**POLICY STRATEGIC GROWTH AREA**

 **+Policy Research Team Supplement**

 **Call for 2018-2019 Applications**

The Policy Strategic Growth Area (PSGA) solicits applications from research teams with ongoing projects that would benefit from a funding supplement focusing on policy. The overarching goal of the PSGA is to integrate, connect, and expand policy knowledge and experimentation to foster new approaches to problem engagement and complex collective decision making. The +Policy supplement is designed to enable extant teams to engage with a Virginia Tech faculty member with expertise in policy in order to add a policy component to, or enhance the policy dimension of, an ongoing research project. The supplement will support the policy fellow to initiate activities during spring 2019. The +Policy supplement is to complement other resources and faculty commitments of the project team.

One or two 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 Wednesday, October 17, 2018**.

**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 2019 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
* 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/trans-disciplinary content
* Deliverables with potential impact, including translation to policy-decision contributions
* Potential for securing external funds in support of further research
* Commitment of the team/fellow to ongoing integrated policy scholarship
* Links to Destination Areas or other Strategic Growth 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 $5,000 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 $15,000.

**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 Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.** Acknowledgement of receipt of applications will be made within 48 hours.

**Notification of Award/Availability of Funds**

**Notification of fellowships will be made in early November, 2018**. Funds will be dispersed upon approval of the +Policy supplement. Any unallocated funds as of June 1, 2019 are to be returned to PSGA.

**Expectations**

Research teams/fellows selected for a PSGA +Policy supplement are expected to devote significant time during spring 2019 to the planned activities. Fellows and research team leaders will be expected to interact with the PSGA Stakeholder Committee, to make a presentation at a PSGA forum (spring or fall 2019), and to summit a final activity/budget report. PSGA’s support should be acknowledged on any research and scholarly presentations and publications that result from the +Policy supplement.

**Questions**

Please contact the PSGA Program Manager Isabel Bradburn (isbrad@vt.edu) or PSGA Research Committee Co-chairs Douglas Lind (douglas.lind@vt.edu) and David Orden (orden@vt.edu)

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| **POLICY STRATEGIC GROWTH AREA**  **+Policy Research Team Supplement**Application Cover Sheet(please print or type) | Leave blank-for internal use only |
| **Name of proposed +Policy Fellow:**       | **Campus Address:** |
| **Rank/Title:** | **Email Address:** |
| **College:** | **Telephone Number:** |
| **Department:** |  |
| **Description of the team research project and goal of the fellowship** **(one sentence each):** |
| **Support requested for:**[ ]  **Course buyout spring 2019** [ ]  **Summer stipend 2019**  | **Total Amount Requested:** |
| **Signature of proposed Fellow Date** **Signature of Research Team Leader Date**  |
| **When relying on internal funds, the cost of release time to allow faculty members in my department to pursue research/scholarly activities ranges from:  $          to  $          per course. The department is willing to accept funds within this range should the applicant receive the fellowship.** **Name of Department Head/Chair (print) Signature Date** |