



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Dean's Advisory Council of the College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences is pleased to announce a call for proposals for the Transformative Initiative for Generating Extramural Research (TIGER) grants program.

The purpose of this program is to provide financial support for the establishment, or expansion, of collaborations that are multi-disciplinary in nature and thus lead to the development of more competitive, center-type proposals and significant collaborative proposals. These efforts should support key areas that align with the strategic priorities in the [Clemson Forward Strategic Plan](#). Proposals need not be limited to computing, engineering and applied sciences specific domains. For instance, proposal areas can include educational or training initiatives or topics that are a convergence of traditional disciplines.

The sole outcome of successful TIGER grants is the submission of significant external research proposals and as such the TIGER proposals should clearly identify this as their primary outcome. It is well understood that a firm technological and organizational foundation must exist for competitive multi-disciplinary, and perhaps multi-institutional, proposals. TIGER funding is intended to serve as a catalyst to move these projects beyond the point of criticality for highly competitive submissions. By the nature of the targeted funding, proposals must include multiple faculty from at least two different departments and proposals with participation from across engineering and science are encouraged. Multi-institutional efforts may also be supported if Clemson is listed as the primary/lead institution on the targeted proposal submission.

The primary outcome of the TIGER program is the submission of a major research proposal. This proposal may be submitted to federal agencies, foundations, or corporate consortia. The evaluation criteria for the TIGER program are primarily based on the potential for the formation of competitive teams with organizational structures that provide confidence in the delivery of high-quality targeted external proposals. PIs of current TIGER grants are not eligible to be PIs on new submissions unless they have already submitted the large external proposal targeted on their current TIGER grant. Also, faculty members who will still have start-up funds available after June 30, 2023, should use those funds to support their proposal development effort rather than requesting TIGER grant funds as a PI. TIGER proposals will be funded up to \$15,000 for teams who plan to submit large (>\$1M for 3 years) external grants in the next 12 months. Smaller awards (~\$5,000) may also be made for the development of smaller (<\$1M) external grants particularly in the areas of educational, training, and outreach initiatives for CECAS students, faculty or staff. The focus of all these efforts should be in pulling together collaborative cross-disciplinary teams that focus on convergence research, educational and engagement efforts that can be sustained so as to have the maximum impact.

The TIGER grant submission and review process will be coordinated by the Dean's Advisory Council and ADR office, with the assistance of campus leaders and others from across the institution as appropriate in proposal evaluation. The initial submission materials will be similar in format to the university-wide internal competitions, with simple boilerplate information, short and directed narratives, proposed budgets, and project timelines. Submissions will be limited to **three pages** in length. The timeline should include key dates for the targeted external proposal submission. In addition, if the target external proposal requires a letter of intent or internal competition in order to submit a full proposal, the TIGER proposal narrative and timeline should include alternative funding targets should the team not be selected for full proposal submission. Small award (<\$5,000) funding decision will be made from written proposal reviews only. Proposing teams for large

awards (>\$5,000) will also be required to make brief (5 slides/8 minutes maximum) presentations to the evaluation panel on the vision and goals of the proposed effort and the specific outcome during finals week. The forms and templates can be downloaded at the ADR [TIGER Grants site](#).

Use of Funds:

The funds cannot be used to pay faculty salaries during the academic year or summer salaries, nor can they be used to cover GAD costs. No funds are available for sub-awards to other institutions.

The TIGER funds may be used for a variety of activities including (but not limited to):

- Equipment or facility access to acquire key data
- Travel to engage program managers
- Travel to meet with collaborators from other institutions to work on proposal planning
- Hiring of proposal development staff or consultants

The TIGER grants are not intended to support student stipends. However, in rare cases, an hourly assistantship for specific project-related activities will be considered for funding only if there is a clear and detailed justification of how the student will fit into the multidisciplinary team, what the student will be expected to achieve in the limited time on the TIGER funds, how this work is absolutely necessary for the success of the eventual external submission, and why this work cannot be obtained with the student funded on some other mechanism.

Funds will be available to successful PIs as individual (numbered) accounts maintained at the college level, with no F&A or costs. Cost-share by departments, such as additional funds, instrument time, release time, staff or student support, is allowed but not required. If departmental cost-share is being provided, please explain what is being provided in the budget justification section.

Questions about the rationale and practical matters related to the TIGER program can be directed through Tracy Dodson (tdodso@clermson.edu).

Key dates:

- March 17– Call for proposals sent to faculty. Proposal submissions will be through an InfoReady competition: [View InfoReady Competition](#)
- April 07– written proposals signed and due in InfoReady by 4:30 p.m.
- April 10– faculty notified as to the presentation schedule
- April 14– slide presentation (five slides maximum) due by 4:30 p.m.
- April 18- 19– oral presentation (five slides/eight minutes maximum)
- May 03 – faculty notified of funding decisions
- **July 01, 2023 - June 2024 - funds available**

Dan Noneaker

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