

# Airport Cooperative *Research Program* **ACRP**

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Transportation Research Board  
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February 5, 2010

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MEMORANDUM

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: Michael R. Salamone, C.M.  
Manager, Airport Cooperative Research Program

SUBJECT: **Potential Research Topics for the Fiscal Year 2011  
Airport Cooperative Research Program Due by  
April 14, 2010**

The purpose of this announcement is to solicit problem statements identifying research needs for the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) Fiscal Year 2011 Program. These submissions form the basis for selection of the annual ACRP research program. They are not proposals to conduct the research but are used to identify potential research needs only. It is easy to develop and submit a problem statement for consideration. Most are 1-3 pages in length using the enclosed outline.

The ACRP is an applied, contract research program with the objective of developing near-term solutions to issues facing airport-operating agencies. The ACRP is sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and managed by the National Academies, acting through the Transportation Research Board (TRB). The program is governed by the ACRP Oversight Committee (AOC), which is comprised of airport-industry representatives appointed by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation. A listing of current ACRP research projects is available at [www.trb.org/CRP/ACRP/ACRPProjects.asp](http://www.trb.org/CRP/ACRP/ACRPProjects.asp).

The ACRP undertakes research and other technical activities in a variety of airport-related areas, including operations, design, construction, engineering, maintenance, human resources, administration, policy, planning, environment, safety, and security. Problem statements in all of these areas are requested and may be submitted to ACRP by anyone. If you observe a research need that you would like to submit for consideration, we request that you describe it in accordance with the attached problem statement outline.

In addition to the above general call for problem statements, ACRP recently published Research Results Digest 5, a report that compiles a list of 58 current and emerging issues facing the airport industry. The AOC is interested in encouraging problem statements that expand upon the topics identified in RRD 5, [http://www.trb.org/Publications/Blurbs/Current\\_and\\_Emerging\\_Issues\\_Facing\\_the\\_Airport\\_Ind\\_160631.aspx](http://www.trb.org/Publications/Blurbs/Current_and_Emerging_Issues_Facing_the_Airport_Ind_160631.aspx). If you submit a research idea, which is based upon or directly related to topics identified in RRD 5, you should identify the research topic addressed in RRD 5 specifically.

*The ACRP is sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration; research projects are selected by the ACRP Oversight Committee, and the Program is managed by the Transportation Research Board.*

For the coming year, the AOC has also selected a specific subject for targeted, strategic ACRP focus. **Airport Maintenance and Operations** has been selected as the focus area for the FY2011 program. The following is a description for this targeted subject area.

*The AOC encourages problem statements that explore the function of Airport Maintenance and Operations. This area covers the processes, use, practices, performance measures, and preservation of assets such as buildings, equipment, personnel, and other resources necessary to move people (passengers), aircraft, and commodities (cargo) through an airport system. This emphasis area involves the in-house or out-sourced application of personnel; technology, equipment, and innovation to improve practices that enhance safety and improve efficiency and effectiveness (e.g., reduce cost, maximize qualified competition, ensure open architecture, minimize proprietary limitations, and avoid early obsolescence). Problem statements submitted should address the acquisition, operation, management, or preservation of assets that accommodate safe, efficient, sustainable, and cost-effective operation of the airport. Specific problem statements are requested where ACRP research can advance the airport industry's knowledge of and effective utilization of these assets and resources.*

A research problem statement outline is enclosed. Research problem statement submittals should follow the outline and may be submitted by anyone at any time. However, the deadline for submitting problems for consideration in the FY 2011 program is **April 14, 2010**. Problem statements may be submitted by e-mail to [acrp@nas.edu](mailto:acrp@nas.edu) and it is preferred that the problem statement be sent as an attachment to the e-mail message in Microsoft Word format.

If you have previously submitted a research problem statement that was not selected for funding, but is still a relevant airport research topic, please feel free to resubmit the problem statement for consideration. There are many good research topics that are not selected each year simply due to the level of funding available. Research problem statements must be resubmitted each year to receive further consideration.

The ACRP Oversight Committee (AOC) will select the research problem statements for the FY 2011 program in July 2010. For problems selected by the AOC, requests for proposals will be issued, and contractors will be selected through a competitive proposal process.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Your willingness to participate in the identification of relevant airport research topics is a key element of a successful, industry-driven ACRP. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Michael R. Salamone, ACRP Manager, at 202/334-3224 or [msalamone@nas.edu](mailto:msalamone@nas.edu)

Attachment

## OUTLINE FOR AIRPORT COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM PROBLEM STATEMENTS

### I. PROBLEM TITLE

The title should be no more than 10 words.

Is this research idea  
in the FY2011  
Emphasis Area?

Maintenance & Operations

Yes No

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### II. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

In no more than three paragraphs, provide a general description of the problem requiring research.

### III. OBJECTIVE

Include a clear, concise statement of the objectives (anticipated products) that are expected to be met by this research.

### IV. RESEARCH PROPOSED

Provide a statement of the specific research proposed, how it relates to the research problem statement in Section II, and, if possible, describe the research approach and the tasks envisioned.

### V. ESTIMATE OF THE PROBLEM FUNDING AND RESEARCH PERIOD

**Recommended Funding:** Include an estimate of the funds necessary to accomplish the objective stated in Section III. As a general guideline, the current cost for research averages approximately \$150,000-\$250,000 per professional staff-year. ACRP projects will typically be in the \$400,000-\$600,000 range. A detailed budget is not needed in this problem statement.

**Research Period:** Provide an estimate of the period of time needed to complete the research, including 3 months for review and revision of a draft final report.

### VI. URGENCY AND PAYOFF POTENTIAL

Include a statement on the importance of this particular research. Identify and, if possible, quantify the potential payoff from the achievement of the project objective. Any institutional, political, or socio-economic barriers to implementation of the anticipated research products should also be identified.

### VII. RELATED RESEARCH

If known, provide information on other research—completed, in progress, or pending—that is closely related to the proposed problem.

### VIII. PERSON(S) DEVELOPING THE PROBLEM

Provide the specifics (i.e., name, title, address, telephone, and fax numbers) for the person(s) who developed the problem.

### IX. PROCESS USED TO DEVELOP PROBLEM STATEMENT

State whether this problem statement is the product of an individual, a formal committee, or another entity.

### X. DATE AND SUBMITTED BY

Provide the specifics for the person(s) who submitted the problem and the date of submission.

Submit to:

**Michael R. Salamone, C.M.**  
**Manager—ACRP**  
**Transportation Research Board**  
**500 Fifth Street, N.W.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20001**  
**FAX 202/334-2006**