



******Additional information******

TSA Scholarship Targeted Anesthesiology Research for Texas (TSA START) Grant

The TSA START grant supports developing promising anesthesiology, critical care, and pain medicine investigators. The Texas Society of Anesthesiologists is seeking applications for the 2024 TSA START Grant.

The TSA START grant will fund two projects in 2024. The awards are intended to help obtain preliminary data to apply for independent research funding. Applicants should present a clear research plan, propose work pertinent to anesthesiology, critical care or pain medicine, and have a senior mentor with a history of independent research funding.

All proposals will be reviewed by an external advisory board appointed by the TSA Research Committee. Applications will be reviewed based on scientific merit, novelty, and potential impact on anesthesiology, critical care, or pain medicine. Awards are granted at the discretion of the TSA and based on Significance, Innovation, and Approach.

Research Areas: All areas of research that contribute to advances in patient care; and can lead to sustained extramural research will be considered, including basic science, translational, clinical, and healthcare research. This cycle's areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Data Science to Enhance Quality and Clinical Outcomes,
- Integration of Patient-Reported Outcomes to clinically available or novel biomarkers.

Eligibility: MD or DO faculty members who have completed their core anesthesiology residency training within the past 10 years and are active TSA members. The applicant must be practicing in Texas at the time of funding. The TSA will not fund applicants who currently hold an NIH K or ROO award and will discontinue funding for the TSA-START if an awardee accepts funding of another comparable award (e.g., NIH K-series, K99/ROO, or similar).

Priority will be given to collaborative and multidisciplinary projects, and those engaging both senior and junior faculty. Preference will be given to teams with a track record of translational and clinical research activity and outcomes.

Funding Amount and Duration: \$25,000 for 1 year with no carry forward. Funds to be applied for direct research costs only. Pre-award costs and faculty salaries are not allowed.

Research Time: $\geq 25\%$.



Deadline: April 30, 2024 Apply by submitting a single PDF containing the elements in the Application Checklist to Chris Bacak at startgrant@tsa.org Late applications, incomplete applications, and applications not following the specified format will not be reviewed.

Announcement of funding: TSA Annual Meeting September 5-8, 2024. The TSA expects preliminary or full project results to be presented at the 2025 meeting.

Application checklist

Research Plan (limit 7 pages, using 11-point Arial font and 0.5 inch margins) Include:	
	Hypothesis and Specific Aims
	Preliminary data
	Innovation, Approach and Expected outcomes
	Alignment with any larger ongoing or planned research projects
	Timeline for the pilot project
	Plan to pursue federal funding (Preference will be given to projects that have been submitted to NIH and scored, but not funded.)
Project Documentation (No page limit)	
	A cover page with the project title (which must match the IRB approval letter)
	An IRB/IACUC number (not deferred) is required at the time of submission.
	Protection of Human Subjects (for projects involving human subjects) - Applicants must include proof of IRB approval, pending review (approved with stipulations), or exemption letter.
	Animal Care Requirements (for projects involving animals) - Applicants must include IACUC approval or evidence of pending review.
	List of the collaborative team members: names, title, department, contribution to the project
	Biosketches for key personnel (NIH style)
	Citi training certificates for key personnel
	ACU training certificates for key personnel
	Budget table and justification

REVIEWERS

There will be a primary and secondary reviewer for each application. The review process will be confidential.



SCORED REVIEW CRITERIA

Grants will be scored for Overall Impact and four additional review criteria: 1) PI's qualifications, 2) significance and innovation of the proposed research, 3) methodological approach of the proposed research, and 4) environment and departmental commitment (letter of support from Chairperson) to the PI. Each criterion will receive a separate score based on a 9-point rating scale (1 = exceptional; 9 = poor) in whole numbers (no decimals) for Overall Impact and Criterion scores for all applications. As a rule, 5 is for a good medium-impact application and is considered an average score.

As applicable for each research proposal, reviewers will consider the following additional criteria in the determination of scientific and technical merit but will not give separate scores for these items: a) Protections for Human Subjects, Vertebrate Animals, and Biohazards; b) Inclusion Plans will be required for applications proposing Human Participants, c) Inclusion of sex as a biologic variable will be required from reviewers for preclinical applications and d) Budget.