



What's New with Vilas Awards?

WELCOME!

Please take a handout and find a seat.





Symposium for Research Administrators

University of Wisconsin-Madison
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What's New with Vilas Awards?
Updates and Answers

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What's New with Vilas Awards?

The plan for today's session

- Introduction
- Presentation:
 - Background about William F. Vilas and the Vilas Trust
 - New Salary and Fringe Rules
 - Overview of the main Vilas award types
 - Vilas award timeline
- Q&A

Vilas Awards at UW-Madison

Prestigious
Generous
Multi-Faceted
Quirky

William Freeman Vilas

1840-1908


Soldier, Statesman & Scholar
Benefactor

- 1840-Born in Vermont
- 1851-Family settled in Madison, Wisconsin
- 1858-Graduated UW with Highest Honors
- 1860-Law Degree from Albany Law School
- 1860-Returned to Madison to practice law
- 1862-Volunteered for the Union 23rd Wisconsin Infantry under Ulysses S. Grant
- 1863-Promoted to Major, then Lt. Colonel



William Freeman Vilas

- 1868-1885 – UW Law Professor
- 1875-1878 – Reviser of Wisconsin Statutes
- 1881-1885 – UW Regent
- 1884 –Democratic National Convention Chair
- 1885 – Elected to Wisconsin State Assembly
- 1885-1888 – Appointed Post-Master General
- 1888-1889 –Secretary of the Interior
- 1891-1897 – Elected to US Senate
- 1898-1905 – UW Regent
- 1898-1908 – Focus on Business
- 1908 – Died, buried at Forest Hill Cemetery



RED Research Education Development University of Wisconsin - Madison

The Vilas Trust

Prior to his death, William Freeman Vilas created the William F. Vilas Trust for the University of Wisconsin. The plans for the Trust, now over 100 years old, outline the structure of the Trust itself, how the funds are to be managed, and the specific support for the UW. Many of the unusual elements of the Vilas awards are due to the rules set down long ago. In 1961, the Trust was released to UW following the death of his daughter. The UW has benefited from the Vilas Trust since then.

RSP works closely with the Vilas Trust trustees, attorneys, and accountant to manage the awards in the spirit of what William F. Vilas intended, and according to the limitations he set forth.

RED Research Education Development University of Wisconsin - Madison

Common Features of Vilas Awards

- All Vilas Awards are non-federal sponsored projects (fund 133-).
 - These are GRANT funds not GIFT funds, given by a sponsor to support the PI's research.
- A 133- project will be created by Research and Sponsored Programs for your use.
- No carry over of funds from one project to another.
- No rebudgeting allowed.
- Unspent funds have to be returned to Vilas at the end of the project period.
- The projects are set up and administered through the recipient's own department/college.
 - Exception: Vilas Life Cycle Award has RSP as home department with department edits, and Dean as PI.
- Items purchased with flexible funds are subject to State rules, University and Department policies, guidelines, and procedures.
- Flexible funds may not be used for scholarships, fellowships or to direct charge tuition.
- Flexible funds may not be used for the purchase of alcohol.
- Flexible funds are to support the PI's research, not just for any old expense.

Detailed information regarding Vilas Awards can be found on the RSP website at <https://www.rsp.wisc.edu/Vilas/index.html>

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Summer Salary and Fringe Changes for FY19

New summer salary and fringe benefit rules are effective July 1, 2018.

- This change was driven by new information from Vilas Trust that indicated the Trust expected UW Madison to apply this restriction to more than one Vilas award type.
- The change applies to Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorships, Vilas Mid-Career/Early Career Awards, Vilas Life Cycle Awards, and the salary rule was already in effect for the Vilas Associates Awards.

Summer Salary and Fringe Changes for FY19

New summer salary and fringe benefit rules are effective July 1, 2018.

- For faculty that choose to use their flex funds to pay for their own summer salary, **the salary amount that is charged to Vilas is limited to 2/9ths of the lowest paid Vilas Research Professor's salary.**
 - This salary amount is subject to change each fiscal year.
- **Fringe benefits will be charged for all personnel paid on the award.**
 - The fringe benefit charged will be based on the current fiscal year fringe rate.
- **NOTE:** Summer salary allowance will not increase due to the PI receiving a wage increase.
 - Example: 2% increase July 2018 and January 2019.
 - Difference will need to be covered by other funding.

Summer Salary and Fringe Changes for FY19

Vilas Awards
 Updated 06/18/2018

Please Note
 New Summer Salary restrictions effective 7/1/18. See award rules below for details.

Vilas Award Details
 Vilas Research Professorship Award
 Vilas Associate Award
 Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorship Award
 Vilas Faculty Mid-Career/Early Career Investigator Award
 Vilas Research Investigator Award

RELATED LINKS
 Accountant Search
 Award Search
 FAI Account Code Tool
 Vilas Award Information
 Business Services
 Accounting Services
 VIDEOS

SUMMER SALARY RATES FY19

- Summer salary amounts will be provided on the Vilas Award main page.
- Summer Salary Rates for fiscal year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019:
Faculty Summer Salary = \$9,744 per month or \$19,488 total.

Vilas Research Professorship

Overview

- The most prestigious Vilas award, and it sets the standard for other Vilas awards.
- Initial award letter provided by Provost's office.
- The PI receives ongoing funding under a new project number each year until retirement.
- Each project covers one fiscal year; the period for which each project is awarded is not negotiable.
- Award provides faculty salary \$10,000 and flexible research funds of \$50,000
- **Vilas Retirement Award** – available only to retired Vilas Research Professors with 15+ years of holding the Vilas Research Professor title, provides small monthly benefit following retirement.
- **Vilas Supplemental Research Funds Award** – current Vilas Research Professors can request supplemental funding. If approved, it provides one year of funding for a specific research project.

Expenditures

- Faculty salary is capped at \$10,000 each year. No fringe benefits are allowed on the award. RSP removes the fringe benefits each month at no charge to the department.
- Flexible funds may not be used to provide additional salary support for the award winner or other faculty members.

Vilas Associates Award

Overview

- Award letters are provided by the VCRGE.
- The award covers two fiscal years; a new project will be provided for each year.
- The period for which the grant is awarded is not negotiable.

PI Summer Salary

- Faculty who are paid on an annual (12 month) basis are not eligible for the summer salary portion of a Vilas Associate award.
- Faculty Summer salary is provided only for the July and August pay periods of the award year, no exceptions are allowed.
- Vilas Associate summer salary is limited to 2/9ths of the lowest paid full Vilas Professor. In cases where the Vilas Associate's academic year salary is greater than that Vilas Professor, the Vilas Associate's summer salary amount will be equal to the 2/9ths of the full Vilas Professor's salary.
- Fringe benefits associated with faculty summer salary payments are provided as part of this award.

Vilas Associates Award

Flexible Funds

- A flexible fund of \$12,500 is provided for each of the two fiscal years. Flexible funds not spent during a fiscal year are lost.
- Flexible funds may not be used to provide additional salary support for the award winner or other faculty members.
- If flexible funds are used for other salary support, the associated fringe benefit and tuition remission charges will also be paid from the flexible fund.

Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorship

Overview

- Award letter is provided by the Provost Office
- This is a five year professorship, however the Vilas funds only cover two fiscal years. It is highly encouraged that the Vilas funds be spent within these two, however an extension request for the remaining three years may be submitted to the Vice Provost Michael Bernard-Donals. The request will be submitted to the Vilas Trust on your behalf.
- Vilas provides \$50,000 over a two year period with a required match of \$25,000 over the five year award period. There is a minimum requirement of \$5,000 match each year.
- The department is responsible for setting up the match project and must provide the match project number to Angie Stenit before the 133 Vilas project number is assigned.
- Unspent funds will be returned to the Vilas Trust at the end of the second year unless an extension is granted. If an extension is granted, any unspent funds would be returned to the Vilas Trust at the end of the project.
- As of September 2017, cost share expenses on matching fund will not be tracked.

Salary and Fringe Change

- Faculty can choose to use the funds for his/her summer salary only and the amount is limited to 2/9ths of the lowest paid Vilas Research Professor's salary. This amount is subject to change each fiscal year.
- Fringe benefits will be charged for all personnel paid on the award.
- Flexible funds may not be used to provide additional salary support for the award winner or other faculty members.

Vilas Faculty Mid-Career/Early Career Investigator Award

Overview

- Award letter is provided by the Provost Office
- The award covers one or two fiscal years; a new project will be provided each year.
- The period for which the grant is awarded is not negotiable.
- Vilas provides up to \$50,000 of flexible research funds

Salary and Fringe Change

- Faculty can choose to use the funds for his/her summer salary only and the amount is limited to 2/9ths of the lowest paid Vilas Research Professor's salary. This amount is subject to change each fiscal year.
- Fringe benefits will be charged for all personnel paid on the award.
- Flexible funds may not be used to provide additional salary support for the award winner or other faculty members.

Vilas Research Investigator Award

Overview

- Award letter is provided by the Provost's Office.
- The award covers one fiscal year; the period for which the grant is awarded is not negotiable.
- Vilas provides \$30,000 for hiring a Research Assistant (RA) or Project Assistant (PA) only.

Expenditures

- Funds may only be used to hire an RA or PA. The associated fringe benefit and tuition remission charges will also be paid from this fund.

Vilas Life Cycle

Overview

- Award letters are provided by Women in Science & Engineering.
- These funds are provided by Vilas to help faculty who have had some major life change.
- These awards are confidential and handled with discretion. The Faculty members name will not appear in WISDM or SFS.
- The award start date can vary, however the end date is the end of the fiscal year.
- Some awardees may receive summer salary support, contingent upon committee approval prior to award.

Salary and Fringe Change

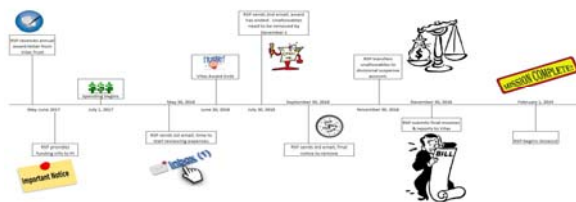
- Faculty who are awarded summer salary will have that amount paid in July and August of the award year only, no exceptions are allowed.
- Faculty summer salary is limited to 2/9ths of the lowest paid Vilas Research Professor's salary. This amount is subject to change each fiscal year. Summer salary amounts will be provided in the award letter and on the Vilas Awards Main Page.
- Fringe benefits will be charged for all personnel paid on the award.

Expenditures

- Funds may only be spent according to the budget. If you need to rebudget, please submit a rebudget request to Jennifer Sheridan at jennifer.sheridan@wisc.edu and Angie Stenli at astenli@rsp.wisc.edu.

Vilas Award Timeline

Vilas award project dates July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018



Common Problems with Vilas Awards

Summer salary not spent or for the incorrect months. (Exception for the Vilas Research Professors).

- Summer salary is for July or August of the award year only. No exceptions.
- A-basis (12 month) faculty do not receive the summer salary funds.
- If the summer salary goes unspent, the entire award, including the flexible funds, is lost.

Overspending of flexible funds, rebudgeting not allowed.

- Unspent salary funds cannot be reallocated to flex fund category.
- Transfer of excess expenses to discretionary spending accounts will be required.

Vilas award amounts are not adjusted for wage increases.

- Summer Salary amounts are limited to 2/9ths of the lowest paid Vilas Research Professor.

More Common Problems with Vilas Awards

Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorships (VDAP) and Early-/Mid-career not spent. No-cost extensions are not guaranteed.

- Best Practice: spend down during the award dates.
- Vilas is reluctant to extend VDAPs beyond the initial 2 years.
- Extensions to Early-/Mid-career awards are rare.

Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorships (VDAP) exceeding summer salary allowance.

- If this overspending is not discovered until the end of the award, it will be difficult to spend the funds that remain after the excess salary is transferred off the Vilas award.

Research Investigator funds spent on supplies or travel expenses.

- Limit spending to RA or PA salary, fringe and tuition remission only.

Not spending the full amount of the award.

- Unspent funds are lost. The terms of the Vilas Trust dictate the money be sent back to the sponsor for reinvestment.

Vilas Links and Contacts

RSP's Vilas webpage: <https://www.rsp.wisc.edu/Vilas/index.html>

RSP 2018 Symposium for Research Administrators Media Page (this PowerPoint will be posted there): https://www.rsp.wisc.edu/training/research_symposium/media.cfm

RSP Post-Award Accountant for Vilas Awards: Angie Johnson, astenli@rsp.wisc.edu, 608-890-3147

RSP Managing Officer overseeing Vilas Awards: John Varda, jvarda@rsp.wisc.edu, 608-265-5918

Provost's Office: Vice Provost Michael Bernard-Donals, mbernarddon@wisc.edu, 608-262-9314 and Yvonne Quamme, yvonne.quamme@wisc.edu, 608-262-8072

OVCERGE: Laila Robbins, laila.robbins@wisc.edu, 608-890-4266 (Vilas Associates only)

WISELI: Jennifer Sheridan, jennifer.Sheridan@wisc.edu, 608-263-1445 (Vilas Life Cycle only)

What's New with Vilas Awards?

Questions?
