



Internal Funding Opportunities

Focus: Targeted Proposal Teams (TPT)

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Division of Research

TAMU RESEARCH ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC PLAN [\(2023-2030\)](#)

Supporting the university's mission and goals, the Division of Research aims to strategically strengthen the research enterprise, as captured by our mission statement:

The DOR will advance and strengthen all aspects of the research enterprise by implementing an enhanced, integrated, and strategic approach to:

- Capitalize on our research strengths to deliver solutions to serve the public good.
 - Grow our resources, infrastructure, data, and technology.
 - Align opportunities with potential collaborators and research teams.
 - Support interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary collaborations to advance research.
 - Increase federal, state, and private funding.
 - Provide effective research support.
- Build capacity through collaborations and strategic investments.
- Promote creativity and innovation, while ensuring the highest standards of research integrity....
- Increase communication and enhance visibility with stakeholders to promote the value of research....

**** DOR Internal Funding Opportunities are designed to support highlighted goals.**

- **Arts & Humanities Fellowship Program** – *Gerianne Alexander*
 - 2023: 6 awards (\$90K total)
 - 2024: Proposals under review

- **Research Development Fund (RDF)** – *Brendan Roark*

- **Panther RISE Program (PRISE; with PVAMU)** – *Henry Fadamiro*
 - 2023: 15 awards (\$600K total)
 - 2024: Proposals under review

- **Advancing Discoveries to Market (ADM)** – *Henry Fadamiro*
 - 2023: 22 awards (\$4.85M total)
 - 2024: Proposals under review

- **ASCEND**
 - **Research Leadership Fellowships (RLF)** – *Gerianne Alexander*
 - 2023: 12 awards (\$900K total)
 - 2024: In progress
 - **Targeted Proposal Teams** – *Gerianne Alexander & Henry Fadamiro*

- Initiated in 2023 as part of ASCEND.
- \$5M investment annually.
- Purpose: To build and facilitate teams for the purpose of submitting large interdisciplinary proposals with strong potential to make an indelible mark on knowledge that can address a societal challenge.
- Proposals from interdisciplinary teams must target a large (>\$5M) extramural proposal addressing a societal problem
- 2023: 9 awards (\$4.75M total).
- Proposal development support provided by RDS; coordinated SRS support.

- TPT deconstructed based on lessons learned and feedback, and to better align program with the needs of the faculty.
 - TPT 2.0 provides seed funding for innovative research and creative ideas in three categories:
 - ***Collaborative Seed Grants***
 - ***Proposal Planning Grants***
 - ***Grants on the Edge***
 - Two calls per year (Fall and Spring).
 - ~25 awards per category per year (based on proposal quality and recommendations of the Review Committee).

- Eligibility & Requirements:
 - Open to TAMU (including TEES & AgriLife Research) faculty eligible to serve as PI for external funding.
 - A proposal must include at least two faculty from diverse disciplines.
 - An individual may serve as PI on only one proposal per TPT category.
 - Current awardees (PIs) of an active TPT award not eligible to serve as PI.
 - Awardees expected to engage with the VPR office and comply with reporting requirements.

- Purpose: To increase research and creative capacity by funding teams of interdisciplinary researchers pursuing curiosity-driven, high-risk, high-reward projects in their early stages of development (new/emerging teams).
- Funding: Up to \$60K over 12 months.
 - Personnel, research supplies, project specific travel.
- Proposal Evaluation (project narrative limited to 3 pages):
 - Intellectual merit, significance, and feasibility of research/creative idea.
 - Composition of the proposal team.
 - Extramural funding opportunity.

- Purpose: To support/facilitate interdisciplinary teams that will submit large-scale extramural proposals to a targeted sponsor (established teams).
 - Target extramural awards include program/center/institute grants from NSF, NIH, DOE, etc.; major grants from NEH and other sponsors.
 - Target may vary depending on targeted societal problem.
 - All topics will be considered. Proposal supporting the six (broadly defined) strategic themes identified in the TAMU Research Strategic Plan are encouraged.
- Funding: Up to \$100K over 12 months.
 - Personnel (to assist with team facilitation), salary/course buyout for PI, data compilation and analysis, team meetings/workshops, travel to external collaborators/sponsor(s).
- Proposal Evaluation (project narrative limited to 3 pages):
 - Intellectual merit, significance, and feasibility of research/creative idea.
 - Composition and qualifications of the proposal team.
 - Evidence of pilot data/existing work by team.
 - Broader impacts and relevance of the proposed project to Texas and National priorities.
 - Plans for leveraging extramural funding opportunity.

- Purpose: To enhance the competitiveness of previously submitted extramural grant proposals (since 2023) that received competitive rating by a panel/study section but not funded.
- Funding: Up to \$25,000 (for proposal budgets of \leq \$2 million) and up to \$50,000 (for proposal budgets $>$ \$2 million) over 12 months.
 - Personnel, research supplies, project specific travel, proposal review service.
- Proposal Evaluation (project narrative limited to 3 pages):
 - Merit of the research proposed in the unfunded extramural submission (based on scores/rankings and feedback from external review panel or study section)
 - Merit of the proposed improvements (including specific plans and timeline for resubmission of proposal to external sponsor).
 - *Note: Required to resubmit the proposal within 12 months upon award completion.*

Proposed Timeline



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TPT Funding Category	Fall RFP		Spring RFP	
	<i>Release Date</i>	<i>Submission Deadline</i>	<i>Release Date</i>	<i>Submission Deadline</i>
Collaborative Seed Grants	Jul. 2024	Sept. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025
Planning Grants	Jul. 2024	Sept. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025
Grants on the Edge**	Jul. 2024	Sept. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025

***Additional calls per year?*

Note: Information/Q&A sessions proposed