan
- Strength and credibility of the plan for obtaining external support.

Research emphasis areas of the BIO5 Institute can be found at <https://bio5.org/impact/improving-health/power-bio5>.

The Udall Center homepage describes the Center's general policy interests and pursuits (<http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/>). In addition, you can read about the 35-year-old Udall Center Fellows Program (<https://udallcenter.arizona.edu/udall-center-fellows-program>).

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The BIO5 Institute, the Udall Center, and Research, Innovation and Impact (RII) will provide the successful fellow's department with a stipend (to be determined) to help replace the fellow's teaching responsibilities for one semester.

Each application must include this signed cover sheet, which indicates that the candidate's department head has given prior approval regarding the applicant's eligibility and the arrangement for teaching replacement, should the applicant be successful.

Name of applicant

Applicant's rank

Applicant's home department or unit

I hereby approve this application and accept the terms of the teaching replacement funds.

Signature, Department Head or Director / Date