**UNTHSC FACULTY SALARY BRIDGE FUNDING PROGRAM**

The Provost Office has established a Faculty Salary Bridge Funding Program for UNTHSC investigators. Bridge funding is intended to provide temporary support to cover faculty salary that was covered by grant funds when those funds are discontinued. This program provides matching funds from the Provost office. Investigators are eligible for bridge funding if one of the two eligibility categories apply, as defined below. For this program reference to salary derived from extramural grants also could include salary from research contracts or salary derived from consultant activity indicated on grants.

**Category 1 eligibility**

* Category 1 eligibility for bridge funding: Individuals whose NIH competitive renewal application was not funded. Additionally, individuals with recurring research awards from other agencies are also eligible providing all other criteria are met.
* The principal investigator (bridge funding applicant) must have submitted a renewal or new application to be eligible. In addition, the PI must have covered at least an average of 30% required salary for a minimum of the prior five consecutive years.

**Category 2 eligibility**

* Category 2 eligibility for bridge funding: Individuals for which funding from one extramural grant has ended, and who have a new extramural grant starting but only after some gap period. These individuals are only eligible if a notice of grant award for the upcoming grant has been received. Preference will be given to NIH or other federal research awards; non-federal extramural funding sources will be considered providing all other criteria are met. In addition, the PI must have covered at least a average of 30% required salary for a minimum of the prior five consecutive years.

**General Guidelines and Restrictions (applicable to both Category 1 and 2 eligibility):**

* The applicant’s school and department or center/institute must provide a cumulative 1:1 match to the funds provided by the Provost Office. These matching funds should be used as the first source of bridge funding.
* The maximum amount of funds that will be made available from the Provost office will be one half of the PIs salary that was previously covered by the grant per award application cycle. If extramural grant funds (for the requested project) become available to the PI during the bridge funding period, any remaining Bridge funds will be returned to the Provost and other originating offices.
* Bridge funding support from the Provost office for any one PI’s salary shall not exceed $60,000/year.
* Matching funds may come from the Dean, institute or department or any combination to achieve the match. If matching funds are not available the Provost Office will provide funding.
* The appropriate Chair will review all bridge funding applications and make recommendations to their Dean who will then forward a recommendation to the Provost; decisions on funding will normally occur within thirty (30) days of applicant submission.
* Upon eligibility and approval the PI can expect to receive salary-bridge funding for two years at a maximum of 30% of their salary covered. If the PI does not get grant support to cover the full 30% salary or as the total pool of available bridge funds is limited, fulfilling all the above criteria does not ensure that all applicants will receive bridge funding. In the event funds are not available to cover all bridge funding requests within a cycle, the Provost, in consultation with the Deans, will make final funding decisions. If the faculty member fails to cover their 30% salary within this two year period, the faculty will lose 10% of their bridge salary or take on additional responsibilities in order to take care of the shortfall. If following another year there is still no progress for research funds, the faculty may lose another 10% of their bridge salary unless they take on additional responsibilities and similarly in the next year. This will result in an overall 30% reduction in bridge salary if the faculty member fails to obtain the full 30% funds to cover the required extramural portion of their salary over the five year period. The decrease in salary, however, could be offset by taking on additional responsibilities in workload if available as determined by the chair and/or dean.

**Application Timeline: February 15, June 15 and October 15**

**BRIDGE FUNDING SUPPORT APPLICATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date of application:** |  |
| **Principal Investigator:** |  |
| **Other collaborators:** |  |
| **Title of proposal:** |  |
| **Name of agency most recently submitted to:** |  |
| **Date most recently submitted:** |  |
| **Amount of bridge funding requested from Provost:** |  |
| **Amount of matching funding** |  |
| **Approval of Department Chair (if applicable):** | **(signature\*)** |
| **Approval Ctr/Inst head (if applicable):** | **(signature\*)** |
| **Approval of Dean:** | **(signature\*)** |
| **Principal Investigator:** | **(signature)** |

***\*Your signature indicates you have reviewed and support this proposal and you agree to provide matching funds as specified in the detailed budget of the associated application.***

**Required Application Components (electronic pdf format only):**

* above cover page with signatures and current biosketch
* budget, specific aims, and background and significance from most recent submission
* all summary statements from the most recent submission
* one page statement from the PI with other information that strengthens the case for bridge funding
* detailed budget: this must list source of matching funds, and must detail a plan for the use of all available bridge funds
* **For repeat bridge fund applicants** (i.e., those who have already received one round of bridge funding), the following must also be included:
  + a description of progress to date and a full list of publications and presentations authored or co-authored by the applicant during the previous six month period
  + a complete summary of expenses charged against the bridge funding provided to date
  + copies of all grant submissions and summary statements during the previous six month period

**The entire application packet must be submitted electronically to the office of the Provost by 5:00 on the application deadline date**