

# Airport Cooperative *Research Program*

## *ACRP*

*Transportation Research Board*  
500 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202/334 - 3224  
Fax 202/334 -2006

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December 15, 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 2012  
Airport Cooperative Research Program Due by  
March 4, 2011**

The purpose of this announcement is to solicit problem statements identifying research needs for the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) Fiscal Year 2012 Program. These submittals form the basis for selection of the annual ACRP research program, 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 may be submitted to ACRP by anyone. If you have 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 encourages problem statements that expand upon the topics identified in RRD 5, [http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/acrp/acrp\\_rrd\\_005.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/acrp/acrp_rrd_005.pdf).

On January 21, 2011 the AOC will selected a specific subject for targeted, strategic ACRP focus for the ACRP FY 2012 program. Over the coming weeks and prior to January 20, 2011 the AOC welcomes suggestions for the next focus area for the FY2012 program. A focus subject intends to draw specific attention to a airport-functional area that either has not been adequately addressed in ACRP research or is currently or will soon be facing significant challenges. The following targeted subject areas have already been addressed in prior years:

2008 – Terminal Design  
2009 – Information Technology  
2010 – Future Finance and Business Strategies  
2011 – Maintenance and Operations

Topic recommendations for the FY2012 targeted, strategic focus may be submitted to [acrp@nas.edu](mailto:acrp@nas.edu) no later than January 20, 2011.

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 2012 program is **March 4, 2011**. 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 2012 program in July 2011. 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** **FY2012 Focus Area:** YES NO

The title should be no more than 10 words.

**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 brief 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 \$300,000-\$500,000 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  
202/334-3224  
FAX 202/334-2006**