PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

MEMORANDUM

TO: PVAMU Faculty and Staff Research Community

FROM: Magesh Rajan, Vice President for Research & Innovation

DATE   April 10, 2025

RE: Panther Research & Innovation for Scholarly Excellence (PRISE)
          2025 Panther RISE Grant Program

The Division of Research & Innovation (R&I) is pleased to announce the 2025 Panther RISE (PRISE) program in collaboration with Texas A&M University at College Station (TAMU)—the fifth year of the program to support and facilitate research and scholarly collaborations between the two institutions. As federal funding agencies support large-scale, multidisciplinary research and innovation projects of national and global importance, the PRISE program affords an excellent opportunity for the researchers in the two institutions to submit competitive and successful proposals for such research grant

Eligibility:
The PRISE program is open to tenured/tenure-track (T/TT) faculty members from all disciplines at both institutions. To apply to this program, two faculty investigators (one from each institution) must collaborate and submit a joint research/creative/scholarly proposal, following the guidelines provided in this announcement. Proposals supporting the following strategic research themes are encouraged:

- *Community and Economic Resilience*
- *Emerging Technologies and Innovations*
- *Health and Quality of Life*
- *National Security*
- *Space Exploration*
- *Sustainability and Environment*

Finding Collaborators at Both Institutions:
- PVAMU collaborators can be identified using the following sources:
  - PVAMU faculty members' areas of research and contact information are listed at: https://www.pvamu.edu/research/wpcontent/uploads/sites/60/PVAMU-Faculty-Research-Expertise-2020.pdf
  - Recent PVAMU faculty publications database searchable by author name, keywords are listed at: https://www.pvamu.edu/research/ora/faculty-publications
- TAMU collaborators can be identified using the following sources:
  - Scholars@TAMU – a profile system that hosts searchable expertise of TAMU faculty.

Proposal Deadline: May 30, 2025

Size of Award:
- The 2025 PRISE Grant Program is expected to fund up to 13 teams working on projects of mutual interest. Teams will consist of 1 PVAMU tenured/tenure track faculty member, 1 PVAMU graduate student, 1 TAMU tenured/tenure track faculty member, and 1 TAMU graduate student.
- Teams selected for funding will receive $40K total, with $20K provided to the PVAMU investigator by PVAMU and $20K total to the TAMU investigator by TAMU.

Requirements:
- An investigator from either institution may participate in only one proposal. Submission of multiple proposals by the same investigator will result in the disqualification of the proposals.
- Current awardees (PIs) of an active PRISE grant are not eligible to submit a PRISE proposal (as PI) this year.
- All proposals to be funded will be reviewed for research compliance requirements (including IRB, IACUC, IBC, and Export Control requirements, as appropriate). Funds will be released only after appropriate compliance requirements have been met.
- The investigator team is expected to submit a report to the PRISE program at the completion of the project outlining the outputs, outcomes, and impact of the project.
- The investigator team is expected to submit a collaborative proposal to an external funding agency by Fall 2027.
- Previous PRISE awardees whose awards have ended but have not submitted a collaborative proposal seeded by (or related to) the PRISE funding to an external funding agency are not eligible for this competition.
- No-cost extensions are not permitted. Unspent grant funds will be returned to the PRISE program.

Proposal Review:
An *ad hoc* committee comprised of faculty members from both institutions will review and rank all proposals based on the following criteria:
1. ***Overall merit of the application,*** including rationale and vision for the proposed research project and its innovative nature, conceptual adequacy of the hypothesis, research question, or problem(s) to be addressed, relevance to PRISE listed priority themes, suitability and feasibility of methodology, and probability of success of project. ***(20 points)***.
2. ***Societal and economic impacts***, including a clear description of the societal impacts of the project, namely, training of students, capacity-building potential, and effects of the project on people, communities, environment and the economy. ***(10 points)***.
3. ***Plans for securing extramural funding***, including a list of specific anticipated extramural funding opportunities to support continuation of the proposed project. This must include agency name, target program, anticipated RFA release, and estimated date for proposal submission by the team to the funding program. ***(10 points)***. Considering the ongoing changes at federal funding agencies, PIs are requested to confirm that their proposed project is within the scope of the target funding agency. Also, PIs are encouraged to consider federal and non-federal sponsors including private sector funding.
4. ***Qualifications of the investigators and justification for collaboration***, including research productivity of PIs as reflected in the Biosketch and a presentation of the complementary strengths of the proposed collaborative team. ***(10 points)***.

Reviewers will be asked to place each proposal in one of three categories based on their overall evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses proposal: i) High Priority (very strong proposal with no obvious issues/weaknesses identified); ii) Medium Priority (strong proposal but with minor-moderate issues/weaknesses identified); and iii) Low Priority (weak proposal with major flaws identified). The proposal placement will inform funding decisions.

Timeline:
- Release of PRISE Request for Proposals: by April 9, 2025
- Proposal Deadline: May 30, 2025
- Proposal Evaluation by Review Committee: June-July 2025
- Decision/PI Notifications: August 2025
- Award State Date: October 1, 2025

Proposal Submission Guidance
The proposal must include the information outlined below. Proposals that do not follow these guidelines will be returned without review.

1) **Title of the Project.**

2) **PVAMU Faculty Name, Email, Phone, Title/Rank, Department, College.**

3) **TAMU Faculty Name, Email, Title/Rank, Department, College.**

4) **Strategic Research Theme of Proposal.**

5) **Summary.**

   a) Project Summary (200-word limit, including significance and impact).

6) **Project Description (two-page limit; font size 11 or 12; 1" margin all around; single-spaced)**
   a) Overall Merit
      o Goals, objectives, and hypotheses.
        Describe research methodology and expected results.
      o How will the proposed project advance research at PVAMU/TAMU?
   b) Societal/Economic Impacts
      o Describe the societal/economic impacts of the proposed project.
        What is the potential for the proposed project to benefit society?
   c) Leveraging of External Resources
      o Describe how the proposed project will be leveraged for external
        funding and other resources.

7) **References (no page limit)**

8) **Leverage of Prior PRISE Support (*if applicable*) (one-page limit)**
   PRISE is a seed funding program. An important measurement of its success is the leverage of additional funding from extramural sources. If any of the investigators had received prior PRISE funding, please provide information about the PRISE award

(Project Title, PIs, Award Duration) and a list of extramurally funded awards with information on funding agency, funding period, and dollar amount of the grants/contracts. A separate list of proposals that were submitted to extramural sources, but were not funded, should also be included. This list should provide the name of each submitted proposal, the requested funding level, and the agency to which the proposals were submitted. <u>Note</u>: Please list only proposals or awards seeded by (or related to) your prior PRISE award(s).

9) **Budget and Justification (one-page limit)**
   - Please outline separate budgets for PVAMU and TAMU on the same budget form (see below table for guidance), following the below guidelines for each institution.
     - <u>PVAMU</u>: Total budget should be $20K. Allowable expenses include graduate and undergraduate student salaries/wages, graduate student tuition, travel funds, and research supplies At least $10K of the budget must be used for graduate student support.
     - <u>TAMU</u>: Total budget should be $20K. Allowable expenses include graduate and undergraduate student salaries/wages, graduate student tuition, travel funds, and research supplies. No Texas A&M faculty salaries are allowed.
   - Include a brief budget justification with separate paragraph for each institution.

   - Budget duration should from October 1, 2025 – May 31, 2027 (20 months).

Budget Item	*PVAMU Budget*	*TAMU Budget*
Faculty Investigator (salary)		Not Allowed
Graduate Student (stipend and tuition)		
Undergraduate Student (wages)		
Research Supplies		
Travel (project related)		
Total		

10) **Attachments**
   d) Biosketch for each of the two investigators (limit to 3 pages per investigator).
   e) A letter of collaboration from each (PVAMU and TAMU) investigator.
   f) A letter of endorsement from the department/unit head of each (PVAMU and TAMU) investigator.

Proposal Submission:

PRISE proposals must be submitted as PDF files via the InfoReady portal by May 30, 2025. All elements of the proposal (summary, project description, leverage of prior support, required letters, and budget must be submitted by one of the two investigators (on behalf of the proposal team).

APPLY HERE

https://tamu.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1965897