



ROUND #5, FALL 2026

We are seeking research proposals focused on the people, place and future of Louisiana. This program is part of the Louisiana Research Collaborative, working to amplify UL Lafayette research that advances *Louisiana Vision 2035* and advances the state's knowledge base, social capital and economic future.

THE PURPOSE

- To showcase UL Lafayette faculty research.
- To create a community of passionate and like-minded scholars across campus and to build collaborative research partnerships at UL Lafayette.
- To study how economic growth, human experiences & nature impact the future of Louisiana.
- To provide seed-money for faculty projects and institutional mission.

THE REQUIREMENTS & TIMELINE

All award recipients will be invited and expected to present their work at a Louisiana Impact Research Summit in Spring 2027, which will take place during Grad Student Appreciation Week on Friday, April 9, 2027.

August 26, 2026 – Call for Proposals

November 30, 2026 – Awards announced

October 12, 2026 – Proposal applications due

April 9, 2027 – Research Summit presentations

THE AWARDS

In this Round #5 of the Louisiana Impact Research Awards Program, we expect to grant ~20 awards, possibly between \$1,500-\$2,500 each to recognize impactful research connected to the theme of Louisiana Impact – by all UL Lafayette scholars (faculty, post-docs, graduate students, undergraduate students, staff, anyone).

	# of Projects Awarded	Faculty Scholars	Graduate Students	Under-Graduate Students	Post-Docs & Staff	Total Amount Awarded
Round #1 2023	19	24	-	-	-	\$40,800
Round #2 2024	22	-	22	-	-	\$44,000
Round #3 2024	46	20	19	9	5	\$90,600
Round #4 2025	41	12	26	3	4	\$80,800
TOTALS	128	56	67	12	9	\$256,200

LOUISIANA IMPACT RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

Residents of Louisiana – and faculty at UL Lafayette – know as well as anyone how inextricably linked economic growth, environmental protection and human experiences are to one another. We know that the future economic and social wellbeing of the state depends on having a strategy that respects how interconnected economic growth, environmental protection and human experiences are. Economic growth will happen *because of* human engagement and environmental protection, not in spite of it. We could say the same about any other U.S. state or any other region. But Louisiana is our home.

The **Louisiana Research Collaborative** is a collection of research, platforms and programs designed to celebrate, amplify and reward the amazing research that is being done across the University of Louisiana at Lafayette campus. The focus is ***Research in Louisiana, Research for Louisiana and Research by Louisiana***. We choose to highlight different themes and programs at different times, based on where our work and can have the greatest impact, both on campus and across the Louisiana research ecosystem.

Round #5 of the ***Louisiana Impact Research Awards*** is designed to continue highlighting, amplifying and celebrating UL Lafayette research that connects to the people, place and purpose of Louisiana.

1. For graduate students, undergraduate students and post-doctoral scholars, we encourage all submissions of novel and relevant research. This work can be based on your thesis, on a 3-minute thesis project or any other research you are doing. We do not have any additional specific criteria.
2. For faculty, in the spirit of the **Louisiana Research Collaborative**, we encourage all submissions of novel and relevant research. In addition, we are looking to prioritize research projects that include multiple authors from multiple departments on campus. Of the first 128 projects we have recognized, only two have involved faculty from multiple departments; we are looking to change that and to encourage cross-campus collaborative partnerships, to advance and share knowledge in novel ways. Note: we do not require faculty submissions to be collaborative, but we may prioritize those that are.

Your research will drive the changes we need to see in the future and the progress we collectively make towards creating impact and changing lives in Louisiana. This project will showcase your research so we can all begin having critical conversations about how we create the future we all want Louisiana to have.

For more information on the program, the history and previous award recipients, see:

<https://business.louisiana.edu/researchcollaborative>



TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL, PLEASE CLICK HERE OR USE THE QR CODE AND COMPLETE THE APPLICATION BY 11:59pm on OCTOBER 12

In the spirit of collaboration and building partnerships to facilitate implementation of this research, this program is a cross-campus collaboration between Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser (The Graduate School), Dr. Dianne Olivier (Academic Affairs), the Office of the Vice President for Research, Innovation & Economic Development, the President's Office and Dr. Brian Bolton, Dwight W. Andrus, Jr. / BoRSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Finance.