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<https://www.usf.edu/research-innovation/sr/covid-19-funding/>

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## USF COVID-19 Rapid Response Research Grants Round Two Call for Proposals

**Submission Deadline: Monday, May 18, 2020 at 5:00pm**

### *Program Goals and Description*

The USF COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant Program, administered through USF Research & Innovation, is offering at least two rounds of proposal submission for funding consideration. The first round – with submissions due April 13, and awards announced one week later, on April 20, 2020 – offered tenured/tenure-track and full-time research faculty members the opportunity to apply for up to \$25,000 in funds to focus specifically on research that can be immediately initiated, completed within a short time frame (i.e., 3-6 months) and lead to the rapid submission of proposals for external funding.

**Round Two proposals** will expand transdisciplinary team approaches across departments, colleges and campuses, favor collaborations, networks and multi-PI-based projects. It will also emphasize the impact of the newly created hubs to shape the projects. This second round offers tenured/tenure-track and full-time research faculty members, who did not receive funding in the first round of Rapid Response Research Grants, the opportunity to apply for funds to focus specifically on research that can be initiated and completed **within a longer-term time frame (i.e., 6 to 12 months)** and lead to the rapid submission of proposals for external funding. In addition, these proposals should:

- Pertain to the impact on the COVID-19 pandemic
- Promote a transdisciplinary team approach across departments, colleges and campuses, involving multiple PIs from USF, as appropriate (Co-PIs may be from outside USF and may be counted as cost share. Subcontracts to outside entities are prohibited; all budget activity must remain within USF), and reflect the unique strengths of USF to contribute to a competitive landscape for funding
- Focus on at least one of the following **key COVID-19 Pandemic Response Research Network™ research hubs listed below** (for additional information on these research hubs, see <https://www.usf.edu/research-innovation/documents/covid19-task-force.pdf>)
  - Basic Research Toward Therapeutics, Diagnostics, and Vaccines
  - Behavioral, Socio-emotional, and Educational Wellbeing
  - Clinical and Translational Research
  - Environmental Health and Resiliency
  - Information, Computing and Communication Technology
  - Manufacturing, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship
  - Microbiome, Immunology, and Infection Mitigation
  - Surveillance and Epidemiology

The following will not be considered for funding under this Call for Proposals:

- Research projects conducted outside of the United States
- Legacy funding
- Sole investigator research projects
- Maintenance contracts

**For Faculty Members Who Were Not Awarded Funding in Round One**

Faculty members who applied for, but were not awarded funding in the first round of Rapid Response funding, are welcome to submit proposals for the second round. Proposals should follow the parameters below:

- Review notes from project evaluators to address areas for improvement in initial proposal
- Ensure that the proposal fits the longer-term time frame and other requirements for Round Two
- Contact Research Hub Coordinators to identify collaborators in their areas of interest and to potentially consolidate proposals, as appropriate (see list of Hub contacts at end of document)

**For Faculty Members Who Did Not Submit Proposals in Round One**

New submissions are welcomed from faculty members who did not submit proposals in the first round. We also recommend that these faculty members contact Research Hub Coordinators to identify collaborators in their areas of interest.

### *Budget Details*

The 6 to 12-month budget cap for this second round of awards is **\$25,000**. Inclusion of matching funds (e.g., RIA funds, department funds, or in-kind contributions) are strongly encouraged and will be considered in the evaluation of proposals.

### *Submission and Evaluation of Full Proposals*

Proposals for USF COVID-19 Rapid Response Research Grants Round Two may be submitted by full-time tenured/tenure-track and research faculty members at USF. **Principal Investigators must submit their proposal (electronic form) by Monday, May 18, 2020 at 5:00pm (Eastern Daylight Time) through the dedicated website (<https://www.research.usf.edu/source-forms/module-w>).**

#### Notes:

- **Accelerated submission deadline to address current pandemic**
- **Only one Full Proposal per PI will be accepted. Submit as PDF only.**

#### Proposals must include the following:

- **Contact Information:** Provide contact information for PI(s) and Co-PI(s), including Chair and Dean/Director
- **Biosketch** for each PI, Co-PI, and Co-I using NIH or NSF format (no more than two pages in length for each). As a third page of the biosketch PDF document, add a one-page list of current and pending funding. Examples of biosketches are available here: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm> or <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp>.
- **Proposal Description:** Present a detailed description of your proposal, no more than two (2) double spaced pages in length, including how this proposal aligns with the Call for Proposal key COVID-19 hubs, potential for this research to improve public health, how the proposal demonstrates transdisciplinary collaboration, why this proposal is novel, innovative, and/or inventive, and the capacity of the research to leverage targeted external funding (such as: **[COVID-19 External Research Funding Opportunities](#)**). Specifically state the sources of funding that will be pursued, including governmental agency, industry, and/or foundation grants.
- **Budget:** One-page budget for 6 to 12-month period of funding (e.g., equipment, salary, benefits, etc.). Use the budget template found at the link below and upload your budget (Summary page only) as a PDF: <https://www.usf.edu/research-innovation/train/documents/budget-preparation-tool.xlsx>
- **Budget Justification:** Explain the need for each line item in the budget, including the breakdown of calculations used to arrive at the amount in each line.

*If the specified application requirements, submission procedures, and all requested information are not provided, the proposal will not be considered for funding.*

Upon review of these proposals, selected Principal Investigators will be notified if they are awarded. It is anticipated that award announcements will be made rapidly and no later than **May 26, 2020**. Funds will be released shortly after the award is announced and investigators must be prepared to begin projects immediately upon receipt of funding.

**Project Reporting Expectations for Awardees**

Awardees will communicate any project successes such as publications, external grant applications, invention disclosures, patents or patent applications, conference presentations, creative work, press releases, licenses, etc., as soon as possible, and for up to three years beyond the initial funding period, so that they can be disseminated through USFRI.

A final report detailing the work accomplished, highlighting significant achievements and outcomes, and a plan for future work will be submitted by each awardee at the conclusion of the project period. Follow-up reports also may be requested.

## Research Hub Coordinators

- **Basic Research Toward Therapeutics, Diagnostics, and Vaccines**
  - Robert Deschenes: [rdeschen@usf.edu](mailto:rdeschen@usf.edu)
  - James Leahy: [jwleahy@usf.edu](mailto:jwleahy@usf.edu)
  - Sarah Yuan: [syuan@usf.edu](mailto:syuan@usf.edu)
  
- **Behavioral, Socio-emotional, and Educational Wellbeing**
  - Kathy Bradley-Klug: [kbradley@usf.edu](mailto:kbradley@usf.edu)
  - Ellen Daley: [edaley@usf.edu](mailto:edaley@usf.edu)
  - Howard Goldstein: [hgoldstein@usf.edu](mailto:hgoldstein@usf.edu)
  
- **Clinical and Translational Research**
  - Kami Kim: [kamikim@usf.edu](mailto:kamikim@usf.edu)
  - Usha Menon: [umenon@usf.edu](mailto:umenon@usf.edu)
  - Shyam Mohapatra: [smohapat@usf.edu](mailto:smohapat@usf.edu)
  
- **Environmental Health and Resiliency**
  - Sandy Justice: [sjustice@usf.edu](mailto:sjustice@usf.edu)
  - Steven Murawski: [smurawski@usf.edu](mailto:smurawski@usf.edu)
  
- **Information, Computing and Communication Technology**
  - Matthew Mullarkey: [mmullarkey@usf.edu](mailto:mmullarkey@usf.edu)
  - Sudeep Sarkar: [sarkar@usf.edu](mailto:sarkar@usf.edu)
  - Shivendu Shivendu: [shivendu@usf.edu](mailto:shivendu@usf.edu)
  
- **Manufacturing, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship**
  - Yogi Goswami: [goswami@usf.edu](mailto:goswami@usf.edu)
  - David Conrad: [dconrad1@usf.edu](mailto:dconrad1@usf.edu)
  - Michael Bloom: [mbloom@usf.edu](mailto:mbloom@usf.edu)
  
- **Microbiome, Immunology, and Infection Mitigation**
  - Christian Brechot: [cbrechot@usf.edu](mailto:cbrechot@usf.edu)
  - Wayne Guida: [wguida@usf.edu](mailto:wguida@usf.edu)
  - Shyam Mohapatra: [smohapat@usf.edu](mailto:smohapat@usf.edu)
  
- **Surveillance and Epidemiology**
  - Ellen Daley: [edaley@usf.edu](mailto:edaley@usf.edu)
  - Janice Zgibor: [jzgibor@usf.edu](mailto:jzgibor@usf.edu)