



MHI and CICMHE Research Funding Program

Research Partnership Grants

2014 Guidelines for Proposal
Development and Submission

Proposal Due Date: August 15, 2014

Context:

MHI, through its College Industry Council on Material Handling Education (CICMHE), is dedicated to the support of material handling and logistics research and teaching. Our industry seeks to develop the faculty of tomorrow by supporting the development of research careers today that focus on topics important to development of our industry. To meet this objective, MHI provides a three-part MHI research grant program:

- Type 1: Research Start-up Grant
- Type 2: Research Spark Grant
- Type 3: Research Partnership Grant

The primary goal of this program is to influence researchers' work at multiple decision points in their research careers. This allows MHI to develop the careers of world-class material handling and logistics researchers and to ensure that they initiate and perform high-value, high-impact research well-aligned with the needs of our industry.

Questions about the Research Partnership program should be directed to the CICMHE Managing Director, Daniel Stanton at dstanton@mhi.org.

Purpose and Principles of the Research Partnership Grants:

The purpose of this grant is to provide a source of matching funds to support the development and funding of large-scale material handling, logistics, and supply chain related research projects. These matching funds serve as leverage to help professors obtain funding for large research projects recognized as having the potential for high-value and high-impact on the material handling, logistics, and supply chain community. The Research Partnership Grant helps researchers build a core group of partners engaged in their project, by contributing cash and/or in-kind resources to the project and helping recruit other partners. MHI and CICMHE plan to annually award as many Research Partnership Grants as possible depending on the availability of funds.

Eligibility:

MHI and CICMHE Research Partnership Grants are open to all full-time faculty from schools in the U.S. and Canada. There is no limit to the number of Research Partnership Grants that may be received by faculty either in a single year or during a research career.

Funding Levels and Conditions:

The amount of MHI funding will be decided on a per case basis with no lower or upper bound, subject to project value, perceived leverage and the availability of funds. Expectations are that grant requests for cash will typically range from as little as \$5,000 to as much as \$50,000 per

project year, excluding in-kind contributions. MHI and CICMHE funds will only be committed when the proposed project has been funded by the primary granting agency.

Proposal Consideration Process:

Stage 1: Researchers provide MHI with a description of their research idea, the desired support required (on a per year basis for multi-year proposals), and the potential leverage they feel the MHI and CICMHE funding may provide. No specific format is required for the proposal. If full proposals (as prepared for the primary granting agency) are available, they are very helpful, but not expected. Generally, a two-page or shorter description will be sufficient.

Stage 2: If the idea is perceived to have merit, it will be considered for funding by a panel of reviewers selected by the Research Grants Program Planning Committee.

Stage 3: If the Planning Committee review results in conditional approval, an “intent to support” letter will be provided to the proposer for use as part of their proposal. Final signatures on the letter will be provided when MHI and CICMHE have reviewed the full proposal prior to submittal to the primary granting agency.

Stage 4: If the proposal is funded by the primary granting agency, MHI and CICMHE then provide the agreed upon funding and resources/services for the project.

Expectations of Grantees:

MHI and CICMHE expect the researchers to provide brief quarterly reports about the status of the research project. These reports may be written or may be provided at an MHI or CICMHE meeting or event with travel funding being provided by MHI and CICMHE. Grantees will also be strongly encouraged to participate in CICMHE’s International Material Handling Research Colloquium and the Material Handling Teachers Institute.

Timeline:

Proposals are accepted at any time, but may be subject to availability of funds due to commitments that may have already been made during the August through October cycle typically followed by the other types of MHI and CICMHE research funding (see Start-up and Spark Grants).