



TEXAS COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH FUND GRANTS*

Funding for the 2022 – 2023 Academic Year

Sec. 62.091. PURPOSE. The Texas comprehensive research fund is established to provide funding to promote increased research capacity at eligible general academic teaching institutions.

Who can be a Principal Investigator (PI): Applicants must be [PI-eligible](#); note this includes but is not limited to tenured/tenure-track faculty members. An individual can only be a PI on one TCRF submission or award in a given year. Preference will be given to projects where the PI has not had a TCRF grant in the current or past two fiscal years. CoPIs may collaborate on any number of submissions or awards, however, they are limited to 5% of the requested funds on any given project. (Current and pending documents should reflect all time and salary commitments.) Awards will not be made to projects where PIs or CoPIs have overdue reports on prior internal funding awards.

Deadline: February 1, 2022 (all proposals)

Track 1: TCRF Research Grants

Amount awarded: Up to \$25,000

Award period: Funds will be available on September 1, 2022, and must be expended by August 31, 2023

Estimated number of TCRF Research Grants: 2

This track is designated for proposals that will undertake research, scholarship, or creative activity grounded in a single field or across different fields and require substantial resources for completion, such as funding for a dedicated graduate student, for senior personnel or consultants providing needed expertise for the project (i.e., statistical support, contracted services, etc.). The top priorities of this program are faculty in need of a catalyst through seed money for those who do not currently have start-up funding (including but not limited to the arts, humanities, social or health sciences, or education), and who have a high potential of producing quality research/scholarship/creative activity; and/or researchers with a high likelihood of turning a TCRF Research Grant into a significant external grant. All proposals must include a clearly stated plan for later submission of a proposal to a federal or state agency or to a foundation that funds the PI's/CoPI's area of research and scholarship. Proposals from tenured/tenure-track

* This document also includes separate descriptions of each track after the full description of the TCRF Competition.

faculty that fall within the relevant amount guidelines (\$5,000 to \$15,000, depending on the project) are referred to the Research Enhancement competition.

Track 2: TCRF Research Collaboration Grants

Amount awarded: Up to \$40,000

Award period: Funds will be available on September 1, 2022, and must be expended by August 31, 2023

Estimated number of TCRF Research Collaboration Grants: 2

This track is designated for proposals that will undertake integrated, collaborative research in a specified interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary field. The collaboration may include on-campus research collaborators and/or research collaborators at institutions beyond TAMU-CC's campus. TCRF funds are geared to increasing research capacity at TAMU-CC and the expectation is that the bulk of the funds will be spent at our institution. Research Collaboration Grants are designed to investigate research questions that crucially require teams to address them, and that lay the groundwork (pilot data, peer-reviewed publications) to pursue the questions at a larger scope in the future through significant external funding. Proposals must explicitly demonstrate the value added of the team members and the collaboration, addressing how the whole of the team is more than the sum of its parts. All proposals must include a clearly stated plan for later submission of a proposal to a federal or state agency or to a foundation that funds the PI's area of research and scholarship. Proposers are encouraged to consult with Dr. Larisa Ford (larisa.ford@tamucc.edu) prior to submission to determine if team coordination or facilitation resources from the Division of Research and Innovation will be needed. With prior consultation and approval, such resources may be incorporated into the project narrative and plan of work.

Track 3: TCRF Collaboration Development Grants

Amount awarded: Up to \$10,000

Award period: Funds will be available on September 1, 2022, and must be expended by August 31, 2023

Estimated number of Collaboration Development Grants: 3

This track is designated for proposals that seek to develop, build or strengthen a collaboration, with on-campus partners or with research institutions beyond TAMU-CC. Grants are designed to help with the development of research questions and formation of teams to tackle projects of larger scope in the future, whether a Track 2 TCRF Research Collaboration Grant or an external proposal. Proposers are encouraged to consult with Dr. Larisa Ford (larisa.ford@tamucc.edu) prior to submission to determine if team coordination or facilitation resources from the Division of Research and Innovation will be needed. With prior consultation and approval, such resources may be incorporated into the project narrative and plan of work.

Review Criteria

Review criteria for all 3 tracks:

- Overall clarity of the research proposal to a non-specialist review panel
- Potential of the project to promote increased quantity and quality of the research capacity at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
- Intellectual quality of the proposed research and associated activities in the field/discipline(s) of the proposal
- The degree to which the individual and/or team are qualified to conduct the proposed activities
- The degree to which the plan for carrying out the proposed activities is well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale and incorporates a mechanism to assess success
- The potential to achieve a broader impact and benefit society, including in the Coastal Bend region, where TAMU-CC serves as an intellectual capital
- The record of previous project completion and budget management for applicants who have previously been awarded grants

Each track also has specific criteria on which the proposal will be evaluated.

Additional review criteria for Track 1:

- Potential to advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields
- Likelihood of the proposed activities resulting in a successful external submission to the identified funding program
- The degree to which the proposal helps support TAMU-CC's mission as a Hispanic-serving Institution (i.e., proposed research experiences for students from underrepresented groups; the broadening of participation by underrepresented groups; PI's existing track record mentoring students from groups underrepresented in their discipline; PI/CoPI/senior research personnel from underrepresented groups; contributing to the knowledge base on HSIs and student success, etc.)

Additional review criteria for Track 2:

- Potential to advance knowledge and understanding within the specified inter- or transdisciplinary fields
- To what degree does the proposal generate confidence in the collaboration and partnership planned by the participating institutions and investigators?
- Likelihood of the proposed activities resulting in a successful external submission to the identified funding program
- The degree to which the proposal helps support TAMU-CC's mission as a Hispanic-serving Institution (i.e., proposed research experiences for students from underrepresented groups; the broadening of participation by underrepresented groups; PI's existing track record mentoring students from groups underrepresented in their

discipline; PI/CoPI/senior research personnel from underrepresented groups; contributing to the knowledge base on HSIs and student success, etc.)

Additional review criteria for Track 3:

- To what degree does the proposal engender confidence that the research team will effectively coordinate activities and achieve the goals of the proposed collaboration?
- To what degree would developing the collaboration enhance inter- or transdisciplinary collaborative research on campus, if successful?

Review Process

Proposals will be reviewed by the Division of Research and Innovation, an ad hoc committee, and/or external reviewers. Every proposal should suggest at least 2 external reviewers who have no conflict of interests with the proposal PIs and CoPIs. A resource and definitions of what constitutes a conflict of interest appears on our internal funding page; http://research.tamucc.edu/research_development.html

Budget Considerations

Possible costs/activities:

- Collecting pilot data
- Virtual consultation with collaborators or partners outside of TAMU-CC; travel for onsite research and collaboration will be subject to COVID-19 restrictions
- Course release or summer stipend in lieu of teaching (maximum of \$3,000 per PI/CoPI)
- Technical assistance
- Facilitator for multidisciplinary team collaboration (extra funding for this not permitted without a prior R&I consultation with Dr. Ford)
- Undergraduate or graduate student research assistant(s) costs (TCRF funds may be used for graduate tuition)
- Participant incentives
- Access to a database
- Software
- Note on subscriptions: such costs are allowable but must be in the name of TAMU-CC and cannot be purchased more than 6 weeks before subscription start date unless proper justification for early payments can be provided.

Not permissible as costs under this call for proposals:

- Anything that is not permitted by State rules (i.e., alcohol)
- Funding of the salary or stipends for collaborators (or their students, postdoctoral fellows or staff) at other institutions
- Undergraduate or graduate student travel

- Review the internal funding FAQ (link <https://research.tamucc.edu/research-office/assets/files/internalfundingfaqs-03192021-final.pdf>) for additional restrictions and guidance

Proposal Requirements

- Cover page title, PI and CoPI names, titles and home units, with signature(s) for each named individual and their unit head(s); must include an indication of whether release time or summer salary is requested and for which individual(s)
- One-page project summary (not to exceed 250 words; written to a lay audience)
- Five-page project description of the research plan to include:
 - plan for external grant development and submission with an anticipated date of submission (required for Track 1 and 2 proposals)
 - previous experience and plan for inclusion of students in the research plan
 - timeline for the research (not to exceed one year)
 - past experiences with mentoring and graduating students from underrepresented groups in research and the team's plans for addressing student inclusion as groundwork for external submissions
 - prior results on internal funding from the Division of Research and Innovation (any internal funding program) within the past 5 years, including whether external proposals were submitted and/or funded.
 - other documents as detailed below
- For Track 2 and 3 proposals, a management plan outlining the responsibilities, roles and duties of all team members; the plan for collaborating and consultation for the duration of the project; the project charter on data sharing, publication, etc. (maximum 2 pages; see definitions of roles like PI, CoPI and senior personnel [here](#))
- References (format following relevant disciplinary conventions)
- Budget and budget justification (maximum 2 pages, specifications)
- Biosketch (maximum 2 pages, formatted following NIH/NSF guidelines – link to fillable form <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp>).
- Current and pending support (formatted following NSF guidelines link to template <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/cps.jsp>).
- Letter(s) of collaboration from non-TAMU-CC personnel who are involved, using the following wording: I have read the project summary, description and budget of the the proposal titled “[title here]” submitted by [PI Name here]. If this proposal is funded by TAMU-CC, I agree to participate as described in the summary, description and/or budget.
 - Note: required for Track 2 and 3 if the collaboration involves non-TAMU-CC personnel; required of all tracks if the proposal identifies named personnel are identified for carrying out a portion of the statement of work.

Award conditions

- No funding will be released until all compliance (IBC, IRB, IACUC, Export Control, etc.) requirements are cleared.

- Final reports for all funded projects are required within one year after the funding period ends. PIs will not be eligible for future funding unless their final reports from previous awards are up to date.
- Final reports with the research office at researchdevelopment@tamucc.edu. A report template is available on [our website](#).
- Applicants agree to acknowledge in all publications (books, bulletins, professional journals, news releases, etc.) resulting from this project that the study was supported by a Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Research Grant. "This project was supported by a [grant program name] from the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Division of Research and Innovation."
- A copy of all published material resulting from this research effort shall be forwarded to the Division of R&I.
- PIs will notify the research office at researchdevelopment@tamucc.edu of any external grant submissions; this should include the Maestro proposal number.
- Non-compliance to these award conditions may result in the termination of the award and funding.

Track 1: TCRF Research Grant Review Criteria and Proposal Elements

Maximum budget request: \$25,000

This track is designated for proposals that will undertake research, scholarship, or creative activity grounded in a single field or across different fields and require substantial resources for completion, such as funding for a dedicated graduate student, for senior personnel or consultants providing needed expertise for the project (i.e., statistical support, contracted services, etc.). The top priorities of this program are faculty in need of a catalyst through seed money for those who do not currently have start-up funding (including but not limited to the arts, humanities, social or health sciences, or education), and who have a high potential of producing quality research/scholarship/creative activity; and/or researchers with a high likelihood of turning a TCRF Research Grant into a significant external grant. All proposals must include a clearly stated plan for later submission of a proposal to a federal or state agency or to a foundation that funds the PI's/CoPI's area of research and scholarship. Proposals from tenured/tenure-track faculty that fall within the relevant amount guidelines (\$5,000 to \$15,000, depending on the project) are referred to the Research Enhancement competition.

Review criteria:

- Overall clarity of the research proposal to a non-specialist review panel
- Potential of the project to promote increased quantity and quality of the research capacity at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
- Intellectual quality of the proposed research and associated activities in the field/discipline(s) of the proposal
- The degree to which the individual and/or team are qualified to conduct the proposed activities
- The degree to which the plan for carrying out the proposed activities is well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale and incorporates a mechanism to assess success
- The potential to achieve a broader impact and benefit society, including in the Coastal Bend region, where TAMU-CC serves as an intellectual capital
- The record of previous project completion and budget management for applicants who have previously been awarded grants
- Potential to advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields
- Likelihood of the proposed activities resulting in a successful external submission to the identified funding program
- The degree to which the proposal helps support TAMU-CC's mission as a Hispanic-serving Institution (i.e., proposed research experiences for students from underrepresented groups; the broadening of participation by underrepresented groups; PI's existing track record mentoring students from groups underrepresented in their discipline; PI/CoPI/senior research personnel from underrepresented groups; contributing to the knowledge base on HSIs and student success, etc.)

Proposal Elements

- Cover page title, PI and CoPI names, titles and home units, with signature(s) for each named individual and their unit head(s); must include an indication of whether release time or summer salary is requested and for which individual(s)
- One-page project summary (not to exceed 250 words; written to a lay audience)
- Five-page project description of the research plan to include:
 - plan for external grant development and submission with an anticipated date of submission (faculty who are applying for seed money and did not receive start-up funding for research should note this in the proposal)
 - previous experience and plan for inclusion of students in the research plan
 - timeline for the research (not to exceed one year)
 - past experiences with mentoring and graduating students from underrepresented groups in research and the team's plans for addressing student inclusion as groundwork for external submissions
 - prior results on internal funding from the Division of Research and Innovation (any internal funding program) within the past 5 years, including whether external proposals were submitted and/or funded.
 - other documents as detailed below
- References (format following relevant disciplinary conventions)
- Budget and budget justification (maximum 2 pages, specifications)
- Biosketch (maximum 2 pages, formatted following NIH/NSF guidelines – link to fillable form <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp>).
- Current and pending support (formatted following NSF guidelines link to template <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/cps.jsp>).
- Letter(s) of collaboration from non-TAMU-CC personnel who are involved, using the following wording: I have read the project summary, description and budget of the the proposal titled “[title here]” submitted by [PI Name here]. If this proposal is funded by TAMU-CC, I agree to participate as described in the summary, description and/or budget.
 - Note: required if the proposal identifies named personnel for carrying out a portion of the statement of work.

Track 2: TCRF Research Collaboration Grant Review Criteria and Proposal Elements

Maximum Budget: \$40,000

This track is designated for proposals that will undertake integrated, collaborative research in a specified interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary field. The collaboration may include on-campus research collaborators and/or research collaborators at institutions beyond TAMU-CC's campus. TCRF funds are geared to increasing research capacity at TAMU-CC and the expectation is that the bulk of the funds will be spent at our institution. Research Collaboration Grants are designed to investigate research questions that crucially require teams to address them, and that lay the groundwork (pilot data, peer-reviewed publications) to pursue the questions at a larger scope in the future through significant external funding. Proposals must explicitly demonstrate the value added of the team members and the collaboration, addressing how the whole of the team is more than the sum of its parts. All proposals must include a clearly stated plan for later submission of a proposal to a federal or state agency or to a foundation that funds the PI's area of research and scholarship. Proposers are encouraged to consult with Dr. Larisa Ford (larisa.ford@tamucc.edu) prior to submission to determine if team coordination or facilitation resources from the Division of Research and Innovation will be needed. With prior consultation and approval, such resources may be incorporated into the project narrative and plan of work.

Review criteria:

- Overall clarity of the research proposal to a non-specialist review panel
- Potential of the project to promote increased quantity and quality of the research capacity at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
- Intellectual quality of the proposed research and associated activities in the field/discipline(s) of the proposal
- The degree to which the individual and/or team are qualified to conduct the proposed activities
- The degree to which the plan for carrying out the proposed activities is well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale and incorporates a mechanism to assess success
- The potential to achieve a broader impact and benefit society, including in the Coastal Bend region, where TAMU-CC serves as an intellectual capital
- The record of previous project completion and budget management for applicants who have previously been awarded grants
- Potential to advance knowledge and understanding within the specified inter- or transdisciplinary fields
- To what degree does the proposal generate confidence in the collaboration and partnership planned by the participating institutions and investigators?
- Likelihood of the proposed activities resulting in a successful external submission to the identified funding program
- The degree to which the proposal helps support TAMU-CC's mission as a Hispanic-serving Institution (i.e., proposed research experiences for students from underrepresented groups; the broadening of participation by underrepresented groups; PI's existing track record mentoring students from groups underrepresented in their

discipline; PI/CoPI/senior research personnel from underrepresented groups; contributing to the knowledge base on HSIs and student success, etc.)

Proposal Elements

- Cover page title, PI and CoPI names, titles and home units, with signature(s) for each named individual and their unit head(s); must include an indication of whether release time or summer salary is requested and for which individual(s)
- One-page project summary (not to exceed 250 words; written to a lay audience)
- Five-page project description of the research plan to include:
 - plan for external grant development and submission with an anticipated date of submission
 - previous experience and plan for inclusion of students in the research plan
 - timeline for the research (not to exceed one year)
 - past experiences with mentoring and graduating students from underrepresented groups in research and the team's plans for addressing student inclusion as groundwork for external submissions
 - prior results on internal funding from the Division of Research and Innovation (any internal funding program) within the past 5 years, including whether external proposals were submitted and/or funded.
 - other documents as detailed below
- A management plan outlining the responsibilities, roles and duties of all team members; the plan for collaborating and consultation for the duration of the project; the project charter on data sharing, publication, etc. (maximum 2 pages; see definitions of roles like PI, CoPI and senior personnel [here](#))
- References (format following relevant disciplinary conventions)
- Budget and budget justification (maximum 2 pages, specifications)
- Biosketch (maximum 2 pages, formatted following NIH/NSF guidelines – link to fillable form <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp>).
- Current and pending support (formatted following NSF guidelines link to template <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/cps.jsp>).
- Letter(s) of collaboration from non-TAMU-CC personnel who are involved, using the following wording: I have read the project summary, description and budget of the the proposal titled “[title here]” submitted by [PI Name here]. If this proposal is funded by TAMU-CC, I agree to participate as described in the summary, description and/or budget.
 - Note: required for the collaboration involves non-TAMU-CC personnel identified for carrying out a portion of the statement of work.

Track 3: TCRF Collaboration Development Grant Review Criteria and Proposal Elements

Maximum budget: \$10,000

This track is designated for proposals that seek to develop, build or strengthen a collaboration, with on-campus partners or with research institutions beyond TAMU-CC. Grants are designed to help with the development of research questions and formation of teams to tackle projects of larger scope in the future, whether a Track 2 TCRF Research Collaboration Grant or an external proposal. Proposers are encouraged to consult with Dr. Larisa Ford (larisa.ford@tamucc.edu) prior to submission to determine if team coordination or facilitation resources from the Division of Research and Innovation will be needed. With prior consultation and approval, such resources may be incorporated into the project narrative and plan of work.

Review criteria:

- Overall clarity of the research proposal to a non-specialist review panel
- Potential of the project to promote increased quantity and quality of the research capacity at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
- Intellectual quality of the proposed research and associated activities in the field/discipline(s) of the proposal
- The degree to which the individual and/or team are qualified to conduct the proposed activities
- The degree to which the plan for carrying out the proposed activities is well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale and incorporates a mechanism to assess success
- The potential to achieve a broader impact and benefit society, including in the Coastal Bend region, where TAMU-CC serves as an intellectual capital
- The record of previous project completion and budget management for applicants who have previously been awarded grants
- To what degree does the proposal engender confidence that the research team will effectively coordinate activities and achieve the goals of the proposed collaboration?
- To what degree would developing the collaboration enhance inter- or transdisciplinary collaborative research on campus, if successful?

Proposal Elements

- Cover page title, PI and CoPI names, titles and home units, with signature(s) for each named individual and their unit head(s); must include an indication of whether release time or summer salary is requested and for which individual(s)
- One-page project summary (not to exceed 250 words; written to a lay audience)
- Five-page project description of the research plan to include:
 - previous experience and plan for inclusion of students in the research plan
 - timeline for the research (not to exceed one year)
 - past experiences with mentoring and graduating students from underrepresented groups in research and the team's plans for addressing student inclusion as groundwork for external submissions

- prior results on internal funding from the Division of Research and Innovation (any internal funding program) within the past 5 years, including whether external proposals were submitted and/or funded.
 - other documents as detailed below
- A management plan outlining the responsibilities, roles and duties of all team members; the plan for collaborating and consultation for the duration of the project; the project charter on data sharing, publication, etc. (maximum 2 pages; see definitions of roles like PI, CoPI and senior personnel [here](#))
- References (format following relevant disciplinary conventions)
- Budget and budget justification (maximum 2 pages, specifications)
- Biosketch (maximum 2 pages, formatted following NIH/NSF guidelines – link to fillable form <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp>).
- Current and pending support (formatted following NSF guidelines link to template <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/cps.jsp>).
- Letter(s) of collaboration from non-TAMU-CC personnel who are involved, using the following wording: I have read the project summary, description and budget of the the proposal titled “[title here]” submitted by [PI Name here]. If this proposal is funded by TAMU-CC, I agree to participate as described in the summary, description and/or budget.
 - Note: required if the collaboration involves non-TAMU-CC personnel identified for carrying out a portion of the statement of work.