TTUHSC Preliminary Data Grant Program

Preamble:
The Office of Research at TTUHSC announces the continuation of the Preliminary Data Grant Program for researchers in all Schools and on all campuses of the TTUHSC.

The intent of the program is to provide a modest amount of funds to assist investigators who plan to resubmit a previously unfunded grant application to a major extramural funding agency (NIH, NSF, DoD, ACS, ADA, etc.). The funds are primarily intended to support research activities that will address specific criticisms of the original grant application in order to render a subsequent application more competitive.

Applications for the current awards will consist primarily of the critiques obtained from an extramural funding agency since October 1, 2010 and the Principal Investigator’s detailed plan for responding to the reviewers’ concerns.

Sponsor:
The Preliminary Data Grant Program will be sponsored by the TTUHSC Office of Research.

Eligibility:
Full time TTUHSC faculty will be eligible for these funds.

Awards:
It is the intent of the Office of Research to fund up to 5 applications per year at $20,000 per application. The funds may be used for research-related expenditures, including salaries for technical support, and may be budgeted for a one-year period beginning on or after January 1, 2013.

Submission requirements in the order outlined below; please number each page:

1) Cover Page to include
   - Names of Principal Investigator and co-investigators
   - Department and Rank
   - Project title
   - Extramural funding agency to which the project had been submitted
   - Priority score and percentile for this application
   - Projected date for the resubmission of the grant application
   - Signature of Principal Investigator’s Department Chairperson

2) The unedited, complete critique for the unfunded grant application.
NOTE: The critique must have been received by the Principal Investigator no more than 24 months prior to the deadline date. Also, do not include any portion of the original grant application with your submission.

3) A succinct but specific response to the major points raised in the critique with a focus on the most pertinent experiments to be performed or elements to be addressed to respond to the critique. This response should not exceed two (2) pages.

4) The intent of this program is NOT to add additional funds to “start up” funds that have been provided to the applicants. If the applicants have been given “start up” funds they will need to include a detailed listing of the items that have been encumbered with these funds.

5) A summary of current support, past support and other pending applications.

6) An NIH type 2-4 page bio-sketch for the Principal Investigator.

7) General budget and a short justification for the budget.

The maximum amount awarded to any faculty member will be $20,000. It is imperative that the budget be realistic and adequately justified.

Eligible Expenses:
1) Research supplies.
2) Animal costs.
3) Salary and fringe benefits for direct technical support
4) Small items of equipment.

Ineligible Expenses:
1) Travel, as usually defined. If however, travel is required for the PI or a designee to learn a technique required to satisfy a specific critique of the submitted grant application, exceptions may be made. In such cases, a request to the Office of Research must be made in writing, providing complete details.
2) PI or Co-PI salaries, bonuses or fringe benefits.
3) Administrative costs (departmental surcharges).
4) Office supplies or office furniture.
5) Society membership fees.
6) Books, periodicals or library services.
7) Entertainment costs.
8) Large items of equipment.

NOTE: No detailed description of the background literature or the experimental approach that will be utilized will be required in these applications. Applications will be judged on the previous critiques of the science and the PI’s response to these critiques.
**Review Process:**
The review of the applications will be performed by an ad hoc committee formed by the Office of Research and consisting of faculty representing each School. Attempts will be made to include reviewers from regional campuses as well.

Preference for the awards will be given to principal investigators who have a concise plan for addressing the deficiencies noted in the review by the extramural funding agency.

**Award Process:**
Projects selected for the award must be routed through the Office of Sponsored Programs prior to the release of funds to ensure that appropriate review committee approvals are secured for research involving humans, animals, biohazardous materials and/or recombinant DNA.

**Deadlines:**
Email your completed application to Dawn.bender@ttuhsc.edu

Applications must be received by **5:00 PM, CST, on Friday, October 19, 2012.** Funding for successful applications will be available in early January, 2013.