MoDOT Research Program

JEN HARPER
RESEARCH DIRECTOR
Who and where we are

Section within Central Office Construction and Materials

- Jen Harper - Research Director
- Brent Schulte - Senior Research Analyst
- Jenni Hosey - Senior Research Analyst
- Scott Breeding - Senior Research Analyst
- Lauren Bielecki - Research Librarian
  (Contract Employee)
What we do

All Things Transportation
Why does MoDOT do research?

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Quick answer

It’s a federal requirement
Better answer

We do research to find better and more efficient ways of providing transportation services
Federal research funding

2% Takedown for Statewide Planning and Research-federal fiscal year 2023
approx. $30 million

75% to Transportation Planning
(75% maximum allowed)
approx. $24 million

25% to Research
(25% is minimum allowed)
approx. $6 million
Research at a glance

- Average 45 contracts any given time
- Projects can range from $50k to over $500k
- Research is performed by universities, consultants or a partnership of the two
- Research projects can be either engineering or non-engineering
Research idea generation

Research Section meets with divisions and districts

Call for ideas from external research partners

Host MoDOT Research Needs Day
Examples of Engineering Research Projects
Examples of Non-Engineering Research Projects
That is so exciting, how do I get involved?!
Step 1

Get on our mailing list

E-mail your contact info to: lauren.bielecki@modot.mo.gov
Step 2

Visit our website

https://www.modot.org/research-section
Step 3
Look for RFPs of interest

Research Requests for Proposal

Current RFPs

Note: RFP questions and answers (Q&A) documents will only be posted below if questions were received by the date noted in the original proposal.

National Summer Transportation Institute

Project number: TR202102

Post date: December 26, 2023

https://www.modot.org/research-section
Step 4

Determine if engineering or non-engineering

October 10, 2023

Dear Research Partner:

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission requests proposals from qualified organizations—namely private consultants, universities, and research organizations—to furnish professional services as described in the following request for proposal to be coordinated by the Research Unit of the Construction and Materials Division.

Please submit a proposal for project TR202406 entitled, “Using Rubber Powder to Improve Freeze/Thaw Resistance of Concrete.” Your submittal must include a work plan, the proposed project team and its background, and any related projects now active or recently completed by your firm. The project team must be led by a licensed professional engineer in the state of Missouri and the final report must be sealed, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 327 RSMo.

If it is an engineering project: The project team must be led by a licensed professional engineer in the state of Missouri
Step 5

Submit a Proposal

Typical evaluation criteria

• Experience, expertise, and reliability
• Proposed method of performance
• Cost (non-engineering proposals)
• Overall clarity, and quality of proposal

Photo by MART PRODUCTION:
https://www.pexels.com/photo/a-group-of-people-planning-while-looking-at-the-laptop-7550298/
Thank You!

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