



Request for Proposals (RFP)

Roofing Alliance Research Funding Opportunities

The Roofing Alliance invites proposals for innovative research projects to be funded during the 2026–2027 fiscal year, beginning June 1, 2026.

As the foundation of the roofing industry, the Roofing Alliance is committed to supporting initiatives that address critical industry challenges, strengthen the roofing workforce of the future, and align with the Roofing Alliance’s mission of advancing education, training, research, and philanthropy.

Focus Areas for 2026–2027

The Roofing Alliance seeks proposals that align with its mission and explore new and impactful approaches in one or more of the following areas:

1. Workforce Development and Outreach

- Creative strategies to attract, train, and retain a diverse roofing workforce.
- Solutions that directly address labor shortages and enhance efficiency both on the roof and in support roles (office, warehouse, logistics).
- Outreach initiatives targeting students, career changers, veterans, and underrepresented groups.
- Partnerships with schools, technical programs, and community organizations to build stronger career pathways.

2. Robotics, AI, and Technology Applications

- AI and emerging technologies that advance recruitment, training, and jobsite safety.
- Workforce tools leveraging AI for scheduling, estimating, and safety monitoring to boost efficiency and reduce burnout.

- Technology-driven solutions that mitigate labor shortages and promote long-term industry sustainability.
- Data-driven approaches to improve worker retention, career advancement, and operational performance.

3. Construction Automation, Robotics, and Visualization

- Research into automation and robotics to enhance efficiency, safety, and quality in roofing practices.
- Training programs that prepare workers to operate robotic equipment for repetitive tasks (e.g., material lifting, tear-offs), reducing physical strain and injuries.
- Visualization tools (e.g., augmented reality, virtual reality) that support training, workforce recruitment, and project planning.

Eligibility

Proposals are welcome from universities, research institutions, nonprofit organizations, and industry partners. Collaborative efforts are encouraged.

Proposal Requirements

Submissions should include:

- Project title and executive summary.
 - Statement of purpose and alignment with one or more focus areas.
 - Explanation of how the project aligns with the Roofing Alliance's mission.
 - Description of the roofing industry pain points the project addresses.
 - Research methodology and timeline.
 - Anticipated outcomes and benefits for the roofing industry.
 - Budget and justification.
 - Key personnel and qualifications.
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Funding and Timeline

- Projects will be considered for funding during the 2026–2027 fiscal year.
- Funding amounts will vary depending on project scope and potential impact.

Timeline

- January 1, 2026 – Proposal submission deadline.
 - March 1, 2026 – Applicants notified of advancement to the next round following Board of Trustees review.
 - Late April 2026 – Finalist presentations delivered at the Roofing Alliance Annual Member Meeting.
 - May 2026 – Funding awards announced.
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Submission Instructions

Submit proposals electronically in PDF format to:

Roofing Alliance – Attn: Alison LaValley, Executive Director

Email: alavalley@nrca.net

Subject line: *2026–2027 Research Proposal Submission*

About the Roofing Alliance

For nearly 30 years, the Roofing Alliance has been the driving force behind progress in the roofing industry. Through groundbreaking research, world-class education initiatives, workforce development programs, and a deep commitment to philanthropy, the Alliance is shaping a stronger, more sustainable future. By investing in transformative projects, the Roofing Alliance not only advances the industry today but also ensures its vitality for generations to come.
