

# Special Call for Proposals for Tenth Decade Project Funding Confronting Systemic Racial Inequality

**Closes September 30, 2020**

Award decisions will be made on a rolling basis beginning in mid-July.

Maxwell stands in solidarity with all who demand change in the face of continued racism, police brutality, and lack of progress in the areas of justice and access. As part of Maxwell's commitment to making our school, our university, and our communities more inclusive and just for all, this Special Call for Proposals invites research projects that bring attention to systemic racial inequality and offer evidence-based solutions for how to address persistent inequities.

Especially in this moment, we must amplify research and scholarship that focuses on Black lives in the United States. This Special Call for Proposals is intended as a mechanism to additionally invest in and facilitate such critically needed research and discussion. Awardees will be invited to present their research to the School.

Please note that this Special Call for Proposals extends, but does not replace, the open call for Tenth Decade Project proposals. We welcome, for separate consideration, related projects that focus on the experiences of other racial/ethnic groups and other movements for racial justice, domestically or globally.

## Eligibility

Proposals are invited from all full-time faculty. Projects involving multiple faculty members and interdisciplinary teams are encouraged. Projects must be completed within two years but can be of shorter duration.

## Project Costs

While budgets of any amount will be considered, awards are anticipated to range between \$5,000 to \$20,000 for a 12- to 24-month grant period.

Tenth Decade grant funds support direct research expenses including the costs of collecting data, participant incentives, research assistance supporting the faculty project (i.e., hourly work by a graduate or undergraduate student or partial support of a full-time GA), specialized hardware or software necessary to conduct the research, and/or [approved essential travel](#).

Examples of expenses ineligible for a Tenth Decade grant award are faculty summer salary or course buyouts, direct support to faculty collaborators outside of Syracuse University, non-essential travel, and general-use hardware or software. We are also unable to support undergraduate or graduate student research projects with faculty Tenth Decade grant funds.

## Application Materials

- **Cover sheet** including (1) project title; (2) investigator(s) name, title, and affiliation; (3) project start and end dates; (4) total funding request; and (5) project summary (max. 250 words)

- **Project narrative** of no more than three single-spaced pages, excluding references (11-pt font, 1-inch margins). The proposal should describe the issue(s) to be examined, hypotheses to be evaluated, methodology proposed, data sources to be used, and anticipated results of the research, including their potential implications for public policy. For human research studies, the narrative must also describe a timely plan for obtaining Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval (including exempt, expedited, and full-board review).
- **Itemized budget** showing direct costs, along with a brief budget justification
- **Curriculum vitae** (in any format, max. 5 pages) for all investigators

## Application Submission and Selection Process

**By September 30**, submit application materials as a single PDF attachment to Jill Ferguson, Director of Research Development, at [jsfergus@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:jsfergus@maxwell.syr.edu). Award decisions will be made on a rolling basis beginning in mid-July.

## Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. The relevance of the topic to the focal theme of Confronting Systemic Racial Inequality (as discussed above)
2. The potential usefulness of the proposed research for the advancement of social scientific knowledge and the development and implementation of public policy
3. Clarity of stated objectives, methods, and anticipated results
4. The appropriateness and soundness of the research design, including choice of data, methods of analysis, and other procedures
5. The reasonableness of estimated cost and time commitments in relation to anticipated results
6. The qualifications and experience of personnel, including demonstrated familiarity with the literature and data to be used

## About Tenth Decade Project Funding

Launched in 2014, the Tenth Decade Project is a ten-year initiative that aims to focus attention on and celebrate the centennial of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs in 2024. Grant funding associated with the Tenth Decade Project operationalizes a defined goal of the Maxwell Academic Strategic Plan to “promote research involving faculty on innovative, high impact projects, applying social science methods and data analysis to address grand, global challenges such as democracy and civic engagement, inequality, urban poverty and development, governance and security, environmental change, and health policy.”