Q: Are adjunct faculty eligible to apply?
A: No.

Q: Are CHOP faculty eligible to apply?
A: Yes, but awards must be expended on University of Pennsylvania facilities, equipment and/or on associated University technical staff, postdocs, graduate and undergraduate students. The URF program is funded from the indirect cost recovery associated with University of Pennsylvania research awards.

Q: Can an investigator reapply with the same proposal?
A: Yes, but the proposal must be revised, with changes clearly indicated.

Q: What is the award term?
A: One year from the date of award.

Q: Are extensions permissible?
A: Yes, but an extension form must be submitted and approved by the Vice Provost for Research. Extensions are limited to six months.

Q: Do investigators receive feedback on their proposals?
A: Reviewers serve on a voluntary basis and the number of applications received are too numerous to allow for individual feedback.

Q: Who serves on the Review Panels?
A: The review panels are made up of Penn faculty with relevant expertise, who are able to provide informed and objective reviews of submissions.

Q: Who makes the funding decisions?
A: After assessing the review panel recommendations, the Vice Provost for Research will issue awards.

Q: Is reporting on a URF award required?
A: Awarded investigators are asked to submit a final report within one month of project completion.

Q: Should proposals include research opportunities for undergraduate students?
A: Proposals that include research opportunities for undergraduate are weighed more favorably than those that do not.

Q: Are investigators permitted to use URF awards for travel in relation to the proposed research?
A: Yes, with the exception of the biomedical panels.

Q: What is the typical length of the review cycle?
A: The review process takes approximately 12-15 weeks, but is heavily dependent on the number of applications received in the cycle, as well as several other factors

Q: How will an investigator know if their proposal has been funded?
A: Investigators will receive an email from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research.

Q: Are URF awards made public?
A: Yes, the awards are announced in the Almanac.

Q: Are Co-PI applications accepted?
A: Yes. As noted on the first page of the application, please include a letter of collaboration and a one-page biosketch for each co-PI. Neither document will be included in the 11-page limit.