OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Economic Development and Tourism

GURI APPLICATION KIT
UPDATED July 2022

GURI APPLICATION KIT

GOVERNOR'S UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Program Summary

The Governor's University Research Initiative grant program (GURI) was enacted in 2015 by the 84th Legislature with a goal to bring the best and brightest distinguished researchers in the world to Texas. This program is a matching grant program to assist eligible institutions of higher education in recruiting distinguished researchers. The GURI grant program is operated within the Office of the Governor ("OOG") in the Economic Development and Tourism Office.

To be eligible to apply for a grant award, an applicant eligible institution must meet certain basic qualifying criteria, including the following items:

- The applicant must be an eligible institution meaning it is a general academic teaching, as defined in Section 61.003 of the Texas Education Code; a health-related institution, meaning a medical and dental unit as defined in Section 61.003 of the Texas Education Code or another health science center, public medical school or public dental school as established by statute or in accordance with Chapter 61 of the Texas Education Code.

- A "distinguished researcher" means an individual who is a Nobel Laureate; a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Medicine; or has attained a national academic recognition listed in the categories under 19 TAC §15.43(b)(3)(E)(ii), subject to the OOG's approval; or a group of researchers who have attained one of these recognitions.

- The proposal must involve the recruitment of a distinguished researcher in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine.

- The applicant institution cannot recruit a distinguished researcher from another eligible institution or a private or independent institution of higher education.

- The grant application must have the support of the applicant 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 applicant institution is a component of a University System.

The GURI program is codified in Chapter 62 of the Texas Education Code, Subchapter H. The program's administrative rules may be found in Title 10, Part 5, Chapter 190 of the Texas Administrative Code.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis from eligible institutions with a proposed grant match commitment amount of $5 million or less per distinguished researcher.

Award Priorities

The OOG shall give priority to proposals that demonstrate a reasonable probability of enhancing Texas' national and global economic competitiveness.

Ineligible Grant Proposals

The following types of grant proposals will **not** be considered for a GURI grant award:

- Proposals for the support or retention of distinguished researchers who are employed by the applicant eligible institution at the time of the grant application if filed.

- Proposals that are contingent on the future availability of match funding that the institution does not have available at the time of the grant application is filed.

- Proposals that do not include an eligible distinguished researcher.

Source and Availability of Funds

The GURI fund is a dedicated account in the state's general revenue fund. The source of funds for the GURI grant program is a biennial appropriation by the Texas Legislature in addition to other authorized deposits in the fund. All funding beyond the current state fiscal biennium is contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the Texas Legislature.

Grant Term

The grant term will commence as soon as practicable and shall end no later than two years after the fiscal biennium in which the GURI funds were appropriated.

Funding Level

Applications will be accepted with a proposed grant match commitment amount of $5 million or less per distinguished researcher. No minimum proposed grant match commitment is established at this time.

Match Requirements

The grant has a 1:1 match requirement. An applicant may commit any funds of the eligible institution that are immediately available for that purpose, other than appropriated general revenue.

Employment Commitment

Applicants will be required to commit in the Grant Agreement to a firm employment date for the Distinguished Researcher. Unless otherwise agreed to by the OOG, the firm employment date for the Distinguished Researcher will be within 12 months after the date the grant application is filed.

Grant Funds Disbursement

Grant funds are disbursed on a cost-reimbursement basis.

Eligible Budget Categories

Eligible budget categories are:
- One-Time Salary Supplement;
- Professional and Consultant;
- Travel;
- Equipment;
- Supplies;
- Construction; and
- Direct Operating Expenses.

Ineligible Costs

Ineligible costs include, but are not limited to:

- Salary and fringe benefits, other than a one-time salary supplement to the Distinguished Researcher;
- Costs to recruit an ineligible distinguished researcher;
- Costs relating to entertainment, amusements, or social activities, including but not limited to shows, exhibitions or sporting events;
- Professional dues, association fees, memberships, or lobbying;
- Honoraria or gifts;
- Purchase or lease of vehicles;
- Promotional items or recreational activities;

- Travel that is unrelated to the direct support of the recruitment of the distinguished researcher;
- Consultants or vendors who participate directly in writing a grant application;
- Indirect costs; and
- Unallowable costs set forth in state or federal cost principles, the grant application or the grant agreement.

REVIEW AND AWARD PROCESS

The OOG will review each completed grant application filed in the order in which it is received electronically.

All areas of the proposed grant budget are subject to review and approval by the OOG. At any time during the review process, an OOG staff member may contact the Applicant to request additional information.

Recommendation by the Advisory Board
The Advisory Board will consider a grant application and will present to the OOG its recommendation for approval or disapproval of the application.

OOG Decision
The OOG makes the final decision whether to award a grant. All grant decisions rest completely within the discretionary authority of the OOG. The decisions made by the OOG are final and are not subject to appeal.

Grant Award Notification
The Applicant shall be notified via email of the OOG's decision regarding a grant award. Approved Applicants will be given a deadline, specified in the award letter, to submit all appropriate documents, including an executed grant agreement, as outlined in the award email from the OOG. An Applicant's failure to return the signed documents to the OOG within the prescribed time period may be construed as a rejection of the grant award, and the OOG may rescind awarded funds.

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE

State and Federal Requirements
All Applicants should review and be familiar with the OOG administrative rules governing the GURI Program. These rules are published in Texas Administrative Code, Title 10, Part 5, Chapter 190.

In addition to the OOG's administrative rules, Applicants should be familiar with the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS) and relevant Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) that relate to state, and if applicable, federal grant funding.

TxGMS can be found at: https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/docs/grant-management-

reader.pdf

Grant Agreement

Eligible institutions that are selected for a GURI matching grant will be required to execute a Grant Agreement as a condition of the grant award. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement may affect the grantee's eligibility for reimbursement payments.

Grant Management

Grantees will be expected to make to progress in meeting the goals of the recruitment project in a timely manner and in accordance with the Grant Agreement.

Reporting Requirements

If an Application is funded, the grantees will be required to fulfill reporting requirements, as outlined in the Grant Agreement with the OOG. Grantees shall cooperate with OOG and provide all requested information to OOG in connection with the preparation of any reports that may be required from time to time to be made by OOG to the Texas Legislature or any relevant governmental entity regarding and GURI Grant Application or Award.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The Application Kit provides the information necessary to prepare the application for funding through the GURI Program.

The Application Kit is available on the OOG's website at http://gov.texas.gov/ecodev/guri/online_portal.

Updates and helpful reminders about the application process will be posted at this location. Applicants are encouraged to refer to this site regularly. The OOG reserves the right to modify the Application Kit, the Application or other required documents.

NOTE: Be sure to download the Budget Worksheet, which is also a part of the Grant Application. The Budget Worksheet is a separate electronic file. See additional instructions in this Kit.

☐ Establish Username and Password

☐ Online Application

☐ Supporting Documentation for Grant Application

    ☐ Distinguished Researcher Claimed Credentials

    ☐ Distinguished Researcher Resume/Curriculum Vitae

    ☐ Letters of Support as required by 10 TAC § 190.23

    ☐ Signed Statement Supporting the Grant Application

☐ Completed Budget Worksheet http://gov.texas.gov/ecodev/guri/online_portal

GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED ONLINE AS DESCRIBED BELOW. HARD COPY APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Application Registration
All Applicants are required to register to access the Online Application Portal.

Online Application Portal
Each user will be required to establish a user account and password. Click the following link: https://gov.texas.gov/guri_app/ and click on *Register as a new user*.

Once all required fields have been filled out on the "Request Login" page, please click *Request Login.*

Once all information provided on the "Request Login" is verified, a follow-up email will be sent that will include a confirmation link that will need to be executed so that you may begin to fill out the online application.

Any login requests received by the OOG after 4pm will not be processed until the following business day.

Users will be required to answer each question in the online application and attach all pertinent documents. After an application is submitted in the online application portal, no changes to the application can be made. Please make sure all information and responses are true and correct before clicking "Submit Application".

Note: GURI Password Rules: Must be a minimum of nine characters long, must not contain consecutively repeating characters, cannot be a password previously used within the last 365 days, and it must contain at least one letter, one number, and one special character (for example: $,%,!,etc.).

Each applicant is required to have a single point of contact as required by Title 10, Part 5, Chapter 190 of the Texas Administrative Code.

Required Software and Capabilities
Microsoft Excel 97 or a newer version is required to complete the Application and apply for a grant. Please note that not all versions of Microsoft Excel are the same. If an error message is received, save as *.xls*, instead of *.xlsx. Adobe Reader* is required to access the Application Kit. *Adobe Reader* can be downloaded for free at www.adobe.com. In order to submit the required documents, Applicants will need to have the capability to combine and create a pdf file.

Upon submission of the Application, the Applicant should receive an automated confirmation from the OOG. It is recommended that the Applicant retain a copy of that email.

The OOG accepts no responsibility for delays in submission, electronic or otherwise. Applicants are strongly advised to allow for and anticipate any such delays by submitting the

Application as early as possible.

Contact Information

Assistance with general questions and other technical questions about the Application, Application Kit or the application process is available via:

- Email: GURI@gov.texas.gov

- Phone: (512) 936-0100

Email is the preferred method for submitting questions. Each person submitting a question should include their name, the name of the eligible institution, email address, and phone number.

The OOG will remain available to assist eligible institutions during the grant application process. Please note, however, that OOG staff will not assist with writing Applications.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUDGET WORKSHEET

The Budget Worksheet records information for expenditures related for both GURI grant funds and committed matching funds.

The total of requested GURI grant funds cannot exceed the total of the committed match grant funds. The Budget Worksheet may be accessed by clicking the following link: http://gov.texas.gov/ecodev/guri/online_portal

Match can be met by cash or in-kind commitments. Match may only be allocated within the eligible budget cost categories for GURI grant expenses.

Example of Worksheet

Applicant Institution:		Eligible institution	
Researcher Name:		Eligible Distinguished Researcher	

Governor's University Research Initiative			
Expense Details			
Budget Category	Expected Time to Expend (In Months)	Expense Description	Expense Cost
One-Time Salary Supplement	1	One-time salary supplement for relocation expenses	$ 50,000.00
Professional and consultant			
Travel			
Equipment	36	Chemistry equipment for laboratory	$ 500,000.00
	12	Screening Detector	$ 1,000,000.00
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	36	Various supplies laboratory	$ 350,000.00
Construction	18	Renovation and build-out of the Building basement to accommodate research	$ 1,500,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT			$ 3,400,000.00
PROPOSED UNIVERSITY SHARE (50% of total)			$ 1,700,000.00
University Cash Match			
Source of Cash Match:	Gift Funds and Endowment Funds		$ 1,700,000.00
PROPOSED GURI SHARE (50% of total)			$ 1,700,000.00

STATEMENT SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION

This signed statement must be submitted with the Grant Application
or the Application will not be considered.

APPLICATION FOR DISTINGUISHED RESEARCHER: _____

NAME OF APPLICANT INSTITUTION: _____

1. **CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES.** The undersigned certifies that it shall comply with the requirements of applicable state law, regulations, and policies, including, but not limited to, Texas Government Code Chapter 783, the administrative rules of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts at Title 34, Chapter 20, Subchapter I of the Texas Administrative Code, the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS), and the GURI administrative rules at Title 10, Part 5, Chapter 190 of the Texas Administrative Code.

2. **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.

3. **DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION.** The undersigned understands that the Applicant institution must submit the information and documents as required in the Application Kit. The undersigned further acknowledges that:

   - It is the Applicant institution's responsibility to submit the Grant Application to the OOG in the specified manner;

   - Grant Applications submitted in other formats will not be accepted;

   - The OOG accepts no responsibility for delays in electronic submission delivery; and

   - Proof of sending a document by email or other means is not proof that the OOG received the information.

(NAME) _____ **(TITLE)** _____

Name of Certifying Official   Title of Certifying Official