University of South Alabama  
Faculty Productivity Grant Program

**Purpose**
The purpose of the Faculty Productivity Grant program (FPG) is to provide concentrated time for faculty to generate pilot or preliminary data that will enhance their competitiveness for a major grant or contract. The Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED) will provide funds for ten (10) faculty “buy-outs” from teaching annually.

**Eligibility**
Preference will be given to faculty at the level of Assistant Professor, but all faculty are eligible to apply. Faculty from all colleges/schools, with the exception of the College of Medicine, are eligible, including non-tenure track faculty. Specific eligibility criteria include the following:

- Must have been in a faculty position at USA for at least two (2) years.
- Must not be within five (5) years of declared retirement.
- Preference is given to those faculty who are not currently the recipient of a grant or contract that provides funds for re-assigned time.

**Process**
1. Faculty request approval in writing to their Chair and/or Dean (as appropriate) to receive a one class reduction under the FPG. The request should include:
   a. The request for a re-assignment from teaching one class.
   b. A one-page description of the research proposed.
   c. Anticipated results/data to be collected during the re-assigned time.
   d. Proposed sponsor for a subsequent, major research grant/contract proposal.
2. The request should be made at least one semester prior to the requested re-assigned time.
3. The faculty member should assist in identifying, in conjunction with the Chair/Dean, an appropriate individual to cover the class from which he/she will be released.
4. The Dean will request funds from the Vice President for Research.

**Requirements**
- Recipients may only receive one class buy-out within a two year period.
- Recipients must commit to submitting at least one major grant/contract proposal within twelve (12) months of the buy-out.
- No college/school may receive funds for more than three buy-outs annually *(fall and spring semesters)*.
- If more than 10 requests are made in an academic year, the VP Research will make the decision on who should receive the funds in consultation with the Deans, and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs or Vice President for Health Sciences.

**NOTE:** for FY 2014, when possible some awards will be made for the Fall 2014 semester based upon Dean’s approval and appropriate coverage for classes.