

Office for Research's Bridge Funding Program

Due date: Applications are due via [Survey Monkey Apply](#) by **11:59p.m. C.S.T. on the Monday, May 16, 2022**

Mission: Provide an internal funding opportunity to support highly successful researchers when time-limited disruptions occur in extramural funded research programs.

Eligibility: Bridge funding program is available for investigators with a primary appointment in the Long School of Medicine. The ideal Bridge applicant must have an established track-record of extramural funding, and may anticipate a temporary gap in funds. This temporary suspense would adversely impact the long-term viability of the applicant's research program. Eligible investigators should demonstrate that loss of all extramural funding is imminent within three to six months of the Bridge application due date. In some instances, the Dean's Office may require cost share on Bridge funds from the investigator's department. The Office for Research will administratively review this portion of the application. Investigators who have received LSOM Bridge Funding within the previous 24 months are not eligible for additional funds.

Amount and Term: Bridge funding provides up to \$65,000 support for a period of 12-months or less (excluding faculty salaries). Smaller budgeted proposals are acceptable and reviewed under the same eligibility criteria. Bridge applicants should design their budget for the minimum funding needed to sustain their research program. Applicants may include departmental cost-sharing support in their budget with pre-approval from Departmental Chair.

Application Submissions: Applications are due by 11:59p.m. C.S.T. on Monday, May 16, 2022. If the Office for Research does not receive an adequate number of applications, then they may be forwarded to the next review cycle. Submit Bridge Funding Program application via Survey Monkey Apply, <https://apply-uthscsa.smapply.io/>

Application Materials:

(Merit scoring and review criteria will be based on the following application materials)

- Brief description of the research program (1 page)
- Why funds are needed and how they will be utilized to support the research program (1 page)
- Strategies for obtaining additional funding to sustain the research program, including target mechanism(s) (1 page)
- Budget and justification (NIH format and form page). (Principal investigator salary is not allowable)
- Summary of submitted and pending grants and five-year funding history (2-page limit)
- List of all publications in the last 10 years, plus key previous publications, and a total number of publications over career (no page limit)
- Faculty member's NIH Biosketch (use new format, 5-page limit)
- Signed letter of recommendation from department chair
- Summary statements of recently reviewed grants
- Statement of all funding resources available to faculty member signed by department chair (use Financial Status of Investigator template)

Budget and Financial Policies: Facilities and Administrative (F&A, indirect cost) expenses are not reimbursable. Funds are not applicable to support the salary of the PI(s), faculty-level collaborators, or graduate students. While the candidate will list themselves as the PI in the personnel section of the summary page, there is no minimum effort requirement. Candidates may list salary (plus associated fringe benefits) for non-faculty support staff, including post-doctoral fellows. Other allowable expenses include: equipment essential for the project (maximum \$10,000, including computer hardware); PI or Co-PI travel to relevant scientific meetings (maximum \$1,500); consumable laboratory supplies; animal purchase and per diem; IIMS, CTRC, GCCRI, UTSA, or other core facility fees; consultation fees (maximum \$5,000); computer time; software; publication/ presentation expenses; costs related to human subject enrollment and management (listed as "Patient Care Costs" on budget page). Other expenditures require justification as being essential for the completion of the project. LSOM will centralize all account management.

Review Committee: The Bridge program committee consists of LSOM faculty members. All members are tenure track, and have a long-standing history of extramural funding, and peer-review experience. The committee reflects the diversity of LSOM research as members include basic and clinical departments. Each member agrees to serve 12-month terms and will serve no more than two consecutive 12-month terms.

Award Process: Over the one-year award period, the Office for Research will request progress reports at six, 12-, and 24-months post funds-initiation to assess the long-term success of the Bridge Funding Program. Applicants must follow institutional conflict of interest disclosure policies; UTHSCSA Certificate of Proposal (COP) is not required. If Bridge recipients receive external funds after initiation of Bridge funding and before the end of the 12-month funding period, then residual funds must be returned to the Dean's Office.

Please direct questions to SOMResearch@uthscsa.edu or 210-567-0300.