The Faculty Research Investment Program is designed to stimulate research/creative activities and enhance the ability of faculty to compete for external research funding.

Funds are primarily awarded to: (1) establish research/creative activity programs that will be competitive for significant external grants; (2) promote multidisciplinary research/creative activities; and (3) provide “seed” support for productive faculty members in their efforts to garner external funding during the first few years of their tenure-track appointments.

FRIP funds range from $10,000 - $25,000. Preference will be given to faculty who apply to address specific problems mentioned in critiques of a major external (> $100K) proposal or to strengthen or produce a proposal that has a high probability of attracting significant external funding.

The Office of the Vice Provost for Research strongly encourages principal investigators to involve graduate and undergraduate students in FRIP-funded research.

ELIGIBILITY

Full-time Baylor faculty, regardless of rank, are eligible to serve as principal investigators. Visiting faculty, adjunct faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and research associates are not eligible to serve as principal investigators.

Budgetary constraints preclude the continuous or long-term funding of an individual research agenda. Therefore, application by investigators who have previously received funding under the YIDP or FRIP programs requires the prior approval of the Vice Provost for Research.

Priority will be given to applicants who do not already have significant external funding.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Begin by identifying the OSP coordinator assigned to your department (http://www.baylor.edu/research/osp/index.php?id=36122). Contact your coordinator and let them know you are interested in applying for a FRIP grant.

It is neither necessary nor desirable to wait until a proposal is in its final, edited form before contacting OSP for advice, assistance with preparation of the proposal budget spreadsheet, or issuance of the proposal directory.
Your coordinator will provide you with a link to a folder in Baylor’s Box system.

Fill out the application form, save it to your computer, and upload a copy into your Box folder. IMPORTANT: Only applications submitted electronically through Box will be considered. Paper or email applications are not accepted.

After filling out the application, send your department chair and dean a link to your Box folder for their review and approval.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the principal investigator to ensure all completed proposals are approved by the unit chair and dean prior to the submission deadline. Late, incomplete or unapproved proposals will not be forwarded to the OVPR for consideration.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. Complete application form
2. Complete, peer review-quality proposal written in the format of the anticipated external funding agency
3. Project budget form completed by your OSP coordinator
4. Complete proposal routing form electronically signed by chair and dean
5. Updated curriculum vitae for all investigators
6. Any supporting materials described in application/proposal

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

Non-technical Abstract

All proposals must include an abstract, written in non-technical language and free from topic-specific jargon. The abstract, from one to two paragraphs in length, should be understandable to readers not familiar with the topic and will be published on the Research website.

Box/Acrobat

A user’s guide for utilizing Box and Acrobat can be found on the OSP website, located at: (http://www.baylor.edu/research/osp/index.php?id=15704). For additional assistance, applicants should contact their grant coordinator.

Compliance Committee Approval

Approvals from the appropriate Research Compliance Committees (e.g. Institutional Review Board, Animal Care and Use Committee, etc.) must be secured before funds will be released for use.
PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS

The FRIP project period corresponds to the Baylor fiscal year, June 1 through May 31. All project funds must be expended during the fiscal year in which they are awarded. No-cost extensions are not allowed.

Funds may not be requested for the following:

1. faculty salaries and fringe benefits;
2. supplemental pay for full-time Baylor faculty and staff;
3. travel to professional meetings or conferences to present project results;
4. expenses incurred prior to the beginning of the project period.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

Travel

Travel is an allowable expense only when it is essential to accomplish specific project objectives. In the case of authorized travel, reimbursement for transportation, lodging and meals will be in accordance with current university travel policy.

Expense reports for travel conducted on internal grants must be approved by OSP. Department approvers must submit original and electronic version of expense reports to OSP, who will approve and submit to Accounts Payable for reimbursement.

Local travel (within 100 miles) accomplished within a one-day period is an allowable expense only with prior approval from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research.

Equipment

Upon project termination, any equipment purchased with project funds will remain under the jurisdiction of the department of the principal investigator.

Interdepartmental Service

Reimbursements for interdepartmental services essential to the accomplishment of project objectives (e.g., School of Education Evaluation Center, Center for Community Research and Development, Institute for Oral History) are allowable expenditures.
Website Development

Any website or online database produced with OVPR funding must meet the following requirements:

1. The site must adhere to the Baylor ITS Website Policy and all related policies noted in that document (http://www.baylor.edu/its/index.php?id=43845)
2. Investigators who wish to use ‘Baylor’ in their site’s domain name must have prior approval from the Office of General Counsel
3. Investigators are responsible for ensuring all Baylor marks are used appropriately, as required by the Baylor Graphic Standards (http://www.baylor.edu/graphics/)
4. Just as with printed publications, websites produced with OVPR funds must display an acknowledgement that the site was funded in part by a grant from Baylor University’s Office of the Vice Provost for Research.

AWARD CONDITIONS

Grant Administration

Awards will be set up as TRAX accounts and administered through the Office of Sponsored Programs. Training on TRAX (the Baylor Financial Transactions System) is available through Information and Technology Services.

Awardees are required to conduct the project in accordance with the proposal and budget submitted with their application. Any change in research objectives or scope of work or a major budget revision requires prior approval. Please submit requests to your OSP coordinator.

Final Report

Awardees are required to submit a final project report to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research (OVPR) no later than 60 days after the project expiration date, including a brief summary of research results; extramural funding applications submitted or planned; manuscripts published, submitted or in preparation; and presentations at professional meetings. The OVPR will notify awardees and provide a format for the final report. Failure to comply with this requirement may render the investigator ineligible for future funding from the FRIP or the OVPR.

Duplicate Funding

If external funding is awarded for the approved research during the FRIP project period, all remaining funds in the FRIP grant must be relinquished immediately.
**Acknowledgement**

Any published work supported in whole or in part by a FRIP grant should acknowledge such support in the publication. Other publicity related to the project, such as Baylor PR articles, should also carry acknowledgment.

An example acknowledgement is: “This study was supported in part by funds from the Faculty Research Investment Program and the Vice Provost for Research at Baylor University.”

**Applications for External Funding**

FRIP awardees are required to submit a research proposal to an external funding agency within 12 months of the termination of their FRIP grants. Failure to comply with this requirement may render the investigator ineligible for future funding from the OVPR.