

Strategic Faculty Research Mentoring/ Collaboration Grant Proposal Incentive

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Introduction

The College of Education and Human Development (COEHD) is pleased to sponsor the Strategic Faculty Research Mentoring/Collaboration (SFRM) grant proposal collaboration incentive (formerly called “award competition”). The goals are to: (a) encourage cross-department, cross-college collaborations leading to long-term research partnerships and (b) develop faculty grant-writing skills. A faculty member will join with (an)other faculty member(s) with complementary skillsets or expertise to design and submit a large-scale research grant proposal during Summer 2021 (July 1-August 31).

Faculty mentoring is key to successful professional development, and strategic partnerships are increasingly viewed as necessary to foster impactful scholarship. This incentive encourages faculty-to-faculty mentoring collaborative efforts as grant development teams, each consisting of two to four UTSA faculty, including one or two UTSA faculty member(s) with record(s) of extramural funding, and one or two COEHD tenure-track faculty (at any level) with more limited experience securing external funding for research. Each team will collaborate to develop and submit a proposal for research funding greater than \$200,000. Faculty are encouraged to propose research related to two priority, strategic areas (Social Justice, Diversity, and Inclusion and Research-Practice Partnerships), but they can propose research on any topic of study of importance to the College.

To become eligible for the \$3,000 incentive, which are distributed following proposal submission, the teams need only submit a Letter of Intent explaining the focus of the study, funder/sponsor, and contributions to be made by each faculty member in the development of a proposal to be submitted to the funder between 7/1/21 and 8/31/21. The first four teams deemed eligible by meeting these criteria will receive a \$3,000 stipend once they have submitted their proposal to the funder (as described in their Letter of Intent). The awarded funds are not intended to be used for the proposed study, but rather serve as an incentive to submit the proposal, and so the funds may be used to support their other independent research-related activities. Letters of intent will be reviewed by three members of the COEHD Research & Development Committee: the Senior Grant Development Coordinator, Assistant Dean for Research, and Associate Dean for Research.

Additional Eligibility Criteria and FAQs

- ✓ Mentoring within teams includes “reverse mentoring” scenarios, wherein grant-active/experienced junior faculty can “mentor/coach” senior faculty in research proposal writing and submission.
- ✓ Same-rank colleagues, across departments or colleges, may partner as a grant-writing team, as long as it is clear that one faculty with considerable experience in grant-writing and research administration “coaches” the second colleague in these skills as part of their collaboration on a grant proposal; the unique contribution of the second colleague (e.g., area expert, methodological expertise, etc.) also needs to be clearly communicated in the Letter of Intent; and where both serve as the Investigators on the proposal.
- ✓ Teams may propose submitting to a funder’s call from last year if this year’s call has not been distributed yet (e.g., you can plan to submit to cyclical calls from IES,* Dept of Ed., NIH, NSF, etc.). A list of known RFPs currently out and expected is at the end of this document.
- ✓ Teams involving senior faculty from other UTSA colleges also will be eligible.

Note: In order to allow time for mentoring and collaboration to occur, the Letter of Intent must be submitted at least 3 weeks before the date the proposal is to be submitted to the funder.

The Collaboration Plan described in the Letter of Intent

The Letter of Intent should convey the value of their collaboration on the proposed project, but also make clear both what the less experienced can learn from the more experienced mentor and how the proposed project could lead to future collaborations between them as well. Once determinations of eligibility have been made regarding whether a team is eligible for the award, teams must adhere to their coaching/mentoring/collaboration plans stated in the Letter of Intent, and ensure the proposal is submitted to the identified external sponsor between July 1 and August 31, 2021. Collaboration plan details may be revised (and resubmitted) to the review committee, up to 3 weeks prior to the submission deadline.

Stipends are awarded following submission of the actual grant research proposals. (Proposals must be of sufficient quality, rigor, and intellectual merit to secure COEHD and university approval for submission.) The team will need to send the Committee a brief statement confirming the coaching/mentoring activities proposed in the Letter of Intent were done as described or describe necessary modifications.

Eligibility

The faculty member with the least prior experience submitting research proposals must be identified as a Co-Investigator, the Principal Investigator (PI), or Co-PI on the submitted proposal with at least .25 (25%) shared credit for effort. Proposals not meeting the 5-2 proposal submission rule will be disqualified.

Faculty members who are engaged in existing mentoring relationships with other faculty are eligible to apply, but faculty may only serve on one proposal as a faculty mentor through this funding initiative, and the development of new collaborations through this award are strongly preferred over the strengthening of existing working relationships. Preference also will be given to cross-department and cross-college collaborations over within-department collaborations. Applicants wishing to build on previously funded research should distinguish how the proposed research builds on rather than duplicates previous activities.

Letter of Intent Application Instructions

A complete Letter of Intent application consists of the following two components:

1. **Collaboration/mentoring plan** (three-to-five 1.5-spaced pages) including:
 - a. what the call for funding supports (including funder, due date, and anticipated total funding), and how the faculty members involved can bring unique skills and expertise to address the funder's priorities, including a summary of the research questions to be explored and basic research methodology (identifying research methods and activities to be undertaken), the role of each faculty on the project, and potential opportunities for disseminating findings, influencing practice, or addressing key problems in society/practice;
 - b. plan for a meaningful mentoring relationship, including time commitment from mentors; how each will contribute to developing the proposal research plan and study;
 - c. any additional information you want to convey about the value of this mentoring collaboration and any possibility it affords for future partnerships or collaborations between team members.
 (Format: 11 pt. or 12 pt. Times New Roman or Arial font; 1.5 space, margins of at least ½ inch)
2. **Participating faculty abbreviated vita** (three pages max) (**for both "mentor[s]" and "mentee[s]"**). Mentors (experienced researchers) should include grants awarded (as PI) that demonstrate prior experience with similar funding agencies and large-scale sponsored projects.

Submit by email to COEHDFacultyResearch@utsa.edu, **not through CAYUSE.**

Be sure to submit the Letter of Intent at least 3 weeks prior to proposal due date.

Selection Criteria and Award Determination Dates

Members of the Review Committee will review Letters of Intent applications to identify those proposals deemed eligible for the SFRM award. Eligible teams will be listed by the date when the Letter of Intent was submitted. (Proposals not meeting the 5-2 Submission rule will be disqualified or moved to the end of the list.) Then, after September 1st, we will go down that list, in order of Letter of Intent date received, to identify at least the first four teams who successfully submitted proposals to receive the \$3,000 stipend that will be divided among team members. Accounts will be setup for use in September, 2021.

About awarded funds: The funding source for award may be in the form of F&A funds or in “startup funds.” Startup funds must be spent during the next (FY21-22) fiscal year; any unused funds after July 31, 2022 may be reclaimed by the Dean’s Office.

Use the COEHD Faculty Research Interest List to Find Members of Your Team

To identify potential partnership for work in your area (or whose skills/experiences complement your own), try looking at the list of faculty research interests at the link below.

[COEHD Faculty Research Interests](#)

If you have not yet entered your research areas, please do so now, directly into the document linked above.

A brief list of some funding possibilities this summer to collaborate with others to respond to:

***Institute for Education Studies projects**: Check this site <https://ies.ed.gov/funding/21rfas.asp> to monitor if the new RFAs are released. Last year (2020), the RFA’s came out on June 11, 2020. FY 2021 Requests for Applications—The various Requests for Applications describe the substantive requirement for research and research training applications. IES will post the FY 2021 Requests for Applications on this page as they become available.

Various Funding Opportunities (Chronologically Ordered)

NSF Racial Equity in STEM Education (EHR Racial Equity) Full Proposal Due: July 13, 2021

https://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505910&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

NSF Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST) Due: 7/13/2021

https://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5467&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

NSF Social Psychology Full Proposal Due: July 15, 2021

https://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5712&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

(See Iwan’s email for descriptions of this and the other six NSF funding opportunities in the NSF behavioral and social sciences divisions with this same Deadline.)

NSF Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Education and Human Resources (IUSE: EHR) Full Proposal Due: July 21, 2021

https://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505082&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

NSF ADVANCE: Organizational Change for Gender Equity in STEM Academic Professions (ADVANCE) Proposal Date: August 6, 2021

https://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5383&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

NEH Public Humanities Projects Applications available: June 11, 2021; Deadline August 11, 2021

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/public/public-humanities-projects>

National Institutes for Health

PA-17-246	AHRQ	07/17/2021	R21	Health Information Technology (IT) to Improve Health Care Quality and Outcomes (R21)
PAR-19-072	NLM	07/31/2021	R01	Data Science Research: Personal Health Libraries for Consumers and Patients (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
PAR-19-258	NIDA	08/11/2021	R25	NIDA Research Education Program for Clinical Researchers and Clinicians (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Institute of Education Studies

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IES Education Research and Training Grant Programs —(To be announced by June 15; Due August)
Education Research (FY 2021) – 84.305A

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84305A.pdf

Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences (FY 2021) – 84.305B

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84305B.pdf

Education Research and Development Centers (FY 2021) – 84.305C

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84305C.pdf

Statistical and Research Methodology in Education (FY 2021) – 84.305D

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84305D.pdf

Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication (FY 2021) – 84.305R

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84305R.pdf

Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking (FY 2021) – 84.305S

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84305S.pdf

IES Special Education Research and Training Grant Programs —

Special Education Research (FY 2021) – 84.324A

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84324A.pdf

Research Training Programs in Special Education (FY 2021) – 84.324B

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84324B.pdf

Research Grants Focused on NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities – 84.324P

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84324P.pdf

Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication (FY 2021) – 84.324R

https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2021_84324R.pdf