



Texas Space Grant Consortium
New Investigator Program
<http://www.tsgc.utexas.edu/nip/>
Proposals Due: April 21, 2017
Expected Announcements of Awards: May 2017
Expected Award Date June-July 2017

2017 Program Announcement

**Texas Space Grant Consortium
New Investigator Program
\$10,000 Maximum**



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I Introduction

The New Investigator Program (TSGC NIP), established in 2003, is designed to assist in professional development of faculty members or researchers who strive to begin a career in research. TSGC will accept proposals from individuals who are either currently conducting or strive to conduct research aligned with NASA's strategic plan and research requirements and do not have an established research career.

NASA Office of Education Institutional Engagement Lines of Business (LOB)

NASA Institutional Engagement supports efforts that build and develop capacity of formal and informal institutions for sustained STEM capabilities in topical areas of interest to NASA. This line of business focuses on five primary goals:

Goal 1—Capacity: Support interactions between NASA Centers and educational institutions

Goal 2—Content: Increase the STEM capacity of institutions and organizations to contribute to the NASA mission through research, curriculum development and instruction, delivery of content, and/or enabling capabilities.

Goal 3—Diversity: Promote diversity representation of institutions and organizations affiliated with NASA whether through Institutional Engagement funding or other means of collaboration.

Goal 4—Sustainability: Improve the ability of NASA-supported institutions and organizations to leverage beyond NASA funding to sustain their developed capacity in STEM personnel, programs, and infrastructure.

NASA Current Areas of Emphasis in Research

- Community Colleges- develop new relationships as well as sustain and strengthen existing institutional relationships with community colleges.
- Aeronautics research- research in traditional aeronautics disciplines; research in areas that are appropriate to NASA's unique capabilities; directly address the fundamental research needs of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen).
- Environmental Science and Global Climate Change- research activities to better understand Earth's environments.
- Enhance capacity of institutions to support innovative research infrastructure activities to enable early career faculty to focus their research toward NASA priorities.
- Diversity of institutions, faculty, and students (gender, underrepresented, and underserved.)

Texas Space Grant Consortium anticipates awarding 1 or 2 new awards per year. The individual award will be up to **\$10,000 maximum** with a period of a maximum of 12 months. Awards are overhead free. **Please note the Project ending date will be required to end April 30, 2018 as this is the ending date of the sponsoring grant.**

II Eligibility

Competition is open to individuals of faculty or research scientist rank at active academic institutional members of the Texas Space Grant Consortium. **Individuals must be qualified to serve as a principal investigator at their respective institution and be a US citizen.** Submission is limited to one proposal per investigator. Previous recipients of this award are not eligible to propose.



In order to satisfy NASA grant matching requirements, the total awarded amount must be matched 1:1 (in-kind, cash) by the recipient's home institution. The in-kind portion of the match must be no more than 50% of the total 1:1 match. This 1:1 support must be documented and included in the proposal budget signed by a cognizant institutional official.

TSGC encourages the participation of any PI who is female, a member of an under-represented minority group, or a person with a disability.

III Notice of Intent (Optional)

In order to plan for a timely and efficient review process, interested PIs are encouraged to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI). The NOI must include the following: proposal title, principal investigator, institution, email, phone number, and a 200-300 word description of the project. The submission of a NOI is not a commitment to submit a proposal, nor is the information contained therein considered binding on the submitter. NOIs must be submitted electronically to proposals@tsgc.utexas.edu.

IV Proposal

Proposals must be single-spaced using a font size of at least 11 points and with margins of at least one inch on all sides. Any proposals exceeding page limitations will not be reviewed. The proposal should not be bounded, but stapled in the upper left-hand corner.

Each proposal must be in the following format:

1 *Cover Page*

The cover page must include the following items: Project title; project dates of service; PI name and contact information, institutions and signatures; and date of proposal.

2 *Research Area*

A description of the PI's current research interest and its relevance to NASA's strategic plan and research requirements. The PI is not limited to conduct new research or expand existing research with this funding but to use these discretionary funds to further establish their

professional career. This section is limited to eight pages and should include but not be limited to the following:

- a. Statement of how this discretionary funding will impact investigator's career.
- b. Education and Public Outreach efforts that the investigator has both previously participated in and plans to participate in during the period of this award.

3 *Budget*

Attach a budget summary and description page that outlines associated costs that include: a) personnel salaries and wages including rate and man hours, b) **Fringe. This must be calculated separate from salary and wages**, c) domestic travel, and d) direct costs associated with materials and supplies, publication costs, or other direct costs. Limited to two pages.

4 *Matching Support*

The required 1:1 matching support must be documented and included in the proposal budget signed by a cognizant institutional official .

5 *Resume Material*

Attach Principal Investigator's resume. Limited to four pages.



- 6 *Letters of Support*
Two letters of support and/ or recommendation from professionals in the research field of pursued.
- 7 *Support Statement*
Statement supplied by PI's center direction or department chair expressing support of both the applicant and the proposed research.
- 8 *Current and Pending Support*
Include an attachment that identifies current support of the investigator: source of support, project title, amount of award, period covered by award, months or percent of time committed by the project director during the award period, and location of research.
9. *Additional materials*
Additional pertinent documentation of no more than five pages may be included as necessary. Note that reviewers are not required to consider this material.

V Period of Performance

The period of performance of this award may not exceed April 30, 2018

VI Expenses

The following expenses are explicitly allowed and disallowed under this award. All expenses not directly allowed must receive prior approval from the sponsor before they are incurred. Any re-budgeting of funds must receive prior approval of the sponsor.

Allowable Expenses

The following expenses are allowed under the terms of this grant

- a. Salary, Wages, and Fringe Benefits for the Principal Investigator, graduate students, and undergraduate students. **All persons funded under this grant must be a U.S. Citizen.**
- b. Long distance changes, including video teleconferencing, that are directly related to the research being performed.
- c. Tuition costs for graduate students
- d. Publication costs
- e. Domestic travel
- f. Professional society dues
- g. Proposal costs

Unallowable Expenses

The following expenses are not allowed under the terms of this grant

- a. Overhead or Indirect Costs
- b. No funds are allowed to be disbursed to anyone who is **not** a U.S. Citizen
- c. Equipment – As defined by the State of Texas and the federal government.
- d. Furniture
- e. Building costs/remodeling costs
- f. Basic telephone charges
- g. Office supplies
- h. Administrative support
- i. Computer use fees
- j. Salary for staff researchers or faculty
- k. Subcontracts
- l. Consulting services



- m. Charges that fall outside of the approved period of performance of the award.

VII Reporting Requirements

Progress reports must be submitted annually from the start of the award. These reports contain items that the PI is currently documenting for professional purposes. These reports must contain the following.

- a. List of papers presented during the period of this award. Include title, publication, date of publication, author list, and a copy of the paper.
- b. List of all presentations delivered during the period of this award. Include Presentation title, location, date, and a copy of the presentation.
- c. List of all conferences attended during the period of this award. Include conference title, location, dates, and if investigator presented
- d. List of all proposals submitted during the period of this award. Include proposal title, announcement of opportunity title, name of sponsor, proposal due date, role of investigator, and funding status.
- e. List of all patents that were applied for and or approved during the period of this award.
- f. List of actual support for investigator. Include source, PI, % time, and role of investigator.
- g. List of new conferences, papers, proposals that the investigator is considering that were not specified in the original proposal.
- h. Status of all conferences, papers, proposals that the investigator included in the original proposal.
- i. Budget update including forecasted vs. actual budget for all budgeted categories.

A final report is due within 90 days of the completion of the award. These reports must contain the following.

- a. Statement of how funding assisted investigator
- b. List of papers presented during the period of this award. Include title, publication, date of publication, author list, and a copy of the paper.
- c. List of all presentations delivered during the period of this award. Include Presentation title, location, date, and a copy of the presentation.
- d. List of all conferences attended during the period of this award. Include conference title, location, dates, and if investigator presented
- e. List of all proposals submitted during the period of this award. Include proposal title, announcement of opportunity title, name of sponsor, proposal due date, role of investigator, and funding status.
- f. List of all patents that were applied for and or approved during the period of this award.
- g. List of actual support for investigator. Include source, PI, % time, and role of investigator.
- h. Summary suitable for publication
- i. Budget report including forecasted vs. actual budget for all budgeted categories.

VIII Other Requirements

- 1 Texas Space Grant Consortium Membership Meeting Attendance
The investigator is invited to attend and/or present at one TSGC annual business meetings. These meetings are held in the Fall.
- 2 Acknowledgment of support.
An acknowledgment of TSGC support must appear in any publication of any material based on this project in the following terms: "This material is based in part upon work supported by the Texas Space Grant Consortium."



- 3 Post Award Reporting
PI agrees to submit a current vita to TSGC after the completion of this award.
- 4 Site visits.
TSGC representatives shall have the right to make site visits to review project accomplishments.
- 5 Audit and records.
Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and other material pertinent to this grant shall be retained by the grantee for a period of three years following submission of the final project report and shall be made available to TSGC upon request. This material, the organizational prior-approval system, and the internal project audits are subject to review by TSGC officials.
- 6 Payments
The grantee institution shall receive payments under this grant through that institution's Office of Sponsored Projects. **Invoices must be submitted on a monthly or quarterly basis. Invoices should not span over academic year. Invoices should include a Match funds column.**
- 7 Notification of absence.
TSGC shall be notified prior to an investigator's absence from campus for a period of four months or more. Prolonged absences from the campus for non-project related purposes are subject to TSGC review.
- 8 Changes in principal investigator.
If the principal investigator or project director leaves the grantee institution or otherwise relinquishes active direction of the project, the institution must notify TSGC as soon as possible and the award will be terminated. Awards may not be transferred if the PI leaves the grantee institution to another institution that is not an active academic member of the Texas Space Grant Consortium.
- 9 Suspension or termination.
This grant may be suspended or terminated if the grantee fails to comply with all the terms and conditions of the grant or if the principal investigator leaves the university.
- 10 Nondiscrimination.
No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this grant on grounds of race, color, national origin, religious affiliation, handicap, or gender.
- 11 Compliance with regulations.
The investigator must abide by all state and federal regulations related to research.
- 12 Liability.
TSGC shall not be held liable in the event of damages to persons or property which may occur in the course of activities conducted as a result of this grant.



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IX Proposal Review and Evaluation

Awards are selected by Texas Space Grant Consortium based on:

1. Past performance, demonstrated by: relevance of past research, publications, professional activities, awards and other recognition to NASA strategic plan and future research requirements.
2. Research plan
3. Professional letter(s) of recommendation.
4. A commitment by individuals institution to the applicant and the research.

X Proposal Submission and Selection Schedule

Submit 1 proposal electronically Via Email Submission and mail 1 hard copy:

Submit 1 proposal via Electronic E-mail Submission AND Mail 1 hard copy

Email Electronic Version
Jurgens@tsgc.utexas.edu

Mail Hard Copy to:

Texas Space Grant Consortium
New Investigator Program
3925 W. Braker Lane, Ste 200
Austin, Texas 78759

Submission deadline for electronic copy: by midnight, Central Time, **April 21, 2017**. **Hard copies can be received in the mail the week after deadline.**

Inquiries: Texas Space Grant Consortium
3925 West Braker Lane, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78759
512-471-3583
512-471-3585 (Fax)
proposals@tsgc.utexas.edu

Announcement of Selected proposals are expected by May 2017