Research Council Subvention Program for the Publication of Scholarly Books

Request for Proposals 2026

OVERVIEW

Subventions provide partial subsidies to university and other highly regarded scholarly presses for the publication of scholarly books authored by full-time faculty, given that in some cases, such presses ask authors to cover a portion of the cost of publishing a scholarly book to make it more affordable. This program is designed to assist with those costs.

Please note that this program assists faculty with costs that presses would otherwise incur in the publishing process. It does not assist faculty with costs that they would normally incur as authors, e.g. for manuscript preparation, including but not limited to the purchase of or permissions to use illustrations or other materials; preparation of tables; the expense of hiring an indexer, should the author choose not to perform indexing tasks, or the translation of books into a different language. None of these expenses are eligible for this program. Authors seeking help with those costs should apply instead for an Individual Fulcrum Award in the Research Council Awards Program.

ELIGIBILITY

Only books authored by full-time tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-track Rutgers faculty members qualify for subvention awards. Deans of schools and colleges, visiting faculty members, post-doctoral associates, research associates, and full-time administrators are not eligible to apply to this program. Edited books and textbooks are not eligible for this program. Also, ineligible are self-published books and books for which the publisher requires the author to cover the entire cost of publication.

AWARD AMOUNT

The typical subvention amount awarded by the Research Council is $2,500 or less. Only under exceptional circumstances can larger subventions be considered, to a maximum of $4,000.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be submitted via InfoReady.

An application for subvention should include the following:

1. A description, of one page or less, of the work for which subvention is being requested.

2. A copy of a letter/contract agreement or other written correspondence from the Director of the Press accepting the manuscript for publication , specifying the total cost of publication, the

contribution the Press intends to make towards total costs, the amount of subvention necessary, and an explanation of the reason for the need for a subvention. **The Council will not award a subvention in any instance where the cost of the subvention requested by a publisher is equal to the total cost of the publication**. Please note that the letter must specify that the subvention will lead to a reduction in the price of the book.

3. A copy, if available, of outside reviews of the manuscript of the book in question obtained by the publisher from experts in the field.

AWARD CONDITIONS

All subventions will be made on the following conditions:

- The book will acknowledge support from the Rutgers University Research Council;
- The publisher or the author will send one copy of the book to the Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. Additionally, an email should be sent to the Research Council Co-Chairs (rcg@oq.rutgers.edu) informing them of the book's publication, with a short description of it for use on the Research Council website.

For more information, contact:

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