



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

MEMORANDUM

To: PVAMU Faculty

FROM: Magesh Rajan, Ph.D., P.E., MBA
Vice President, Division of Research & Innovation

DATE: February 17, 2025

RE: Funding Announcement: **Research & Innovation for Scholarly Excellence (RISE) for DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP Program.**

The Division of Research & Innovation (R&I) is dedicated to advancing Prairie View A&M University's research standing by not only sustaining its R2 Carnegie designation for high research activity but also strategically elevating it toward becoming a high-research-intensive institution.

A key pillar of this effort is strengthening our research community by supporting the next generation of scholars. In alignment with the university's vision of becoming a research-intensive HBCU and a national model for student success, we recognize the critical role of doctoral students in advancing scholarly excellence. To this end, we are delighted to announce the **RISE (R&I for Scholarly Excellence) Doctoral Research Assistantship Program**, designed to empower and support doctoral students in achieving higher levels of academic and research excellence. Through this initiative, we are reinforcing our commitment to cultivating a dynamic research environment that fosters innovation, discovery, and global impact.

The **RISE-Doctoral Research Assistantship Program** awards graduate faculty researchers with funding to support doctoral students' research, scholarly and creative activities toward a research-based Ph.D. degree.

The **RISE-Doctoral Research Assistantship Program** offers successful graduate-faculty applicants with a monthly stipend of \$2,100, in addition to coverage of tuition and fees for a doctoral student for 12 months. The doctoral research assistantship for the second-year is highly possible and contingent upon the student's academic progress and the availability of funds. It is expected that either the faculty or the academic unit will cover any additional costs to support the doctoral student. It is also expected that the faculty awardee will support the student from the year three onwards through external grants and other resources.

See the following page for grant proposal submission guidelines and award expectations. This program will be managed by Dr. Denisha Parker, Student Research Officer, Division of Research and Innovation. For more information, please contact Dr. Denisha Parker at dmparker@pvamu.edu.

Division of Research & Innovation

Faculty RISE-Doctoral Research Assistantship Program | Fall 2025 - Summer 2026

Overview: RISE Doctoral Research Assistants are employed to join the research efforts of PVAMU faculty in a capacity that relates toward the student's educational goal of earning a Ph.D. degree. Research Assistants are responsible for working on research projects in collaboration with and under the direction of a faculty member. This program will enable faculty researchers to recruit meritorious students to the doctoral programs and thus strengthen the university's research enterprise in alignment with the university's *Journey to Eminence 2035* strategic plan. The program further helps faculty members to become more competitive in securing external grants for sustaining their research programs, while also mentoring the next generation of experts in the field.

Benefits: Doctoral Research Assistants receive a monthly stipend of \$2,100 and in-state tuition fee waiver, including summer support.

Faculty member qualifications:

- Must have graduate faculty status
- Must be actively engaged in research, as supported by peer-reviewed publications
- Must have submitted research grant proposals to external funding agencies
- May provide a letter of support from department head (optional)

Doctoral student qualifications:

- Must be admitted to a research doctoral degree program at PVAMU by May 15, 2025.
- Must be in good academic standing

Student selection process:

The selection of doctoral students will be based on the credentials of faculty mentors and the availability of funds.

Faculty responsibilities: Faculty members are responsible for providing mentorship and guidance, helping their graduate students develop both technical and professional skills, and accomplish the project goals. Faculty should regularly monitor progress, provide constructive feedback, and guide their doctoral students' academic and career development, strongly encouraging publication of research results and presentation of research findings at highly regarded conferences.

Doctoral student responsibilities: All doctoral research assistants are to work closely with their faculty supervisors in their research and scholarly activities and make satisfactory progress toward the completion of their degree programs.

Doctoral research assistants are required to work an average of 20 hours per week. The exact days and hours may vary and should be decided in coordination with the research assistant's supervisor prior to the start of the term. They are expected to work throughout the entire employment period except on university holidays.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Online Application:** CLICK [here to apply!](#)
- **Submission deadline:** August 15, 2025
- **Faculty Information:** Name, position, affiliation, and contact details
- **Student Information:** Name, contact details, and expected graduation date
- **Proposal Information:** (*To be entered online*) Title, Project Summary (100 - 150 words), Statement of Anticipated Results and Impact (50 - 100 Words).
- **Proposal Limit:** Only one proposal (one GRA request) per faculty member will be accepted.
- **Proposal Packet:** Upload a [combined](#) proposal packet as [one PDF file](#) named *Faculty Last Name-First Initial RISE-DRA*.

Include the following items in the proposal packet:

1. **Proposal/Project Description (2 pages)**
 - Introduction/Background/Problem Statement
 - Objectives/Goals
 - Methodology
 - Targeted external funding opportunities for the proposed research
 - Bibliography/References (not included in the page limit)
2. **Faculty CV/Resume (2 pages maximum)**
3. **Support Letter from Department Head (optional)**

PROPOSAL REVIEW AND AWARDS

- Proposals that deviate significantly from the requirements will be returned without review.
- Proposals will be reviewed by the Division of Research & Innovation Research Development Team
- Selection and award announcement: