Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Updated Manual Information

11/25/14 updates:

1. Can faculty who have an active RGC award apply for Level 2 or 3 funding in 2015?

   Yes. The requirement that a final report must be submitted prior to the submission of a new application will be waived, temporarily, for faculty with open RGC awards (2013 and 2014) to allow those who were not aware of the pending changes to participate in the new funding level opportunities.

2. Level 2 and 3 applications – additional information:

   Ideally, junior faculty members will be included on the research teams for Level 2 (Collaborative) applications and represented among the participating faculty on Level 3 (Equipment) applications.

3. Can a Level 3 – Equipment Grant application request equipment upgrade or development? Can the request be for a UA facility?

   Applications for equipment upgrade would be appropriate. Equipment requests for a facility would also be appropriate.

4. In the list of Deliverables for Level 2 and 3, what is the difference between a scientific abstract and a peer-reviewed journal?

   A scientific or research abstract is submitted to a conference and is less likely to be peer-reviewed. The manual should have stated “research or conference abstract”. Peer reviewed publications include books.

5. Could a 3rd party cost share be considered as match? Example: A company agrees to only charge 80% of the price for a piece of equipment.

   No. The cost share match must come from within a UA college, school or department.

6. Can start-up funds be used as match in the RGC application?

   No. Start-up funds may not be used to meet the recommended match.
7. Manual Correction – Matching Funds on page 13

In the 4th paragraph under Matching Funds, the last sentence should state “If this requirement is not met through summer salary, the 1% will be accounted for as cost share but will not count toward the 1:1 match recommendation” instead of “1:1 match requirement.”

8. Can Level 3 – Equipment proposals request a “set” of related equipment that will be used together for the proposed project(s) with a total request over the $50k minimum or does it have to be for an individual piece of equipment that is $50K or over?

Level 3 requests can be for interrelated equipment individually priced lower but the total budget amount must be over $50k. The proposing team must make the case that the requested equipment is interrelated and is needed for a base capability.

9. Level 3 – can the salary for a technician be included?

No. The request must be for equipment.

10. Level 3 – can service agreements and installation costs be included?

Installation costs may be included. Level 3 is a one (1) year award. Service agreements could be problematic if they are for more than the term of the award.

11. Level 3 – How many quotes are required?

UA policy (http://www.purchasing.ua.edu/) should be observed unless there is a sole source justification, etc. The proposal budget is considered the best possible estimate at the time of submission. Quotes from suppliers may be referenced in the budget justification if necessary.