

*The following message is sent on behalf of Dr. Robin R. Means Coleman, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity, Texas A&M University*

**Request for Proposals:** 2018-2020 Diversity Matters Seed Grant Program

**Due date:** November 19, 2018 by 12 p.m.

**Apply Online:** <http://bit.ly/seed-grant18>

**Introduction:** The Office for Diversity announces a call for proposals for Diversity Matters Seed Grants for 2018-2020. The Diversity Matters Seed Grant program supports research projects designed to make a positive impact on Texas A&M University's [Diversity Plan](#) goals of accountability, climate, and equity. Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss proposal topics with their relevant [Diversity Operations Committee representative\(s\)](#) prior to submission.

**Award Eligibility:** Texas A&M University students, faculty, staff, as well as previous recipients of Diversity Matters Seed grants, are eligible to submit proposals.

**Priorities:** For the 2018-2020 funding cycle, the Office for Diversity is prioritizing research projects that address the following issues:

- Recruitment strategies for students, faculty, or staff historically underrepresented in specific disciplines or the institution;
- Retention strategies for students, faculty, or staff historically underrepresented in specific disciplines or the institution; and
- Texas A&M's historical legacy of inclusion and exclusion of people based on identity.

Lists of previously supported projects are available [here](#).

**Funding:** Individual proposals may request a maximum of \$10,000, although requests for lower amounts may be appropriate depending on the nature of the project. These are state funds and expended costs must be accounted for by the receiving unit annually. The award does not include faculty release time.

**Proposal Submission Guidelines:** Proposals must be submitted using the [online form](#) available at <http://bit.ly/seed-grant18>. Please address the following:

1. **Research Design:** A description of the research problem, purpose, methods, anticipated impact, timeline, and budget (include a brief explanation of budget items and any matching funds).
2. **Narrative:** A description of how the proposed research will make a positive impact on Texas A&M University's [Diversity Plan](#) goals of accountability, climate, and equity. Additionally, if applicable, please describe how the proposed research project:
  - a. Addresses the Office for Diversity priorities (recruitment, retention, and/or A&M's historical legacy of inclusion and exclusion);
  - b. Incorporates collaboration across departments, colleges, or administrative units; and

- c. Creates opportunities for undergraduate student research.
3. Plans to disseminate the findings (e.g., conferences, journal publications, on campus seminars, book chapters, etc.)
4. Personnel: Names and credentials of researcher(s) including a CV/resume for the principal investigator(s)
5. Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval: Letter of IRB approval or statement that IRB approval is in progress or explanation why IRB approval is not needed for the proposed research.

**Review Process and Criteria:** A panel comprised of students, faculty, and staff will be charged with reviewing and scoring the proposals. Proposals will be evaluated on the quality of the following dimensions: research design, narrative, plans to disseminate the findings; and qualifications and relevant expertise of the researcher(s).

**Post-Funding Requirements:** The principal investigator(s) of research projects that are awarded funding agree to comply with the following post-funding requirements:

1. Prior to release of funds, as applicable, provide Office for Diversity letter(s) of support from partner units and updates of IRB status
2. In any presentations and publications arising from the project, include the acknowledgment statement: "This work was supported by the 2018-2020 Diversity Matters Seed Grant, funded by the Office for Diversity at Texas A&M University."
3. By December 5, 2019, the principal investigator(s) will submit a one page (up to 500 words) progress report indicating how the funds were used and the status of the project. Submit annual updates to the Office of Diversity, specifically addressing budget, progress, and challenges on the research project.
4. By December 10, 2020, the principal investigator(s) will submit a two page (up to 1,000 words) summary of research findings, recommendations for practice and future research, summary of how funding was used, and how the results have been disseminated on campus and in professional venues.

**Inquiries:** For more information about the Diversity Matters Seed Grant program, please send email to [seedgrant@tamu.edu](mailto:seedgrant@tamu.edu), call 979-458-2905, or visit the Office for Diversity's [website](#).