Research Prospector Boot Camp and Stipend

The Research Office will continue its "Research Prospectors" proposal bootcamp in AY2025. The designation of "Research Prospector" will be awarded upon the completion of the training components listed below.   The workshop will include real-time proposal generation and instruction.   Research Prospectors will receive a $5000 research stipend upon successful submission of a proposal. The stipend may be used toward research activities, such as: travel, student support, generation of preliminary data. We will be sending another email to allow you to vote on the best time for hosting these workshops. Your vote is important.

Research Prospectors must demonstrate competence in the following components to qualify for the stipend:

1. Preparation of a research Value Proposition for use in research pitches (proposals and presentations)
2. Develop a strategy to increase visibility and funding probability
3. Outline a research proposal, including a compelling summary, budget, timeline, contingency plan.
4. Preparation of 1 one-page pre-proposal (including budget) that has been reviewed by peer mentors AND submitted to a program director of a funding agency OR adapted into a full proposal for submission.

The following guided workshop materials are available via TEAMS:

Index: Workshop 1
- Introduction: Roles and Sponsored Programs
- Proposal Activities Timeline -when, what, and who
- Developing Your Strategy Model
- Government Customer Relationship Models – agencies, programs
- Developing Key Relationships/Connections – emails, question list

Index: Workshop 2 – Discovery Process
- Before class: homework will require you to pick a proposal and read it
- How to Develop Your Strategy Model / Proposal Timeline
- Using Discovery Process: Determine Problem to be solved
- Using Discovery Process: Your Value Proposition Solution
- Discovery Process Workshop/ worksheet – generate discovery information

Index: Workshop 3 – Proposal writing
- Before class: Homework is a completed Discovery Process worksheet
- Planning for Success: Proposal matching
- Planning for Success: Pre-Proposal Writing
- Proposal writing / Pre-proposal Workshop – generate pre-proposal

- In-class Peer Review

Index: Workshop 4: Budget Development & Submission
- Developing Your Proposal Budget
- Montana Tech's Rates
- "Match" or Cost Share
- Proposal Certification form and other reporting requirements

Alternatively, faculty may meet individually with the VCR to complete these components while preparing a specific proposal. In this case, the PI and the VCR will work together to include the above components into the proposal submission.

Please contact Angela Lueking ResearchOffice@mtech.edu for more information.