

AMAZON RESEARCH AWARDS: GUIDANCE FOR FACULTY

For faculty who are applying for an [Amazon Research Award \(ARA\)](#), here is some UW guidance for how to proceed at the application and award stages:

Pre-award

- The UW accepts ARA funding through Gift Services. Because of this, faculty should not complete an eGC1.
- As you build your project budget, remember to include the required institutional [gift assessment](#), while staying within the award cap.

Post-award

- Amazon will notify you by email if you are being funded. This notification will likely include a form for you to complete and gift letter to sign. Please do not sign the gift letter. Gift letters must be reviewed and signed by the UW's designated signatory in University Advancement. Begin with your local grant manager and/or CFR (corporate and foundation relations) staff. They will guide you through the approval and signature process.
- Units are asked not to request a new gift fund for each ARA. Instead, funds should be deposited in a faculty member's existing gift fund if applicable, or in a broader-purpose unit gift fund. ARA project funds placed in broader-purpose gift funds should be managed using worktags to identify and access the funding.

Considering the "Think Big" category?

Amazon's [current ARA call for proposals](#) encompasses five distinct opportunities: [AI for Information Security](#); [Amazon Ads](#); [AWS AI: Agentic AI](#); [Build on Trainium](#); and [Think Big](#). For faculty contemplating applying to the Think Big call, Amazon recommends you scroll down the [main page](#) to look at the earlier ARA topics for inspiration and an understanding of Amazon's interest areas. In addition to what appears in past ARA call-for-proposal topics on Amazon's website, Amazon also encourages research proposals for a full range of other scientific domains that might include (but should not be limited to):

- Additive manufacturing: 3D printing technologies and emerging applications of 3D printing
- Advanced semi-conductor packaging: Wafer-scale systems, optical inter-chip, communications, and 3D die stacking
- In-memory compute and in-storage compute
- Power-fusion, fission and alternative power
- Utility-scale energy storage or large-scale battery storage

Questions?

- For process questions, please email Michelle Barnett in Central CFR at mb1@uw.edu.
- For topic questions, please email Joanna Glickler in Central CFR at glickler@uw.edu or connect with your unit CFR staff member.