

UNM Limited Competition Announcement

Dear UNM Researchers,

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting statements of interest in being nominated for the **ORAU Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Research Enhancement Award**. A Powe Award provides seed money for junior faculty and is intended to enrich the research and professional growth of young faculty and result in new funding opportunities.

Sponsor: ORAU (Oak Ridge Associated Universities)

Opportunity Title: Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Awards

Sponsor Due Date(s): 1/7/2026, at 12:00 PM (noon) EST

Award Amount: \$5,000

Cost Share Requirement: \$5,000

Number of Submissions Allowed from UNM: Two (2)

Solicitation: <https://www.orau.org/partnerships/grant-programs/powe/index.html>

Additional Information:

- Full-time assistant professors within two years of their initial tenure track appointment (Jan. 1, 2024 to Jan. 6, 2026) at the time of application at an ORAU member institution are eligible.
- Research must fall within these five disciplines: 1) Engineering & Applied Science, 2) Life Sciences, 3) Mathematics/Computer Sciences, 4) Physical Sciences, 5) Policy, Management, or Education.

Limited Comp. Instructions: We will be conducting a two-step internal competition to ensure we have a review committee in place by the pre-proposal deadline. You must complete both steps if you are interested in participating.

Limited Comp. STEP 1: Required SOI Due Date: **NOON on October 1, 2025** (for planning purposes)

Limited Comp. STEP 2: Pre-proposal Due Date: **NOON on October 8, 2025**

STEP ONE: Please submit your ~100-word **statement of interest** in UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered. Note that SOIs will NOT be scored; we require them to assist us in forming a review committee.

STEP TWO: Please submit your 2-page pre-proposal, budget overview which includes the **required cost share arrangements** and abbreviated CV via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). You will receive an email when the InfoReady competition has been converted from the SOI application to the pre-proposal application, but you may work on your documents outside the system before that. No late submissions will be considered.

The pre-proposal should address the major topics that will be included in the proposal narrative, including:

- Research goals and objectives and relevant background
- Expected research outcomes and relevance
- Research design and methodology
- Competence of the applicant to perform the proposed research
- The available research facilities and resources
- A budget justification

The budget can include funds for faculty summer salary, graduate student salary, travel, equipment, or other assistance relevant to the faculty member's research. **ORAU does not allow overhead charges or indirect costs on the award from ORAU or the university match.**

Pre-proposals will be evaluated using the criteria below:

- **Scientific/technical merit:** Likelihood that research will add to scientific knowledge base
- **Proposed method/approach:** Appropriateness of proposed methods to achieve results

- **Applicant's previous research performance:** Appropriateness of applicant's research experience to successfully complete the proposed research
- **Adequacy of facilities and resources:** Reasonableness of available facilities, equipment/instrumentation, research staff, and any support staff requirements
- **Likelihood research will lead to fundable research and/or publishable work**
- **Inclusion of reasonable cost share arrangements**
- **Overall quality of application**

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at limited@unm.edu. *If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu for more information.*