

UGA–University of Leeds Seed Grant & Faculty Mobility Program



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**
Office of Global Engagement



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Deadline: Monday, December 15, 2025

Application:

The University of Georgia (UGA)–University of Leeds (Leeds) Seed Grant & Faculty Mobility Program is a joint strategic initiative designed to promote research collaborations between scholars from both institutions. The program offers two distinct funding opportunities: seed grants to support joint research projects and faculty mobility awards to facilitate initial scholarly exchange.

Proposals that aim to strengthen institutional partnerships through impactful scholarly output, innovative program development, or the pursuit of future external funding are especially encouraged.

Proposals can be initiated by faculty at either the University of Leeds or the University of Georgia. While funding will come from the home institution, they will be jointly reviewed and therefore do not have to be submitted twice.

Faculty Mobility

This opportunity is open to full-time faculty from any discipline at UGA. Competitive proposals must demonstrate a commitment to reciprocal faculty visits. The program's primary objective is to foster new, sustainable collaborations in research, teaching, or service, with faculty exchange serving as the catalyst of the partnership.

Successful applicants will receive travel support funding, subject to the limits outlined in the "Expenses Covered and Funding" section of these guidelines. All UGA faculty travel must be completed **by Friday, June 26, 2026**.

Program Expectations During the exchange, UGA faculty are expected to:

- Spend a minimum of five business days at the host institution, excluding travel time;
- Deliver a lecture or equivalent presentation on their research or area of designated academic effort;
- Meet formally with postgraduate students in the host department to discuss opportunities for study and research at UGA;
- Collaborate with their University of Leeds partner to develop plans for continued engagement through joint funding proposals, co-authored publications, and/or curricular or other programmatic initiatives.

Additionally, UGA faculty are encouraged to attend at least one seminar or course lecture at the host institution to learn about teaching methods and pedagogical approaches at the partner university.

Reciprocal Commitment

Successful proposals will be centered around reciprocal visits. While this call supports UGA faculty travel to the University of Leeds, funding for the partner's visit will be provided by the University of Leeds. Leeds faculty with questions should contact Professor Ian Wood (fbsprodeaninternational@leeds.ac.uk).

Expenses Covered and Funding

Participating UGA faculty will be reimbursed up to \$3,500 for international economy-class airfare between Atlanta and the host institution, lodging, and ground transportation to and from the departure and arrival airports. Per diem can be applied up to the total amount of the award.

To be eligible for reimbursement, funds have to be spent in compliance with UGA (<https://policy.uga.edu/>) and UGA Foundation policies (<https://give.uga.edu/uga-foundation/resources/policies-procedures/>).

Application Materials

Preliminary information entered on the submission form:

- Name, affiliation, and email of UGA Lead;
- Name, affiliation, and email of University of Leeds collaborator(s);
- Dates of proposed travel;

Upload as a single PDF:

- One-page narrative describing planned activities (academic lecture/presentation, interactions with students, etc.) and expected outcomes of the collaboration; if known, this should include identification of potential sources of extramural funding that will be sought to support the ongoing collaboration, or other ways in which the collaboration or new partnership will be sustained;
- Statement from University of Leeds colleague affirming the intent to host and collaborate with the UGA faculty member; the statement should also provide the dates of the reciprocal visit to UGA;
- Endorsement of the exchange by the academic department heads/unit directors at both institutions.
- Curriculum vitae of UGA lead and international collaborator(s)

Pump Priming Research Funding

This opportunity is open to all tenured and tenure-track faculty at the University of Georgia. This portion of the grant provides up to £10,000 (or \$13,000) in funding to support collaborative research projects. We especially welcome proposals centered on connections between UGA faculty and the Water@Leeds research group, in the biological sciences, and food sciences.

The purpose of this seed grant is to initiate impactful international partnerships by supporting early-stage research, joint proposal development, and other foundational activities that advance long-term academic collaboration. Proposals must identify a specific source of future extramural funding or present a clear strategy for sustained engagement between UGA and the Leeds partner.

Application Materials

Preliminary information entered on the proposal submission form:

- Title of project
- Name, affiliation, and email of UGA Lead;
- Name, affiliation, and email of University of Leeds collaborator(s);
- Name, affiliation, email of all external collaborators, funding agencies, or recipients of technical assistance, with a short description of the capacity in which they are involved

Upload as one PDF:

- Summary of planned research project (1000 words max.)
- Description of preparatory activities to be supported by the seed grant (500 words max.)
- Expected outcome of those activities, identifying by name the sponsor(s) and program(s) to which subsequent external funding requests will be submitted (250 words max.)
- Budget, following the Faculty Research Grant Budget template found here: <https://research.uga.edu/docs/forms/iga/FSG-Budget-Template.xlsx>
- Letter of Support from UGA unit leader.
- Curriculum vitae of UGA lead and international collaborator(s)

UGA Policy: <https://policy.uga.edu/> and UGA Foundation Policies: <https://give.uga.edu/uga-foundation/resources/policies-procedures/> are to be followed.

Evaluation Criteria and Procedures

Review of proposals will be conducted by a committee faculty from both the University of Georgia and the University of Leeds. The following will be taken into account by the review committee:

- *Quality of the proposal.* The research and technical assistance activities contemplated by the proposal should be high-quality, innovative, and clearly articulated.
- *Importance and strategic fit.* The proposal should provide evidence that it contributes to key societal challenges and aligns with strategic priorities of the institutions.
- *Partnership development.* The proposal should demonstrate the potential to develop sustainable collaborations between University of Georgia and University of Leeds faculty.
- *Extramural funding.* The proposal must articulate a credible plan to attract additional external funding, directly linking the preparatory activities for which funding is requested to specific future submissions.

Award Conditions

Funds are to be spent within the current fiscal year. A progress report detailing documented outcomes of the successful collaboration will be due December 7th, 2026. A final report is due after two years.

Contact for questions: Harper.Davison@uga.edu