

# Equipment Grant Trends

| Competition        | Grant Count of Requested | Count of Awarded | ReLODE Count of Requested | Count of Awarded | Total Count of Requested | Total Count of Awarded |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 2012               | 38                       | 33               |                           |                  | 38                       | 33                     |
| Fall               | 17                       | 17               |                           |                  | 17                       | 17                     |
| Spring             | 21                       | 16               |                           |                  | 21                       | 16                     |
| 2013               | 35                       | 26               |                           |                  | 35                       | 26                     |
| Fall               | 12                       | 9                |                           |                  | 12                       | 9                      |
| Spring             | 23                       | 17               |                           |                  | 23                       | 17                     |
| 2014               | 57                       | 30               |                           |                  | 57                       | 30                     |
| Fall               | 26                       | 14               |                           |                  | 26                       | 14                     |
| Spring             | 31                       | 16               |                           |                  | 31                       | 16                     |
| 2015               | 34                       | 20               | 10                        | 8                | 44                       | 28                     |
| Fall               | 18                       | 9                | 5                         | 4                | 23                       | 13                     |
| Spring             | 16                       | 11               | 5                         | 4                | 21                       | 15                     |
| 2016               | 49                       | 22               | 6                         | 4                | 55                       | 26                     |
| Fall               | 23                       | 13               | 4                         | 3                | 27                       | 16                     |
| Spring             | 26                       | 9                | 2                         | 1                | 28                       | 10                     |
| 2017               | 46                       | 27               | 8                         | 6                | 54                       | 33                     |
| Fall               | 26                       | 15               | 4                         | 2                | 30                       | 17                     |
| Spring             | 20                       | 12               | 4                         | 4                | 24                       | 16                     |
| 2018               | 37                       | 22               | 5                         | 4                | 42                       | 26                     |
| Fall               | 18                       | 10               | 2                         | 1                | 20                       | 11                     |
| Spring             | 19                       | 12               | 3                         | 3                | 22                       | 15                     |
| 2019               | 20                       | 13               | 2                         | 2                | 22                       | 15                     |
| Spring             | 20                       | 13               | 2                         | 2                | 22                       | 15                     |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>316</b>               | <b>193</b>       | <b>31</b>                 | <b>24</b>        | <b>347</b>               | <b>217</b>             |

# Equipment Grant Trends

| Competition        | Grant               |                    | ReLODE             |                    | Total Request       | Total Award         |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                    | Request             | Award              | Request            | Award              |                     |                     |
| ▣ 2012             | <b>\$2,457,061</b>  | <b>\$2,055,663</b> |                    |                    | <b>\$2,457,061</b>  | <b>\$2,055,663</b>  |
| Fall               | \$1,064,931         | \$971,695          |                    |                    | \$1,064,931         | \$971,695           |
| Spring             | \$1,392,130         | \$1,083,968        |                    |                    | \$1,392,130         | \$1,083,968         |
| ▣ 2013             | <b>\$2,351,162</b>  | <b>\$1,367,730</b> |                    |                    | <b>\$2,351,162</b>  | <b>\$1,367,730</b>  |
| Fall               | \$854,410           | \$466,010          |                    |                    | \$854,410           | \$466,010           |
| Spring             | \$1,496,752         | \$901,720          |                    |                    | \$1,496,752         | \$901,720           |
| ▣ 2014             | <b>\$3,198,869</b>  | <b>\$1,410,607</b> |                    |                    | <b>\$3,198,869</b>  | <b>\$1,410,607</b>  |
| Fall               | \$1,499,807         | \$697,555          |                    |                    | \$1,499,807         | \$697,555           |
| Spring             | \$1,699,062         | \$713,052          |                    |                    | \$1,699,062         | \$713,052           |
| ▣ 2015             | <b>\$1,775,434</b>  | <b>\$1,024,704</b> | <b>\$1,384,538</b> | <b>\$842,227</b>   | <b>\$3,159,972</b>  | <b>\$1,866,931</b>  |
| Fall               | \$1,144,306         | \$556,429          | \$652,431          | \$605,120          | \$1,796,737         | \$1,161,549         |
| Spring             | \$631,128           | \$468,275          | \$732,107          | \$237,107          | \$1,363,235         | \$705,382           |
| ▣ 2016             | <b>\$2,521,033</b>  | <b>\$1,157,624</b> | <b>\$805,774</b>   | <b>\$683,775</b>   | <b>\$3,326,807</b>  | <b>\$1,841,399</b>  |
| Fall               | \$1,100,614         | \$539,819          | \$732,854          | \$666,255          | \$1,833,468         | \$1,206,074         |
| Spring             | \$1,420,418         | \$617,805          | \$72,920           | \$17,520           | \$1,493,338         | \$635,325           |
| ▣ 2017             | <b>\$2,527,813</b>  | <b>\$1,155,459</b> | <b>\$1,312,870</b> | <b>\$772,636</b>   | <b>\$3,840,683</b>  | <b>\$1,928,095</b>  |
| Fall               | \$1,330,512         | \$638,134          | \$871,722          | \$327,235          | \$2,202,234         | \$965,369           |
| Spring             | \$1,197,301         | \$517,325          | \$441,148          | \$445,401          | \$1,638,449         | \$962,726           |
| ▣ 2018             | <b>\$2,041,451</b>  | <b>\$1,109,135</b> | <b>\$1,204,436</b> | <b>\$1,127,821</b> | <b>\$3,245,887</b>  | <b>\$2,236,956</b>  |
| Fall               | \$946,539           | \$546,501          | \$305,663          | \$229,048          | \$1,252,202         | \$775,549           |
| Spring             | \$1,094,913         | \$562,634          | \$898,773          | \$898,773          | \$1,993,686         | \$1,461,407         |
| ▣ 2019             | <b>\$971,636</b>    | <b>\$546,629</b>   | <b>\$550,000</b>   | <b>\$550,000</b>   | <b>\$1,521,636</b>  | <b>\$1,096,629</b>  |
| Spring             | \$971,636           | \$546,629          | \$550,000          | \$550,000          | \$1,521,636         | \$1,096,629         |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>\$17,844,460</b> | <b>\$9,827,551</b> | <b>\$5,257,618</b> | <b>\$3,976,459</b> | <b>\$23,102,078</b> | <b>\$13,804,010</b> |

# Selecting Reviews

## ❑ Breakdown

- 20% Standing committee members of the Core Facilities Advisory Board
- 30% Faculty Directors
- 30% Core Operations Directors
- 20% Senior Core Staff

## ❑ How reviewers are chosen

- Two reviewers per proposal
- For large proposals, one AVP or Dean
- One expert
- One outsider
- One Operational Director
- Avoid having same person review same proposal multiple times
- ReLODE proposals reviewed by cores with a ReLODE grant

## ❑ Reviewers chosen

- Try to select most cores every other year
- May select more frequently if core actively uses program
- Try to roughly match participation level with support level by school

# Equipment Grant Needs

## ❑ Reviewers are trying to understand

- What is being requested?
  - If reviewers do not understand, proposal is dead in the water. Need to highlight the piece of equipment and the applications supported.
- What are other options?
  - Letters of support from cores with similar equipment highly recommended.
  - ReLODE / Repair / Less expensive options
- Who needs this specific piece of equipment and what are they doing now?
  - Are faculty sending samples out for analysis?
  - If they are using existing instrumentation, what is the technical problem
    - Be careful listing all users of an instrument/facility as a user of the new capability if you do not have justification in the proposal
  - If this is a new capability, is there demonstration data in the proposal?
- Is there broad buy-in for the project?
  - Unique letters representing multiple departments / schools with details.
  - Multiple small contributors.
  - Central infrastructure that benefits many service lines (needs to be well explained).
- What new research does this enable?
  - Be specific with groups / areas of research. Tie into larger priorities for Northwestern.
- How will the operations be paid for?
  - Is there identified demand equivalent to your expected usage.
  - Do faculty acknowledge the new rates (especially for ReLODE)

# Feedback Given to Reviewers

- ❑ How much funding is available
- ❑ Use full scoring range (1-9 scale)
  - 1-3 is a recommendation to fund
  - 4 or greater is recommendation not to fund
    - Initial reviewers don't know total budget or other requests
- ❑ Do not penalize for single matching source if matching source for the project demonstrates broad need
  - Cores relying on single source must still demonstrate need
- ❑ Try to make the right decision, but you don't need to do the core's job
  - If proposal is poorly written or excessively outside of guidelines, grantsmanship can cause a worthwhile project to be rejected

# Pitfalls

- ❑ Any breach of trust
  - Form letters of support from PI's
  - Omission of alternate equipment or other options
  - Usage estimates that rely on usage of existing equipment to justify a new capability
  - Replacing an instrument that can be repaired
  - Claiming a unique capability that can be found on an NU website
  
- ❑ Not attempting to find external funding
  - Especially problematic on obsolete equipment when core had the opportunity to see the issue coming
  
- ❑ Using large cost shares as the main justification
  - Especially if instrument supports a limited group of users or has a confusing business model
  
- ❑ Making the reviewers work excessively
  - Make the 2-page submission self-contained. Put supporting information in Appendices (not required to be reviewed)
  - Forcing reviewers to research your equipment / application
  - Writing a confusing / long proposal