Introduction:
The objective of the Emory University Specialized Center of Research Excellence in Sex Differences (SCORE) Acceleration Award mechanism is to remove obstacles to productivity among University Investigators who are conducting sex differences research. This funding mechanism is intended to provide crucial resources that cannot easily or immediately be obtained through other funding mechanisms.

Goal:
Funds are intended to be used to:
- Enable a new NIH application that is expected to be submitted within the next 12 months; or
- Increase competitiveness of a scored NIH application that is currently being revised for resubmission; or
- Reduce obstacles encountered during a currently funded NIH-funded research project.

In all cases, only the current / proposed PI of the relevant NIH project may apply for an Acceleration Award. This program provides reimbursement or direct purchases of up to $2,000 per approved request. Requests for higher amounts will be considered on case by case basis with proper justification.

Scope:
Funds may be used for salary/wages (e.g. temporary employee to assist in data collection, input, or analysis), consultant costs, equipment, supplies, study subject incentives, or travel to the study site to meet with study personnel. Other uses will be considered. All requests must be well justified.

Eligibility:
Faculty members who are eligible to submit applications to NIH through Emory University and are doing research investigating sex differences.

Application Submission:
Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Marcia Holstad (404-727-1307) before beginning the application process, in order to discuss the fit of their request with the SCORE goals for the Acceleration Award mechanism.

A completed application package should be emailed to Marcia Holstad (nurmmcd@emory.edu), cc’ing Shannon Walker (shannon.walker@emory.edu).

The application package should include the following:
- A completed “Acceleration Award” application form;
- A copy of the applicant’s NIH biosketch;
- A cover letter co-signed by the PI’s division / department chair.

Approvals:
All requests must have appropriate departmental or divisional approval prior to submission as recorded by the cosignature on the cover letter.

Projects that require institutional approvals (e.g. IRB, ROC, IACUC) must have copies of those approvals on file with SCORE before funds will be released. Please send any approvals to Shannon Walker at shannon.walker@emory.edu.

Deadline:
Rolling. Submissions will be circulated for review by an internal committee and a decision made within 2 weeks of application.