**College of Applied Arts Boilerplate Language for Proposal Development**

*This document is updated annually. If you have questions or suggested improvements, please contact the College of Applied Arts Research Coordinator at* [*alyssalivernois@txstate.edu*](mailto:alyssalivernois@txstate.edu).

**Overview**

Texas State University (TXST) is a public, student-centered, emerging research university located in San Marcos nestled on 517 acres in the Hill Country community about halfway between the Austin and San Antonio metropolitan areas. It ranks as the largest public university in the Texas State University System and 7th largest in Texas. 4,000 additional acres are dedicated to academic, agricultural, research, and recreational areas. TXST employs nearly 1,400 full-time faculty and more than 2,000 full-time staff. TXST is home to more than 40,000 students and an increasingly thriving campus community. Our students come from around the globe, from 87 countries and 48 states. 59% percent of TXST students are ethnic minorities. 43% of TXST students are the first in their families to attend college. TXST was federally designated a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) in 2011, and 41% of students enrolled are Hispanic. There are 99 bachelor's, 91 master's, and 16 doctoral degree programs offered through 9 colleges, including Applied Arts, McCoy College of Business Administration, Education, Fine Arts & Communication, Health Professions, Liberal Arts, Science & Engineering, University College, and the Graduate College. TXST’s Round Rock Campus, the 101-acre campus located just north of Austin, offers junior- and senior-level and graduate classes that lead to 15 bachelor’s degrees and 16 master’s degrees.

Online and Extended programs offer accredited and career-aligned degree options through accelerated, extension, and self-paced courses. 100% accelerated online degree programs offer 12 undergraduate and 26 graduate options. In September 2024, TXST established a campus in Santiago de Querétaro, Mexico and TXST’s first international campus. The Querétaro campus is expected to welcome its first class in fall 2025.

<https://www.txst.edu/about.html>

<https://www.ir.txst.edu/university-data/student-enrollment.html>

<https://brand.txst.edu/using-the-brand/writing/facts-and-data.html>

<https://hsi.txstate.edu/>

<https://www.rrc.txst.edu/academics.html>

<https://www.distancelearning.txst.edu/>

<https://news.txst.edu/inside-txst/2024/texas-state-establishes-mexico-campus.html>

**History**

Authorized by the Texas Legislature in 1899, Southwest Texas State Normal School opened its doors in 1903. The original mission was to prepare Texas public school teachers. Over the years, the Legislature broadened the institution's scope and changed its name, in succession, to Southwest Texas State Normal College, Southwest Texas State Teachers College, Southwest Texas State College, Southwest Texas State University, and in 2013 to Texas State University. Each name reflects the University's growth from a small teacher preparation institution to a major, multipurpose university. Texas State has been successful in its original mission, but today it does far more.

<https://www.txstate.edu/about/history-traditions.html>

**Mission**

Texas State University is a public, student-centered institution dedicated to excellence and innovation in teaching, research, including creative expression, and service. The university strives to create new knowledge, to embrace a diversity of people and ideas, to foster cultural and economic development, and to prepare its graduates to participate fully and freely as citizens of Texas, the nation, and the world.

<https://www.txstate.edu/about/mission.html>

<https://www.president.txst.edu/universityplan/2023-2029-university-plan/overview.html>

**University Classification and Research**

In 2012, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board named Texas State an “Emerging Research University,” a designation that allows the university to tap into special state funds designed to bolster higher education research. This designation affirms Texas State’s commitment to support faculty as active scholars in their respective disciplines and to involve both undergraduate and graduate students in research. To coordinate efforts to achieve designation as a national research university, in April 2019, Texas State adopted an updated *Strategic Plan for Research* with targeted investments of institutional funds to support increased research activity across the university. In 2023 we launched *Hopes & Aspirations High*, an ambitious vision with five bold strategic imperatives — elevate student success, Run to R1, increase enrollment, grow the Round Rock Campus, and become an employer of choice. And, we have made tremendous progress in positioning ourselves to achieve this vision in a very short time.

Out of the almost 4,000 colleges and universities in the United States, the Carnegie Foundation classifies less than 150 of them as having “very high research activity” – a category known as Research-1, R1. This designation is primarily a measure of the investments made in research by the public and private sectors in the university to support research conducted by the faculty and students.

Texas State is well on its way to R1 designation. In the last 10 years, we have almost tripled our research expenditure. We will be approaching $100 million annually at the end of 2024, and we are already in the top 20% of research universities in the nation.

<https://www.president.txst.edu/strategic-vision.html>

<https://www.president.txst.edu/strategic-vision/run-to-r1/impact.html>

**Institutional Capacity for Grant Administration**

The mission of the Division of Research (DOR) at Texas State University is multifold, encompassing support for faculty, students, and sponsors to advance the shared objectives of knowledge creation and exchange through innovative, relevant, and impactful works. The Division promotes research, scholarship, and other creative activities through a portfolio of services that includes development of proposals, leveraging of internal and external resources, administration of sponsored projects, and protection and commercialization of intellectual property. We ensure responsible research conduct and foster interdisciplinary collaborations to solve complex problems and make meaningful contributions to Texas, the United States, and the world.

The DOR provides support for research activities through a variety of services, including Pre and Post Award Support, Research Integrity and Compliance, Strategic Research Initiatives, and Innovation, Commercialization, and Engagement. Nine multidisciplinary centers and institutes also report to the DOR.

TXST is a rapidly growing research-intensive R2 institution, on track to achieve R1 status by 2027, driven by significant internal investments in the research enterprise. Over the past five years, TXST has seen a 119% increase in R&D expenditures, surpassing $141 million in FY2023. In FY2024, TXST invested $2.1 million to attract post-doctoral researchers who support faculty research, and an additional $2 million has been committed to fund Ph.D. tuition scholarships, stipends, and course release time for faculty, enabling them to focus on advancing their research agendas. Our drive for research excellence is evident in many initiatives that promote undergraduate, graduate, and faculty research endeavors while building upon strong existing support for research and creative scholarly activities. The Division of Research supports and promotes research while ensuring compliance and scholarly integrity.

<https://www.president.txst.edu/universityplan/2023-2029-university-plan/strategic-plans.html>

**Pre and Post Award Support Services**

Research is the principal source of technological innovations and economic expansion for our state and country. Pre and Post Award Support Services at Texas State University promotes externally funded research, scholarly and creative activity, public service, instruction, training, and other projects. Pre and Post Award Support Services is the central source of information for major government agencies, foundations, and corporations that support research and other sponsored programs. Pre and Post Award Support Services staff assists faculty members, administrators, and students from proposal development and planning through implementation and administration of funded projects.

<https://www.research.txst.edu/osp/pre-award-support.html>

<https://www.research.txst.edu/osp/post-award-support.html>

For more information about research services, visit the [Division of Research](https://www.txstate.edu/research/).

More information on the University, Finance and Support Services, Facilities, Human Resources, Information Technology Assistance Center, and University Advancement is available at:

<https://www.txst.edu/>

<https://www.fss.txst.edu/>

<https://www.facilities.txst.edu/>

<https://www.hr.txst.edu/>

<https://itac.txst.edu/>

<https://www.ua.txst.edu/>

**College Priorities**

The College of Applied Arts has set up five priorities to achieve its goals and initiatives for the 2023 - 2029 planning cycle of Texas State University. Among the five priorities, the third priority of the College of Applied Arts is committed to leveraging HSI success and current facilities to increase the number of grants submitted by faculty. The College aims to fully support the increased number of grant submissions through interdisciplinary efforts with other departments, universities, state/federal agencies, and corporations/foundations that focus on local, state, national, and global needs.

<https://www.president.txst.edu/universityplan/2023-2029-university-plan/strategic-plans.html>

**College of Applied Arts Overview**

The College of Applied Arts (CoAA) provides hands-on experiential learning, and student-centered education at the bachelor’s, master's, and doctoral levels. With seven academic areas housed in four departments and three schools, our students choose from a variety of specializations. Students in the College of Applied Arts can develop the skill sets they need to compete responsibly, professionally, and successfully in our real-world economy. Our college emphasizes innovation, experiential learning, research, and service as we educate the next generation of compassionate and transformational leaders. There are six academic areas within CoAA, including School of Social Work, Department of Organization, Workforce, and Leadership Studies (OWLS), Department of Military Science, School of Family Consumer Sciences (FCS), School of Criminal Justice and Criminology, and the Department of Aerospace Studies (AFROTC).

<https://www.appliedarts.txst.edu/>

**College Centers**

Four centers are proudly housed in the College.

The Child Development Center offers a realistic and diverse training environment for future childcare professionals. The Center is also the home for the San Marcos Early Childhood Collaboration Project, one of three model programs in the state involving the collaboration of Head Start, the public Colleges, and public childcare.

The Center for Geospatial Intelligence and Investigation (GII) seeks to improve our intelligence and investigate responses to security threats from criminal offenders, terrorists, and insurgents. GII projects have included the study of the geospatial relationships between terrorists’ cell sites, military applications of geographic profiling, researching criminal search paths, and the identification of geographic features associated with illegal border crossings.

The Texas Crime and Justice Center (TCJC) was established in September 2024 within the School of Criminal Justice and Criminology in collaboration with the Austin Area Research Organization (AARO), with the mission to facilitate applied research and the expansion of evidence-based knowledge regarding crime and best practices in response to crime in Central Texas, throughout the state, the Southwest, and the nation.

The TCJC's goals include:

1. Collaborating with public agencies, NGOs, the legislature, other institutions of higher education, and the private sector to identify criminal justice policy and practice issues of broad interest or concern and to inform those issues with the infusion of existing and new knowledge;
2. Partnering with criminal justice agencies to help them identify and implement evidence-based practices for improving their outcomes;
3. Partnering with criminal justice agencies to help them identify and implement evidence-based practices for improving their outcomes;
4. Increasing the visibility and renown of the criminal justice research enterprise at Texas State University’s School of Criminal Justice and Criminology.

Aiding the center's efforts will be an advisory board made up of criminal justice and public policy leaders and practitioners from the region.

The Texas Justice Court Training Center (TJCTC) provides quality education opportunities for justices of the peace, constables, and court personnel, ensuring the credibility of and confidence in the justice courts, enabling them to better serve the people of The State of Texas. The Child Development Center (CDC) serves as a lab environment for the Family and Consumer Sciences Department. As part of their course work, child development students observe child and teacher behaviors, work in the classroom under the supervision of a qualified teacher and participate in a semester-long internship at the center.