



**POLICY DESTINATION AREA
+Policy Research Team Supplement
Call for 2019-2020 Applications**

The Policy Destination Area (PDA) solicits applications from research teams with new or ongoing projects that would benefit from a funding supplement focusing on policy. The overarching goal of the PDA is to integrate, connect, and expand policy knowledge and experimentation to foster new approaches to problem engagement and complex decision making. The +Policy supplement is designed to enable new and extant teams to engage with a Virginia Tech faculty member with expertise in policy. The purpose of this collaboration is to add a policy component to, or enhance the policy dimension of, the research project. The supplement will support the policy fellow to initiate activities during spring 2020. The +Policy supplement is to complement other resources and faculty commitments of the project team. Fellow applications are invited in all areas of public policy, with proposals focused on decision-making concerning emerging technologies, health policy, and environmental policy areas of particular interest. Priority will be given to applications from interdisciplinary teams.

Up to three research team/fellow pairings will be selected. The program is open to all faculty members at Virginia Tech with continuous or multi-year appointments (tenure-track/tenured, collegiate, research). **The deadline for applications is Monday, October 28, 2019.**

Application Guidelines

Applications must include: (a) signed cover sheet, including endorsement from the leader of the research team and approval of fellow's department head/chair regarding an internal buy-out for spring 2020 or summer stipend if requested (attached); (b) title of team project, team members, and synopsis of the team/prospective fellow's most recent three years of related research/scholarly activities (1-2 pages); and (c) research narrative of up to three pages addressing:

- Overview and significance of the issue, problem, or situation under study and the specific aims of the current project
- Goal of the research team and how the inclusion of the policy fellow will strengthen the project. Specifically, address how the current project will be supplemented to inform a complex policy decision process, enhance public understanding of policy issues and choices, or provide insights into the dynamics of collective policy decision making
- Timeline with anticipated research team/fellow meetings, collaborative activities, and milestones
- Plans for securing external funds in support of further research on the topic area
- Anticipated outcomes (e.g., team publication, professional presentations; policy outreach)
- Budget request and brief justification

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Clearly described, reasonable and attainable goals, approach, and milestones
- Policy distinctive inter/transdisciplinary content
- Expertise of policy fellow and team members
- Deliverables with potential impact, including translation to policy-decision contributions
- Potential for securing external funds
- Commitment of the team/fellow to ongoing integrated policy scholarship

- Links to other Destination Areas (<http://provost.vt.edu/destination-areas.html>)

Budget Guidelines

Awards include funds for a course release in the amount typically required by the prospective fellow's department to secure teaching replacements when relying on state/internal funds. Alternatively, if the policy fellow is unable to take a course release, a summer stipend not to exceed \$8,000 inclusive of fringe benefits (<http://www.policies.vt.edu/4296.pdf>) may be provided. Up to \$4,000 additionally can be requested for research team activities such as coordination expenses, consultation with funding agencies, student assistant time, external speakers, and the like. Maximum grant award is \$12,000.

Submission Requirements and Deadline

Applications are to be prepared using 1-inch margins and Arial 11 font. Submit an e-copy of the complete application and signed coversheet to Yancey Crawford (yanceyc3@vt.edu). **Applications are due by Monday, October 28, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.** Acknowledgement of receipt of applications will be made within 48 hours.

Visit the PDA webpage on the ISCE website at <https://www.isce.vt.edu/policysqa/research.html> to download an electronic copy of the application form.

Notification of Award/Availability of Funds

Notification of fellowships will be made in early November 2019. Funds will be dispersed upon approval of the +Policy supplement. Any unallocated funds as of June 1, 2020 are to be returned to PDA.

Expectations

Research teams/fellows selected for a PDA +Policy supplement are expected to devote significant time during spring/summer 2020 to the planned activities. Fellows and research team leaders will be expected to interact with the PDA Stakeholder Committee and to submit a final activity/budget report, and by September 2020, a policy brief suitable for posting on the PDA website. PDA's support should be acknowledged on any research and scholarly presentations and publications that result from the +Policy supplement.

Questions

Please contact the PDA Program Manager Isabel Bradburn (isbrad@vt.edu) or PDA Research Committee chairperson David Orden (orden@vt.edu)