

THE 21ST CENTURY WORLD CLASS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Submission Format

Section I: Introduction

The 21st Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act, established during the 2006 Florida legislative session, includes the 21st Century World Class Scholars Program which will provide matching funds to state universities in order to attract nationally-recognized faculty in the areas of the sciences, engineering, and technology and mathematics (STEM). The Act establishes the Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board (“Board”) which will develop and recommend criteria for awards to the Board of Governors (BOG). The BOG, upon making awards, will release matching funds to the university.

The BOG’s application and award process for the 21st Century World Class Scholar program will require that the BOG review and select from the pool of potential candidates subsequent to the Program’s submission deadline. The BOG will identify university submissions that clearly demonstrate institutional eligibility, and that target the types of candidates who best meet the intent of the legislature and maximize the impact of the program. Matching funds will be provided immediately subsequent to BOG approval of awards. Universities will be required to advise the Board of Governors of final hires when they are made.

Section II: Submission

A separate application must be made for each 21st Century Scholar request, and the entirety of Sections III, IV, and V of this document must be reproduced. The deadline for submission is September 1, 2006. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. It is understood that funds to be matched are to be in-hand or pledged, and identifiable at the time of submittal.

A submission for each 21st Century World Class Scholar award should contain an original and thirteen (13) signed copies, together with two (2) digital copies on CD-ROMs in Microsoft Office word processing and graphics software (e.g., Word, PowerPoint, Excel), and a .pdf copy should be submitted and labeled as set forth below. Digital copies should be submitted in a format readable with Microsoft Word, and tables and graphics should allow for copy and paste into other applications.

Submit all materials comprising the 21st Century Scholars Program Submission no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 1, 2006 to:

Dr. R.E. LeMon, Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs
Florida Board of Governors
Florida Education Center, Suite 1614
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Section III: Criteria for Institutional Eligibility

Please respond to the Criteria for Institutional Eligibility in five (5) pages or less.

1. Provide evidence that the institution's mission is concordant with the State University System Strategic Plan, with the State's Strategic Plan for economic development, and that the institution places an emphasis on one or more emerging technologies or academic disciplines that could favorably impact the state's economic future as envisioned by the 21st Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act.
2. Provide evidence that your institution currently has a distinguished faculty with national visibility and reputation and a substantial history of receiving external funding in the form of contracts and grants in academic disciplines directly associated with or applicable to the contemplated 21st Century Scholar hire.
3. Provide evidence that your institution has outstanding students in the academic disciplines associated with the 21st Century Scholar hire. This may include national rankings of academic disciplines; noteworthy alumni; student and graduate awards, honors, and other forms of recognition; and numbers of undergraduates accepted into nationally recognized graduate or professional programs.
4. Provide evidence of the presence of adequate research and scholarly support services as an institution as a whole and in academic disciplines associated with or applicable to the contemplated 21st Century Scholar hire. This includes evidence of a long-standing Office of Research with an established record of securing, maintaining, and complying with federal grants in STEM disciplines; and institutional support of faculty in STEM disciplines appropriate to the creation of nationally recognized programs.
5. Provide evidence of the presence of an academic environment with appropriate infrastructure, buildings, classrooms, libraries, laboratories, and specialized equipment conducive to conducting the highest quality of scholarship and research faculty in academic disciplines directly associated with or applicable to the contemplated 21st Century Scholar hire.

Section IV: Contemplated 21st Century World Class Scholar Hire

In one (1) page or less, provide information currently available regarding the contemplated hire. Provide the proposed academic field of recruitment and, if known, the name of the contemplated 21st Century Scholar, information with respect to the candidate's record of attracting federal and foundation research funds, the candidate's ability to assist in the building of nationally recognized academic programs, and the candidate's experience in establishing relationships with industry to commercialize technologies. In all cases, include a timeline for hiring.

Section V: Funding and Expenditure Plan

Using the attached spreadsheet, indicate the amount, source, and location of the institution's matching funds to be put toward the contemplated 21st Century World Class Scholar hire. Provide a detailed expenditure plan associated with the proposed 21st Century hire, including specific amounts for endowments, salaries, facilities and equipment, stipends and fellowships, and other start-up costs. Supplement the spreadsheet with no more than one page of narrative detail as necessary.