

## Student Research Competition Guidelines

5 February 2019

### Overview

To support student research, the Division for Research and Innovation (R&I) is implementing a new student research program for the 2019-2020 academic year. The goal of this program is to support student engagement and success through high impact research experiences that increase students' competitiveness within the workforce or academic careers upon graduation.

**Award Amount:** Undergraduate and graduate students can apply for awards up to \$800 each to support research conducted in any degree-granting program on campus under the direction of a faculty mentor.

**Deadline:** April 1, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. central time

**Process:** Apply online. <https://laserficheforms.tamucc.edu/Forms/FY20R-IStudentResearchCompetition>

**Funding Period:** September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020

Some examples of how the funds can be used:

- Student research on campus
- Materials, books, access to data and online tools
- Research/lab equipment
- Graduate student tuition (if directly linked to the project)

Some expenses that are not allowed:

- Student travel
- Food and beverages not used to conduct research
- Event giveaways
- Membership dues not in the name of TAMU-CC and for organizations on the lobby list

*\*Other restrictions may apply. Share your budget with your faculty mentor before applying.*

### Eligibility

The eligibility criteria are listed below:

- Plan to be enrolled as a degree-seeking student during the funding period
- Must be an undergraduate or graduate student in a degree program at TAMU-CC
- Must have a faculty mentor who will work with you on the project
- Must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher

### How to Apply

Table 1 lists the application components.

The proposal must conform to the following requirements:

1. Use one of the following typefaces identified below:
  - Arial 9
  - Courier New, or Palatino Linotype at a font size of 10 points or larger;
  - Times New Roman at a font size of 11 points or larger; or
  - Computer Modern family of fonts at a font size of 11 points or larger.

A font size of less than 10 points may be used for mathematical formulas or equations, figures, table or diagram captions and when using a Symbol font to insert Greek letters or special characters. PIs are cautioned, however, that the text must still be readable.

2. Margins, in all directions, must be at least an inch.

These requirements apply to all sections of your proposal.

**Table 1 Application Components**

Component	Description
Abstract	250 word summary of the project followed by the signatures of the student and the mentor.
Project Description	Maximum of three pages including the statement of research, significance, and broader impacts. Please note if you believe IRB will be required.
Bibliography	List of scholarly, peer-reviewed sources consulted and cited in the project description. Choose a style appropriate to your field.
Budget	Short table that includes description of each cost and total, with a grand total at the bottom.
Budget Justification	Provide a rationale for the items requested in your budget. Connect them specifically to research outcomes No more than one page.
Resume, biosketch, or c.v.	Up to two pages. For categories to include, please see the guideline for your field's primary funding agency (NSF, NIH, NEH, etc.).
Mentor Recommendation	Up to one-page recommendation and mentoring plan from your faculty-mentor who is sponsoring the project.
Unofficial Transcripts	To access for free, log in to SAIL, access your online transcript, then right-click and select print. Print to pdf and include with your application.

## Evaluation

Proposals will be reviewed by a team selected by the Vice President for Research and Innovation. Reviewers will represent the colleges from which applications are received and not be serving as mentors for the proposers. The table below provides the rubric that will be used with a short description of each category.

Category	Score
Significance	Up to 10
Novelty/Intellectual Merit	Up to 10
Broader Impacts	Up to 10
Work Plan	Up to 10
Budget	Up to 10
Assessment	Up to 10
Total	Up to 60

- Significance – Why does the work matter?
- Novelty/Intellectual Merit – In what way is the knowledge to be created new?
- Broader Impacts – How will the work have an impact on the researchers, the university, the community, and the world? Will the project lead to presentation or publication?
- Work Plan – Is the project described in enough detail to understand the steps of the project? Does it seem feasible? Can it be completed within the funding period?
- Budget – Does the budget seem reasonable? Are the expenses allowable? (these are state funds, see your department for more information). Is adequate justification provided for the expenses?
- Assessment – Does the principal investigator explain how success will be measured? Is there a plan to evaluate and report outcomes?

### Common Mistakes

- Not writing in a clear and active style
- Failure to comply with the rules in this document (deadline, page and font limits, etc.)
- Providing a work plan that is too vague or unclear
- Proposing work that is outside of the state rules for the funding or the time period allowed

### Equipment Purchases

Any equipment or supplies purchased through this program are the property of the university. Return unused and durable goods to your faculty mentor or the Division of R&I at the end of the project term.

### Reporting Requirements

#### Final Report

Awardees will be required to file a final report for the project with the research office. The research office will send the form near the end of the funding period.

#### Local Presentation of the Project

R&I may request that you present your work on campus or in the community as part of this funding program.

#### Acknowledgement of Support

Applicants agree to acknowledge in all publications (books, bulletins, professional journals, news releases, etc.) resulting from this project that the study was supported by a Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Research Grant. A copy of all published material resulting from this research effort shall be forwarded to the Division of Research and Innovation.