

RSCA's Grants Common Purchase Requests

Being listed as 'supported' does not guarantee that a funding request will be supported. Each request is reviewed on its merits.

General Considerations:

1. Will the requested item directly support the student applicant's professional development?
2. Are the requested items cost-effective (e.g., generics vs. top-of-line) where appropriate?
3. Will relatively permanent items (equipment, software, books, etc.) have enduring value post-project? (esp. for AYURE/SURE grants)

Purchase Type	Supported by AYURE/SURE Grants?	Supported by Opportunity Grant?	Explanations & Conditions
<i>Disposable supplies</i> (chemicals, arts materials, etc.)	Yes	Rarely	Items must have clear role in the proposed project, rather than serve mainly to restock a research team's supplies.
<i>Equipment</i> (lab machines, computers, A/V, musical instruments, protective clothing, etc.)	Yes	Rarely	<i>With AYURE/SURE Grants:</i> All items belong to the campus and will usually stay housed in the mentor's department after the project. So the item, esp. if expensive, should have good value for the campus <u>after</u> the project. Any computer purchases must be approved and purchased by campus IT. <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> students directly purchase and own the equipment.
<i>Software</i>	Yes	Yes	<i>With AYURE/SURE Grants:</i> software must be installed on a campus computer, not a personal one, and it must be installed by Computing Services. As with equipment, it should provide good value after the project. It remains property of campus after the project. <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> students directly purchase and own the software, and they install it onto their personal devices. The software will ideally provide lasting value to the student's professional development post-project.
<i>Books</i>	Yes	Rarely	<i>With AYURE/SURE Grants:</i> Books remain campus property after the project. They are usually purchased through the campus library and returned to the library after the project. Occasionally, books may be housed post-project in a smaller open-access library within the mentor's department. Books intended solely for the project should instead be sought through Inter-Library Loan. <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> Same rules as with supplies/equipment/books.
<i>Participant payments</i>	Yes	Yes	<i>With AYURE/SURE Grants:</i> There are restrictions to how participants may be paid . <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> no restrictions in how to pay participants.

<i>Faculty travel to research site</i> (geology digs, museum visit, interviews, mtg with collaborators, etc.)	Yes	No	Expenses are funded through a reimbursement procedure, so long as the faculty travel directly supports the student's efforts on the project. Travel must be pre-approved by the RSCA and Travel offices.
<i>Student travel to research site</i> (geology digs, museum visit, interviews, mtg with collaborators, etc.)	Rarely	Yes	<i>With AYURE/SURE Grants:</i> Student can apply for travel funds . They must make a strong case for why this travel is required to complete the project, and they must complete the appropriate paperwork. <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> The process is much simpler with this grant.
<i>Student travel to present at conference/recital/event</i>	No	Yes	AYURE/SURE grants do not support conference travel. Instead, all students (with or without AYURE/SURE) may apply for the Student Travel Award to present their project. <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> open to all students presenting a project, including secondary co-authors.
<i>Fees for internal services</i> (ex, printing fees, mappings)	Yes	Rarely	Service providers cannot be members on the project.
<i>Fees for external services</i> (ex, subscription to research platforms; instrument tuning; professional recordings; workshops)	Rarely	Yes	<i>With AYURE/SURE Grants:</i> we have funded some of these but not others, depending primarily on the cost, fit with our program, potential for other campus units to fund the service, and the value provided <u>beyond</u> the project. <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> Students may directly fund this expense so long as a strong case is made for how it meets the grant's goals.
<i>Stipends for student or faculty mentor</i>	No for AYURE; Yes for SURE	No	We provide student & faculty stipends for our summer SURE grants. We do not provide stipends for our semesterly AYURE grant or Opportunity grant. Most students instead receive course credit (e.g., Honor's theses, independent studies) when doing their AYURE project.
<i>Stipends for student assistants</i> (ex, Computer Science student for web development, additional research assistant to run project)	Rarely	No	<i>With AYURE/SUER Grants:</i> For the most part, we do not fund student hourly assistants. For example, we do not pay for assistants to join a research team or to do library work for faculty. However, we have occasionally funded student hourly assistants who have a unique professional skill-set vital to carrying out the project.
<i>Society membership fees or licenses</i> (student or faculty)	No	Rarely	<i>With AYURE/SURE Grants:</i> Campus rules require that membership fees / licenses be in the university's name. Fees / licenses for individuals not supported. <i>With Opportunity Grant:</i> Student must provide a strong case for how this expense supports the project and their own professional development.
<i>Event hosting (honorariums, meals, etc.)</i>	No	No	Consider instead seeking funds from CAS , your department, or your college's dean.