

President Intramural Research Fund (PIRF) Orientation

Eligibility, Budgetary Considerations, and Amendments

Mirvat El-Sibai, Ph.D. Professor of Cell & Molecular Biology Department of Biological Sciences, SAS Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies Office of Graduate Studies and Research Lebanese American University mirvat.elsibai@lau.edu.lb

Eligibility for 4th cycle

Who is eligible?

- All full-time faculty and all full time physicians with:
- No prior PIRF grants
- No active PIRF grant
- Active two-year grants (cycle 2) that would expire at the end of AY 2024-2025
- A grant with no cost extension (cycle 1 or 2) that would expire at the end of AY 2024-2025
- CO-PIs on active PIRF grants

Eligibility for 4th cycle

Who is not eligible?

- Part-time faculty
- Part-time physicians
- Staff
- Non-professorial full time faculty
- Adjunct faculty
- CNTs
- Post-doctoral fellows
- Faculty with an active two-year grant (cycle 3)
- Faculty who would ask for no cost extension (cycle 2)



Current budget is USD 37,500 per year up to 2 years (USD 75,000 total) Remaining fund from year one can now be carried over to year 2 for 2 year projects

What does my PIRF fund cover?

A. <u>Personnel:</u>

a. Course release (up to 6 credits/AY)

For the course release, a prior notification should be made to the school Dean, who would then need to clear the application before it reaches the PIRF committee

b. Post-doctoral fellow (budgeted at USD 2,000/month, 5\$/day transportation, question to modification by the school Dean)

c. Non-student RA (with an MS degree) (budgeted at USD 1,050/month, question to modification by the school Dean)

d. Student RA (undergrad or grad) (salary set by the student employment office)

Budget

Current budget is USD 37,500 per year up to 2 years (USD 75,000 total) Remaining fund from year one can now be carried over to year 2 for 2 year projects

What does my PIRF fund cover?

B. Equipment (no cap) (This caption does not include laptops/PCs/Macs, etc.)

For any equipment order, a prior notification should be made to the school Dean, who would then need to clear the application before it reaches the PIRF committee

C. Reagents (no cap)

- D. Software/Databases (capped at USD 6,000/year)
- E. Conference (capped at USD 3,000/year)
- F. Publication fees/editorial fees/Article processing charges (no cap)



What doesn't PIRF cover?

- Personal electronic devices (ipads, phones, USBs etc.) unless the electronic device is connected to a machine in a lab and tagged
- Additional salary
- Local transportation for faculty
- Vouchers/pay for study participants in bulk are only possible if a list of the participants' names is provided for legal vetting (confidential in case of anonymity required by IRB)

Where do I start?

- PIRF application form can be found online on the EDMS system.
- Proposal submitted fully online.
- A more detailed summary of the budget is provided.

Call for PIRF 4th cycle



Graduate Studies and Research Office To AllFullTimeFaculty; AllPhysiciansFT (LAUMC-RH) Cc O Samer Saab

i Follow up. Completed on Thursday, December 5, 2024.



Guidelines for the President Intramural Research Fund (Fourth cycle Dec24).pdf \checkmark 210 KB

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PIRF Budget template-DEC 2024.xlsx 31 KB

Dear Colleagues,

It gives us great pleasure to announce that the fourth grant cycle of the President Intra (PIRF) is now open (funding to take effect in September 2025). The deadline for applic 2025 and the application form can be found on the EDMS system. The PIRF guideline with the budget template are attached.

The budget is limited to a maximum of \$37,500 per year and a total of \$75,000 over 2

First step: Prepare your proposal

Proposal Structure was included in the guidelines we shared with all Briefly, proposal structure:

- Title
- Abstract: (Not to exceed 3000 characters with spaces)
- Keywords: 5 key words most closely related to the proposed project
- Background: A description of the research background of the proposal.
- Scope and aims: A detailed description of the scope and objectives of the proposed project.
- Experimental design and methodology

First step: Prepare your proposal

Briefly, proposal structure:

- Timeline: A description of the timeline for completion of the different stages/aims within the general timeframe of the grant.
- Budget justification: An explanation of the way in which the budget is adequate to achieve the aims of the proposal
- Budget description: A detailed, item-by-item, description of all the components of your budget for each year of the grant.
- Recent publications: A list of up to five of your most recent publications related to the proposed project.
- References

Please save the Budget file with you name in it

As mentioned before, if it includes equipment or course release, first clear with your school

Dean

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- The new budget template now contains both years for 2 year projects. For one year projects, just fill out the first year
- The budget sheet is locked, hence no captions other than the approved ones can be added.
- Ensure that total budget is adequate for carrying out the proposed project (no less, no more).

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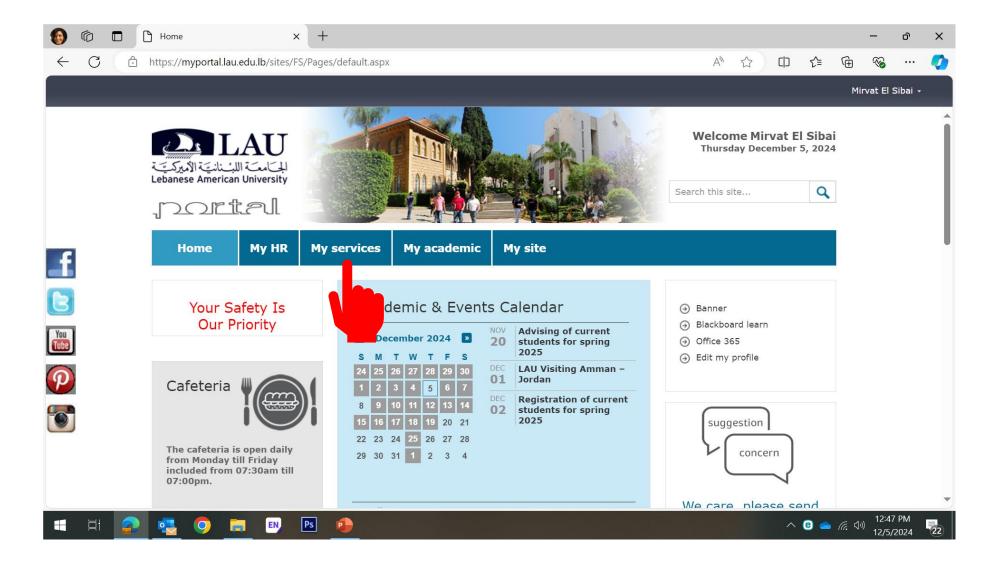
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	LAU SoAS - Annual Performance Evaluation	Start
	☆ LAU SoAS - Appeal for Annual Evaluation	Start

EDMS for PIRF: General info

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EDMS for PIRF: Compliance

III-Compliance		
Study includes human subjects *	Yes 🗸	
Do you have IRB approval for this study? [*]	Yes 🗸	
Upload approval document *	Upload	
Study includes the use of animals [*]	Yes 🗸	
Do you have ACUC approval for this study *	Yes 🗸	
Upload approval document*	Upload	

EDMS for PIRF: External reviewers

V-External Reviewers

Please enter the names of a minimum of 3 external reviewers

External reviewers should have no conflict of interest with the PI or Co-PI; such as co-authorship, kinship etc.. External reviewers should be outside of LAU. (Note: any proposal that does not have an external review by the end of the review period, will not be considered for funding.)

Please enter the names of at least 3 and preferably up to 5 external reviewers.

Name*	Affiliation *	Email*	Reason for Choosing *

Add

EDMS for PIRF: Proposal details

VI-Proposal	
Title *	
Abstract*	
Background *	3000 characters limit
	1000 characters limit
Upload Background oharts/graphs/structures	Upload
Preliminary results	8500 characters limit
Upload preliminary results oharts/graphs/structures	Upload
800pe and aims*	
	8500 characters limit

EDMS for PIRF: Proposal details

Upload scope and aims oharts/graphs/structures	Upload
Experimental decign / Methodology*	10000 charactara limit
Upload experimental design / methodology oharts/graphs/structures	Upload
Timeline *	
Budget Justification *	3500 characters limit
Recent publications *	
References	

EDMS for PIRF: Budget

Project Duration*

Does your proposed budget contain equipment?*

Does your proposed budget contain a request for course release?*

Does your proposed budget include hiring a postdoctoral fellow?*

No

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Please describe below in full detail the budgetary needs of your projects

2 Years

No

Personnel

 Year 1*
 Year 2*

Please describe your Personnel needs

Supplies and Materials

Year 1*

Year 2*

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Please describe your Supplies and Materials needs

Publishing and Conference

Year 1*

Year 2*



Please describe you Publishing and Conference attendance needs

Does your proposed budget contain equipment?*	Yes	~
Does your proposed budget contain a request for course release?*	Yes	~

Total Budget Year*	
Total Budget Year 2*	
Will the project require additional resources from the school *	~
Budget Sheet*	Upload xlsx, xls
CV*	Upload pdf, docx, doc
Submit Save as	Draft

What's next?

- The PIRF committee will receive the applications and contact external reviewers for evaluation
- Decisions will be rendered mid-June 2025
- Faculty will receive an email with the outcome
- If the outcome is positive, faculty will receive a PIRF grant number from the business office. If you already had a PIRF in the past, the number remains unchanged

Any question can be sent to me @ mirvat.elsibai@lau.edu.lb

If you have not received a PIRF project number, please contact Mr. Naji Medlej (Business office) @ nmedlej@lau.edu.lb

- To post an Ad for hiring an email should be sent to Mr. Gracia Zgheib-Mahfoud (GSR office administrative assistant) @ gracia.zgheibmahfoud@lau.edu.lb, and please send her the PIRF project number, the job description, and the email where the applications can be sent
- To initiate an employment request for post-doctoral fellow or non-student RA, please send an email to Mr. Zgheib Mahfoud (email above) (please specify PIRF
 - #, remuneration and duration of the contract)

To initiate an employment request to a student RA, please go through the administrative assistant in your department and provide the PIRF project number. They will initiate the contract with the office of financial aid and student employment (you identify the student to hire, tell them for this many hours a week for this many weeks), they have specific institutional guidelines for remuneration for undergrads vs. grads but please ask them to alert the GSR office



 To place orders for equipment/reagents/software, please place a purchase request with your departmental lab supervisor or administrative assistant (whatever applies) and give them the PIRF project number

• For course release, please start the process by talking to your chair

Other processes: Conference travel

• For conference travel: Start by filling the EDMS form (Conference travel on PIRF)

For conference travel: Start by filling the EDMS form (Conference travel on PIRF)

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Conference Travel Request

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🕺 LAU GSR - Conference Travel Request		Start
📩 LAU GSR - President Intramural Research Fund Form		Start
☆ LAU GSR - Research Proposal Submission Form		Start
LAU GSR - Students' Research Award Application		Start
LAU IRB - Adding LAUMCRH/LAUMCSJH After IRB Approval On	у	Start
LAU Request Form - Conflict Of Interest Disclosure		Start
LAU Request Form - Faculty/Staff Status		Start
☆ LAU Request Form - Research Day Registration form		Start
났 LAU Request Form - Safe Reporting of Research Misconduct		Start
☆ LAU SDEM - Change of Grade	36	Start
📩 LAU SoAS - Annual Performance Evaluation		Start
$\sum_{i=1}^{N}$ LAU SoAS - Appeal for Annual Evaluation		Start

Conference Travel Request

Why am I filling this?

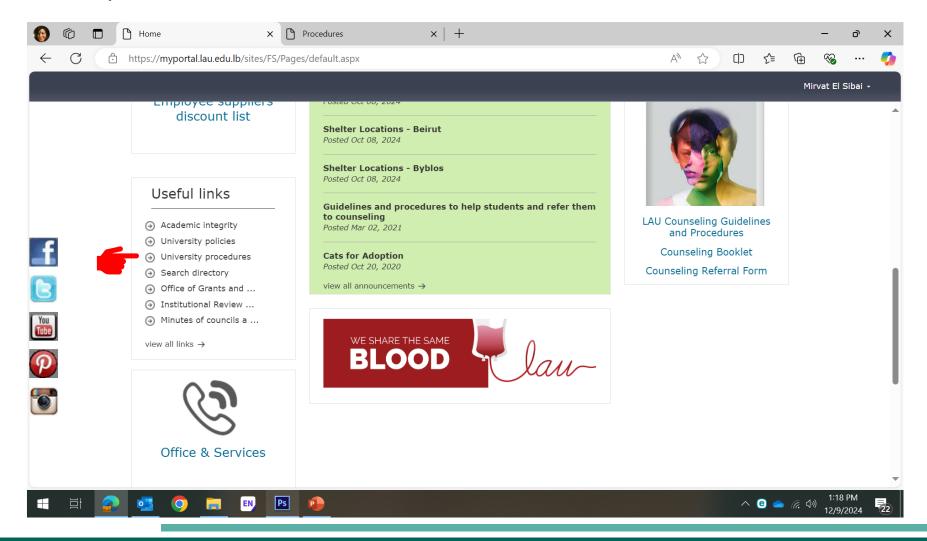
The business office needs a record/signature that the conference/venue was cleared

So:

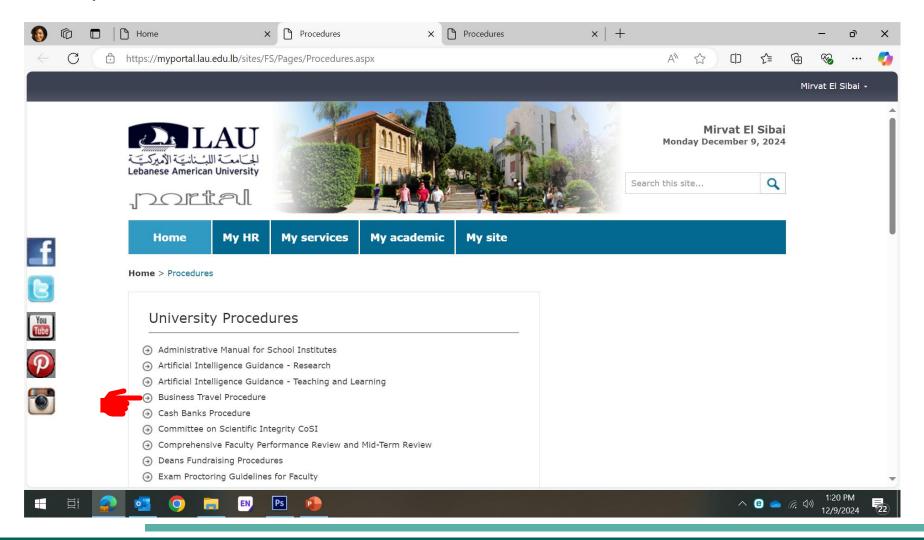
- 1. You identify a conference
- 2. You fill this form
- 3. Once you get a notification of approval, then you can go ahead an make your plans and involve the business office:
- a. Before your trip in case you want an advance (on PIRF) and then after in order to fill the expense report and submit all your receipts
- b. Or only after

	Conference Travel Request
Faculty Name	Mirvat El Sibai
School	School of Arts & Sciences
Department	Biological Sciences Department
PIRF Budget Number [*]	
Conference name/title*	
Does the conference belong to a society?	; ⊖ Yes ⊖ No *
Is the conference indexed*	⊖ Yes ⊖ No
Conference date*	—
Travel From*	
Travel To*	Ē
Country*	~
City*	
Title of the paper/poster/abstrac submitted*	pt

All other info: You portal



All other info: You portal



All other info: You portal

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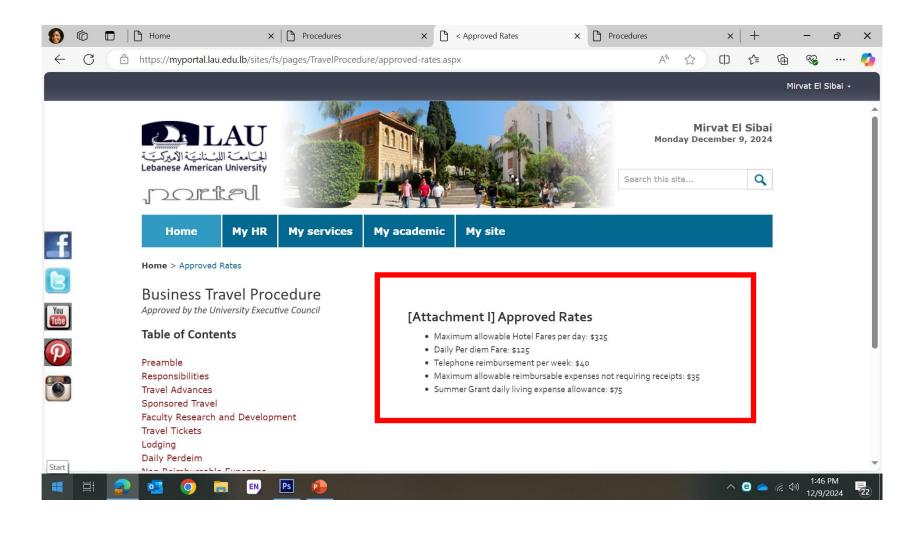
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 Normally acceptable business travel

expenses are:

- Ticket
- Hotel
- Per diem
- Taxi from and to airport
- Conference registration fee
- Visa

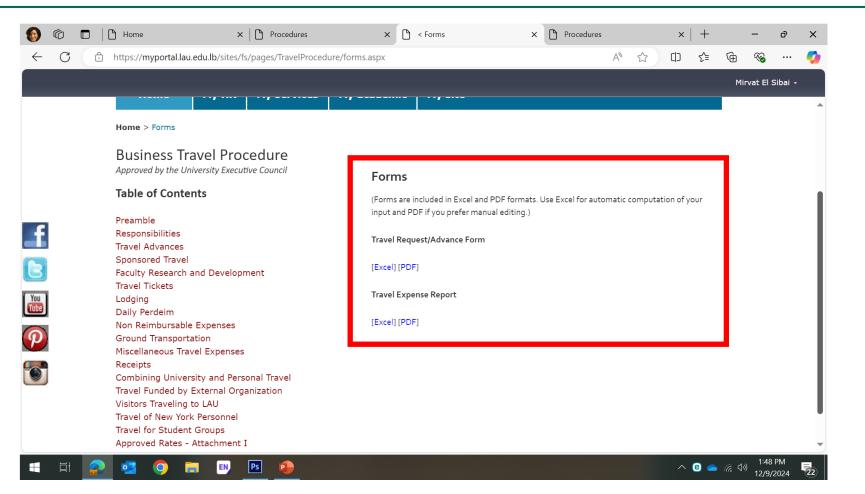


All other info: You portal

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LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY TRAVEL REQUEST/ADVANCE FORM Date **Type Of Travel** Business URC Others [] Sponsored [] Conference/training (Specify) **Purpose Of Travel** Locations To Be Visited Dates Departure: Return: Duration (MM/DD/YY) (MM/DD/YY) **Budget Available** Yes [] No [] **Cash Advance** USD Perdiem # days Total Rate Hotel Estimate Total Others Total

TRAVEL EXPENSE REPORT						
				Date		
Name:						
Department / Budget:						
Locations Visited:						
Departure and return Dates (MM/DD/YY):	From:		To:			
Total travel days:						-
Number of personal days spent:						
Net Business / per diem days:						-
	APPRO	VED EXP	ENSES			
				Amount in		
				Original	Exchange	Amount
	# Days	Rate	Currency	Currency	Rate	USD
Transport fare						
Air Fare					1.00	-
Train fare					1.00	-
Car Rental					1.00	-
Taxis					1.00	-
Per diem	0.00			-	1.00	-
Lodging Expenses						
Hotel 1					1.00	-
Hotel 2					1.00	-
Hotel 3					1.00	-
Hotel 4					1.00	-
Hotel 5					1.00	-
Conference Fees					1.00	-
Others						
Business Meals/Activities					1.00	-
Telephone					1.00	-

To book your ticket please go through travel & accommodation office at LAU @ <u>travel@lau.edu.lb</u>

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

It is up to you to identify the post-doc to work with you

 With Post-docs, at the end of employment they withhold one month of payment in HR in order to ensure the part time employee have fulfilled their deliverables etc. now if the post-doc is continuing with you, we will contact you prior to the expiry of the contract duration (prior to Aug), you tell us which post-docs are continuing, in this case HR won't do the exit withholding of one month salary

Post-docs cannot be hired on an hourly basis



Budget reallocation across captions is done on a case-by-case basis

However transferring budget from or to employment/personnel requires special approval (Provost approval).

We are in the process of automating the employment request process

Separate orientation for closet-out and mid-term reviews

The aim of PIRF is to increase extramural funding at LAU, so KPIs expected out of a funded PIRF grant are papers as well as successfully obtained external funding for the faculty to be eligible to reapply

Future strategic goals for PIRF

- The ultimate goal of the PIRF fund is a starting point to help faculty secure extramural funding
- The GSR ran several orientation sessions (recorded sessions were emailed to all faculty) on Research Professional (RP) which is a database for funding opportunities (LAU maintains an institutional subscription)
- Please make the best of RP. In addition the data you provided us with regarding your research interest will help us tailor searches and email alerts for your needs and we will be routinely sending you those calls and opportunities
- In addition, a Grant writing workshop will be planned in February to guide faculty through navigating calls, preparing grant proposals, eligibility, compliance etc.
- Contact points for support for extramural funding:

Dr. Ralph Abi-Habib, director of sponsored programs, GSR @<u>ralph.abihabib@lau.edu.lb</u> Mr. Mario Rebeiz, senior director, office of grants and contracts (OGC) @<u>mario.rebeiz@lau.edu.lb</u>

Thank you Best of luck We are all here to help with any inquiry