

President's Excellence in Research Scholars (PERS)

President's Excellence in Research Scholars will provide innovative learning experiences through research, technology, and other resources.

Goal: Engage students in research/creative activities to enhance their experiential learning experience under guidance of Tarleton Faculty/Research Staff. PERS will provide students access to state-of-the-art educational opportunities, promote their development as researchers, stimulate interdisciplinary research collaborations, and generate new data for external funding.

Eligibility: Current full-time enrolled students (undergraduate and graduate) and Faculty/Research Staff from all disciplines are eligible to apply.

Project duration: 3 months (June 1 – August 31, 2021)

Funding:

Undergraduate: Summer stipend-maximum up to \$3,600 based on 20 hours /week, Graduate: Summer stipend-maximum up to \$4,800 based on 20 hours/week. Please note: Student is eligible to request less hours.

Faculty/Research Staff stipend: \$6K, \$7K, \$8K (Assistant, Associate, Full). One faculty is eligible to mentor up to 3 students, however two faculty are not eligible to mentor one (the same) student. *Please note: PERS funding may not be combined with summer salary and/or other Tarleton stipends to exceed 100% of a faculty member's eligible summer salary amount.

Supplies and Travel: A reasonable supplies and travel (if applicable) budget

Applications: Applications must be future-oriented; using modern tools and techniques to research a particular topic in the applicant's discipline. Funds will not be awarded for research/scholarship projects already completed.

For the final report

Students: poster or performance presentation appropriate to their discipline at local symposium. Presentations will be at a local symposium in fall.

Faculty: proposal draft based on the preliminary data generated and name /names of the sponsor/federal agencies.

Sample of broad topics for consideration:

Advancing the Data Revolution: cybersecurity, big data, and artificial intelligence

Safe, connected, and resilient communities: access to broadband, education, safety, forensics

Politics, history and culture: migration, immigration, Texas history, art and literature

Health Disparities: health literacy, access to health care, emotional and physical well-being, food deserts and food security, food safety, childhood obesity

STEM education research: retention, graduation, and student success.

Bioeconomy: Smart farms, water safety, microbiomes, biotechnology, drug development and drug delivery, supply chain and logistics

Innovating for a resilient and sustainable future: environmental sustainability, science-based inquiry into a broad range of environmental issues

Economic development: market research, forgotten cities, rural urban interdependence/rural prosperity and entrepreneurship

Application Process: Application should include clear goals and objectives, research plan, and methodology.

To apply please provide:

1. **A descriptive project title and 5 words that describe the research**
2. **Abstract (summary):** In 300 words or less describe the project and the potential impact for a general audience.
3. **Project description:** limit to 3 pages description of the proposed project including:
 - a. **Rationale:** explain goal(s), current state in the field of study, and a description of the novel contribution to the discipline/community that your work will attempt to produce.
 - b. **Research plan/methodology:** a description of the activities and what you will accomplish. Faculty will also provide a brief description of their expertise in the proposed research, the federal solicitation/s to which the faculty plan to submit.
 - c. **Justification:** how funds will foster collaborations, secure external funding, and enhance the student learning experience.
4. **Budget and budget justification**

The research and scholarship committee appointed by the Vice President of Research will review applications and make recommendations to the VPR. Priority will be given to applications that:

1. Enhance the quality of students' educational experience through research using modern tools and technology
2. Generate new data for sponsored research

Application Deadline: April 26, 2021

Application Portal: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/06891b2e5c8b4d96971fcbdf821ef923>