

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund Application

State Entity or Institution of Higher Education



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The **Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund** is used to award grants to leverage Texas's expertise and capacity at its higher education institutions and maintain the state's position as the nation's leader in semiconductor manufacturing. The Texas CHIPS Act establishes the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Consortium (TSIC) and the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund (TSIF).

To be eligible an entity interested in applying for matching funding from the TSIF must meet all basic qualifying criteria, including but not limited to, the following:

- the applicant must be a state entity, including an institution of higher education;
- the applicant project must be in Texas;
- the funds requested must be spent by the applicant;
- the applicant project must relate to developments related to semiconductor research, development, manufacturing, and/or design, and must align with the purposes of the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Consortium specified in Section 481.652, Texas Government Code
- the applicant project is not designed, intended, or reasonably expected to lure a project or program that is a going concern from another state entity;
- the applicant project must meet the requirements of the applicable provisions of Chapter 481, Subchapter GG, of the Texas Government Code; and
- if the application is from an institution of higher education, the application has the support of the institution's president and of the institution's governing board, the chair of the institution's governing board, or the chancellor of the University System if the institution is a component of a University System; or
- if the application is from a state entity other than an institution of higher education, the application has the support the governing board of the state entity and the presiding officer of the state entity's governing board or, if the state entity is governed solely by a chief executive officer, of that officer.

For more information, and to see if the project is potentially eligible for the **Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund**, contact the Office of Economic Development and Tourism at (512) 936-0100 or visit <u>https://gov.texas.gov/business/page/tsif</u>.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Economic Development & Tourism Office prior to submission.

An applicant must submit a complete application to the Economic Development & Tourism Office ("EDT") in the Office of the Governor ("OOG") at <u>tsif@gov.texas.gov</u>. The EDT will not accept non-electronic applications.

Include all requested information for all sections. The EDT will develop any performance documents or grant contracts using details represented in this application. Be accurate and thorough to avoid delays in processing.

Where no response is possible, the appropriate response is "N/A".

Attachments and additional pages are not required unless specifically requested in the application. The EDT will request any necessary supplemental information; the Applicant must provide any additional information requested by the EDT within the time period specified in the request for supplemental information.

The applicant may execute its completed application with original signatures or electronically. The EDT will not accept draft or incomplete applications.

The application is subject to modification. Should the application be modified prior to action being taken on the application, the EDT will notify the applicant and the applicant must submit any additional information required because of the modifications.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Name of State Entity applying for TSIF funding. Organization

Street Address		
Mailing Address		
City	State <u>Texas</u> Zip	
Phone Number	Mobile Number	
Email Address	Website	

MATCH NARRATIVE

2. Provide an executive summary of the project and the proposed project's role at the institution.

- **3.** Describe in detail the proposed role and type of research or development work to be done at the institution to further or enhance semiconductor design, commercialization, and/or manufacturing.
- 4. Describe the grant matching efforts with respect to the project.
- 5. Describe, in detail, the institution's timeline to expend the TSIF match funds?

PRIORITIES

- 6. Describe if and how the proposed project demonstrates the probability of enhancing Texas's national and global economic competitiveness.
- 7. Describe if and how the proposed project demonstrates the probability of creating a nationally or internationally recognized locus of research or development superiority or a unique locus of research or development.
- 8. Describe if and how the proposed project will be matched with a significant amount of funding from a federal or private source that may be transferred to the applicant institution.
- 9. Describe if and how the work of the project will be interdisciplinary and collaborative with other institutions and private business.
- 10. Describe the strategic plan, if any, for the generation of intellectual property and commercialization of technology relating to the project's research or development.
- 11. Describe if and how the work of the project will enable workforce development and/or improve public and private sector access to semiconductor resources developed, created, or generated by or through the project.

MATCH INFORMATION

The applicant must demonstrate the requested funding relates to a match by another source, whether federal, state, or private.

The match requirement must be met by cash or in-kind commitments that are at least equal to the amount of the match award from TSIF.

12. Provide a description of the source(s) of matching funds, the match ratio required, how receiving a grant in response to this application will affect other applications, and the grant criteria in other applications.

**The applicant should also provide a copy of solicitations for grants for which the applicant seeks a match, documentation reflecting the source's receipt of application, and, if a decision has been made, documentation reflecting the decision in the other matter.

13. How will the committed match assist in meeting the overall objectives for the proposed project? Include detail on expenditures within the proposed committed match from the grant budget.

14. Describe in detail the institution's timeline to expend the committed match funds.

BUDGET

TSIF requires the applicant to demonstrate the requested funding will be matched by another source, whether from a federal or private source.

Unless otherwise stated by the EDT in the grant application, eligible budget categories include the following cost categories:

A. "Equipment" means tangible, nonexpendable personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.

A grantee may use equipment paid for with EDT/TCO funds for any purpose related to semiconductor research, design, commercialization, and manufacturing for the business, as long as the primary use of such equipment remains for grant-related purposes.

A grantee shall not give any security interest, lien or otherwise encumber any item of equipment purchased with grant funds. A grantee shall permanently identify all equipment purchased under the grant by appropriate tags or labels affixed to the equipment. A grantee shall maintain a current inventory of all equipment, which shall be available to the EDT at all times upon request, however, the title for equipment will remain with a grantee.

A grantee will operate, maintain, repair, and protect all equipment purchased in whole or in part with grant funds to ensure the full availability and usefulness of such equipment for the purposes of the TSIF grant award. In the event a grantee is indemnified, reimbursed, or otherwise compensated for any loss of, destruction of, or damage to the equipment purchased with grant funds, it shall use the proceeds to repair or replace said equipment.

- **B.** "Construction costs" is defined as "Construction of new buildings or renovation of existing buildings (including the installation of fixed equipment, but excluding the cost of land acquisition and off-site improvements)." New construction, or activities that would change the "footprint" of an existing facility (e.g., relocation of existing exterior walls, roofs, or floors, attachment of fire escapes) is considered an allowable construction cost.
- **C. "Direct operating expenses"** is defined as those costs not included in either Equipment or Construction costs categories and which are directly related to the day-to-day operation of the grant project.

All applicant institutions must submit a completed grant budget on the form prescribed by the OOG.

Grants funds will be awarded on a reimbursement-only basis. Grantees will be reimbursed for authorized actual expenditures substantiated by documentation submitted to the EDT. If allowed, the OOG may use an alternative method of payment.

All budget items must be reasonable and necessary and properly allocated within each budget category.

15. Please fill out the estimated budget matrix below. All budget items must be included within an allowed cost category and must match the total TSIF Grant request.

Category	Estimated Amount
Equipment	
Construction	
Direct operating expenses	
TOTAL	

STATEMENT SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION

APPLICATION FOR PROJECT: NAME OF APPLICANT INSTITUTION:

TRUE AND CORRECT INFORMATION. The undersigned certifies that the information contained in this Grant Application is true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge.

Name of Certifying Official

Title of Certifying Official