College of Graduate Studies
UCF

UCF 2025 Preeminent Postdoctoral Program (P3)

Through an exceptional funding request, the College of Graduate Studies has been allocated funding to support new postdoctoral scholars at the university. According to NIH, NSF and the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA), a postdoctoral scholar is an individual who has received a doctoral degree (or equivalent) and is engaged in a temporary and defined period of mentored advanced training to enhance professional skills and gain research independence needed to pursue their chosen career path.

Advancing UCF's research, teaching and service missions, P3 will provide support for first-time UCF postdoctoral scholars. For both internally (e.g., start-up) and externally funded postdoctoral scholars, P3 will provide $20,000 support each year (plus fringe at the current rate) for two years. During their tenure as a UCF postdoc, each P3 scholar will be eligible to apply for funds (up to $5,000) for professional development.

Eligibility

Principal Investigators (PIs) who desire to mentor postdoctoral scholars and can document the availability of matching funds and necessary resources (e.g., research space, computer, supplies) for two years are eligible to apply. As of 7/1/24, the minimum required salary of $57,000 for these postdocs is slightly below the current NIH minimum. Coupled with UCF employee benefits (fringe= **18% or $10,260 as of July 1, 2025**), the minimum estimated match requirement from the PI for each of the two years is listed in the table below.

Postdoctoral Scholar Support Levels

Year	P3#	PI
1	$28,600	$43,660
2	$23,600	$43,660
3†	-	$67,260
4†	-	$67,260

* *Level of funding provided*
† *From anticipated external sources*

If approved, the two years of P3 support will commence at the start of a quarter (i.e., January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1). The PI is responsible for 100% of the salary and benefits if the postdoc is hired before the start of the quarter. Year 1 P3 support includes the $5,000 professional development allowance (to be used for professional development purposes only) which the scholar can apply for during their tenure as a UCF postdoc (which could extend beyond the two years of P3 funding). The funds are to be used by postdocs after they have been in their position for at least two months.

Expectations

PIs must submit a postdoctoral mentoring plan that describes how the PI (research group, department, college, etc.) will provide advanced training in the discipline and enhance professional skills to promote scholarly independence. This plan may involve participation in faculty development and teaching opportunities available through existing UCF programs (e.g., Faculty Excellence, FCTL, Pathways to Success) and/or collaboration with industry and government agency partners. It is expected that the PI and scholar will be involved in grant writing to support continued research activities beyond the two-year match period. Currently, postdoctoral scholars are eligible to remain in that job category at UCF for up to four years.

Postdoctoral scholars are expected to create Individual Development Plans (IDPs), **within 1 month of hire**, following guidelines similar to those outlined by the AAAS (http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/) and the American Psychological Association (http://www.apa.org/education/grad/ individual-development-plan.aspx). IDPs and mentoring activities will be tracked by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs.
Each postdoc and mentor is required to complete an annual report to be emailed to postdoc@ucf.edu in December of each year.

I agree to the specifications of the Preeminent Postdoctoral Program as outlined above.

PI Name Print: _____ **Date:** _____

PI Signature: _____

Application Evaluation Criteria

To be considered for funding through this program, faculty must submit the following application components (in a PDF format). P3 applications will be evaluated on a first come first served basis until funding is exhausted. However, if the demand exceeds the resources, a waitlist will be established that will prioritize those faculty members who are new to P3 and labs/ programs/ units that have not recently received P3 funding and other criteria. If a postdoctoral scholar has not already been identified, Pls will be required to document how they will recruit scholars who are underrepresented in their field.

Once approved, PIs will have at least 6 months from the award date to hire the postdoctoral scholar or the award may be subject to forfeiture and funding made available to other PIs. However, PIs will be eligible to reapply. Unless demand is low, the program will only support one postdoctoral scholar per PI. Postdocs can be shared by multiple PIs using different funding sources to provide the match.

Please type or print legibly. Email the application and supporting documents in PDF format to postdoc@ucf.edu.

A. Postdoctoral Scholar Mentor Information

Last Name: _____   **First Name:** _____

Title: _____

Unit: _____

HR Business Center Contact: _____

B. Research Project Information

Project Title and End Date: _____

Please review the linked GSS - CIP document that identifies CIP codes for the annual NSF Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, and enter the CIP code that relates to the postdoc's research area.

CIP Code (Required): _____

Funding Source /Agency or Startup Funds: _____

Associated UCF Grant ID (GR######)or Cost Center ID (CC#####): _____

Briefly describe expected postdoctoral scholar project duties:

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Briefly list other resources to be provided to the postdoctoral scholar (Please note, computers, laptops, and related equipment can no longer be purchased with P3 funds.):

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C. Postdoctoral Scholar Information

Individuals currently employed as a postdoctoral scholar or research associate/scientist at UCF are not eligible to be funded by the P3 program. PLEASE NOTE: A transcript is **required** within 30 days of hire for domestic PhD and 90 days if international. No exceptions.

Postdoctoral Scholar Annual Salary: $_____ **Expected Start Date:** _____

If Known, Name of Postdoctoral Scholar: _____

Doctoral Institution: _____ **Date Doctoral Degree Received:** _____

Current Position and Location: _____

If a candidate has not been identified, please provide a brief outline of your strategy to broadly advertise the postdoctoral position to solicit a wide pool of applicants:

D. Future Funding Sources

Identify potential sources for continuation of postdoctoral scholar funding after two years.

1. Title of RFP / Funding Program: _____

Agency: _____ **Projected Deadline Date:** _____

In a few sentences, describe how your research relates to the RFP or program's goals:

2. Title of RFP / Funding Program: _____

Agency: _____ **Projected Deadline Date:** _____

In a few sentences, describe how your research relates to the RFP or program's goals:

Attach additional pages of other possible funding sources if known.

E. Previous Postdoctoral Mentoring Experience

If you have served as a previous mentor, please list recent postdoctoral mentees along with their contact information.

A) Postdoc Name A: _____   **Mentoring Period:** _____

Contact Information: _____

B) Postdoc Name B: _____   **Mentoring Period:** _____

Contact Information: _____

F. Postdoctoral Mentoring Plan- To be attached to application

Provide a one-page outline of your proposed mentoring plan. You may want to use resources available at NSF and the National Postdoctoral Association for guidance. Identify specific UCF programs that you plan on using. If the appointment will involve teaching, designate the courses and semesters they will be taught.

G. Signatures/Financial Support Verification

Applicants are responsible for procuring <u>all FIVE</u> signatures (as applicable) below. Please do not return the form unless signed or otherwise approved. (e.g., via email)

Principal Investigator:

Print: _____   **Signature:** _____   **Date:** _____

Co-Principal Investigator

Print: _____   **Signature:** _____   **Date:** _____

Department Chair or Center Director:

Print: _____   **Signature:** _____   **Date:** _____

College Associate Dean for Research:

Print: _____   **Signature:** _____   **Date:** _____

Financial Support Verification

Print: _____   **Signature:** _____   **Date:** _____

The signature of a post-award specialist or other college/unit financial representative is required to ensure the funding source has been verified for amount and compliance.