



Research Enhancement Funding Program (REFP)

[Internal Funding Cover Page](#)

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Funds Available: Consistent with Rule 15.01.01.C0.01 (see below)

Full Proposal Due: March 1, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Central Time

Award Period: September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2025, Funds must be expended by the end of the award period.

The Research Enhancement Funding Program aims to promote research and scholarly production and, when possible, promote grant proposal submission by faculty members at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC). Research Enhancement funds will continue to be available (up to \$5,000) for projects led by a single tenured/tenure track faculty member, and to multi- investigator teams (up to \$10,000) for collaborative and/or interdisciplinary [1] projects from the same college or other non-TAMU-CC entities. Funding (up to \$15,000) will be available for interdisciplinary projects conducted by multi-college teams from TAMU-CC. Research Enhancement awards have funded research, scholarly, or creative projects from tenured/tenure- track faculty in all Colleges.

Activities funded could include those related to:

- Research projects
- Course development that includes a research component
- Courses of study
- Novel applications
- Travel for research
- Course release or summer stipend in lieu of teaching
- Literature review
- Student employment

The university rule that governs this program:

[University Policy 15.01.01.C0.01 - Administration of the Research Enhancement Program.](#)

The Division of Research and Innovation (R&I) administers these funds. Only tenured or tenure-track faculty members are eligible for RE grants. Proposals must state the research to be completed during the award period. Explain in your proposal how the research fits into your research career plans and future research directions. Provide a clear list of the outcomes expected (grant proposals, publications, outreach, pedagogy, etc.).

Contact Dr. Garth Clayton (garthclayton@tamucc.edu) for assistance in preparing submissions as needed. Contact Tuan Phung (tuan.phung@tamucc.edu) with questions regarding the budget. Key points relevant to this call, evaluation mechanism, and evaluation criteria are found below.

Proposal Requirements

- Internal Funding cover page (please see attachment)
 - Including signatures from the Principal Investigator's Department Chair/Division Head and College Dean or Institute/Center Director or other equivalents.
- Project Summary (no more than 250 words)
- Project Description (4-page limit)
 - Single-space, Times New Roman or Arial, 12-point font, standard 1-inch margins.
 - Includes Purpose of the Proposed Work, Background and Intellectual/Creative Merit, Methodology, Timeline/Work Plan, Broader Impacts and Dissemination, and Anticipated Outcomes.
- References (no page limit)
- Previous Research Enhancement Award Information (1-page limit), if applicable
 - Titles and years of any previous University Research Enhancement grants awarded to the Principal Investigator.
- Budget and budget justification (2-page limit)
 - Budgets should be clearly outlined (i.e., in a table format) and separated from the justification.
- NSF Biographical Sketch (3-pages each allowed for all personnel involved)
 - Biosketches must use the [SciENCv format](#) and follow NSF format requirements as stated in [PAPPG \(NSF 20-1\)](#).
- [Division of Research and Innovation Conflict of Interest Form](#)
 - Submitted as a separate PDF.

Key points relevant to this program:

1. Please apply by submitting the title page, proposal, and budget with justification, and a 3-page curriculum vitae of the principal investigator and any co-investigators, including the titles of any previous University Research Enhancement grants awarded, and any other supporting documents in one pdf file to researchdevelopment@tamucc.edu.
2. The signatures (e-signature accepted) of your college dean and department chair are required on the application by the deadline or your application will be returned unread.
3. Only tenured or tenure-track faculty can apply for RE funds. Non-tenure track faculty and staff may be included as collaborators but not as PI or Co-PI.
4. You can only be awarded University-level Research Enhancement Funding Program or

Texas Comprehensive Research Fund (TCRF) grant funds every other year. For internal funding program awards that continue multi-year, the restriction is waived for the TCRF program. This waiver will be noted in the call for proposals.

5. The Research Enhancement program does not fund projects that are currently or have been recently supported by the University or College Research Enhancement programs or external funding agencies.
6. Funding for the same, or substantially the same, research projects may not be received from both University and College Research Enhancement Committees.
7. If applicable, a project that is interdisciplinary must explicitly describe the integration using the National Academies definition (see footnote 1, below).
8. The University Research Enhancement Committee will review RE proposals. The University Research Enhancement Committee consists of two representatives elected by each of the colleges to serve for two years with staggering terms. The chair is elected annually by members and a member of the Division of Research and Innovation staff serves as a non-voting member and provides administrative support to the Research Enhancement Funding Program. The committee makes recommendations concerning awards decisions to the Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation.

Review Criteria:

1. Scholarly merit and feasibility of the project.
2. The project's adherence to the criteria for "scholarship" in [University Rule 12.01.99.C0.04](#).
3. Overall clarity of the research proposal.
4. Soundness of the research methodology.
5. Contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the field.
6. Potential that the project will result in a research product that will be presented to the external scholarly community in the field.
7. Reasonableness of the work plan.
8. Appropriateness of the proposed budget in terms of the work plan and anticipated outcomes.
9. The record of previous project completion (*including filing final reports*) and budget management in the case of applicants who have previously been awarded Research Enhancement grants.

[1] Following the National Academies, we use the following as the working definition of *interdisciplinary**: "Interdisciplinary research is a mode of research by teams or individuals that integrates information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts, and/or theories from two or more disciplines or bodies of specialized knowledge to advance fundamental understanding or to solve problems whose solutions are beyond the scope of a single discipline or area of research practice."

*Committee on Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research, Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (2004). *Facilitating interdisciplinary research*. National Academies. Washington: National Academy Press, p. 2.