



**Center for  
Research Excellence**  
University of South Carolina Aiken

Date: March 1, 2026

## **Connections Award – Call for Proposals**

**Sponsored by the USC Aiken Center for Research Excellence**

The Center for Research Excellence is pleased to announce the 2025 call for *Connections* proposals. We invite all interested students and their faculty mentors to participate.

**The *Connections* Research program was created by the University of South Carolina Aiken Center for Research Excellence to enrich the academic experience of our undergraduates through research opportunities in all disciplines.**

By providing access to faculty mentoring relationships and a professional scholarship experience, USC Aiken enables students to creatively explore their interests at a more in-depth level than can be attained in the classroom.

Requests may be up to \$1000 and may be used to fund scholarly/creative endeavors across all disciplines. Competition for this award will be through submission of a research, scholarship, or creative project proposal developed in collaboration with a USC Aiken faculty mentor. Selection will be based on the project's educational and intellectual merit, the potential impact of the project, and the student's previous academic success.

Information regarding the USC Aiken's *Connections* Research program and proposal guidelines can be found on the CRE web page at

<https://www.usca.edu/research/undergraduate-research/connections-program/>

***Connections* award start date: March 2025**

### **Important Dates**

**Call for proposals: March 2, 2026**

**Proposal due date: 5:00 PM April 2, 2026**

**Award announcements: April 6, 2026**