



2026 INDIVIDUAL GRANT COMPETITION

*** Announcement of the Casualty Actuarial Society and Society of Actuaries Research Institute's CKER Individual Grant Competition ***

Purpose	<p>The Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) and the Society of Actuaries Research Institute's (SOA) Committee on Knowledge Extension Research (CKER) announce the 2026 Individual Grants Competition to support the advancement of knowledge in actuarial science. Grants will be funded through the CAS and the SOA.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> This is the only solicitation for grant proposals; one application will be used to submit proposals to each organization. Each organization may award grants.</p>
Who may apply	<p>Individuals and teams may apply. Letters of intent are expected to come from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>a) academics</i><i>b) practitioners, often where the research project is not part of their employment</i><i>c) partnerships of a and b</i> <p>Due to limited funding, only one LOI per researcher, as a principal investigator or co-applicant, will be considered.</p> <p>Practitioners may find it helpful to have an academic researcher involved in the application and proposal. Such partnerships are encouraged. Graduate and undergraduate students are not eligible to apply individually but may be part of a team in one of the above categories.</p>
Selection criteria	<p>The project may be either theoretical or empirical in nature. A key criterion for each funding organization is that the project should have the potential to contribute significantly to the advancement of knowledge in actuarial science. When submitting your Proposal, please include the items for the Letter of Intent (LOI) below plus a thorough description of your research, the purpose of your research, and a thorough literature review of what your research builds upon. The budget should be reasonable and justifiable.</p>
Publication of research	<p>The end-product of the research is expected to be presented at an ARC meeting and submitted to the <i>North American Actuarial Journal</i> or <i>Variance</i> unless another journal has been pre-approved, or in the form of software, monograph, etc. In addition to describing the end product in the proposal, mention should be made of why the proposed journal or other end product is appropriate to the project being proposed.</p>
Research contract	<p>The selected researcher and the sponsoring organization(s) will enter into a formal contractual arrangement. Oversight will be coordinated by the funding organization(s). The median amount of funding for the grants is approximately \$15,000.</p>
Intent to propose	<p>Interested parties must submit a brief Letter Of Intent (LOI) of 2 pages providing the proposed title, a description of the research project and how it might be used by practicing and academic actuaries now or in the future, authors and titles in the literature review, a rough estimate of the funding requirements, the ability of the applicant(s) to access any data needed, where the applicant(s) intend to present and publish, and the qualifications (including any actuarial designations and any relevant experience in industry) of the applicant(s). In order to appropriately evaluate the project, the committees ask that the applicant explain, in non-technical language, the purpose and the outcome of the project. Quality of writing and ease of understanding in the LOI will be decision factors. Letters that do not have the following formatting will not be considered: at least 11-point font, at least 1.5 spacing, and 1-inch margins on each side. Letters should be submitted to Caitlin Cummings at Research-CKER@soa.org by October 23, 2025.</p>
Application form	<p>Application forms will be distributed by November 20, 2025, to researchers being invited to submit proposals for funding consideration. Completed application forms are due by January 15, 2026.</p>
Awards	<p>Grant awards will be announced by March 18, 2026.</p>
Questions to	<p>Caitlin Cummings, SOA Grants Specialist, Research-CKER@soa.org</p>