

Guidelines for the Strategic Plan for Research

BACKGROUND: Texas Education Code 51.358 requires research and emerging research universities (designated via the Coordinating Board's Accountability System) to submit long-term Strategic Plans for Research to the Coordinating Board. Coordinating Board's rules (Chapter 15 Subchapter C, Sections 15.50-15.52) specify that the plan is due April 1, 2025, and an updated plan will be due not later than April 1, 2030.

DIRECTIONS: If an institution has a university-wide strategic plan or a research enterprise strategic plan, please use it as a starting point. Provide a response for each of the following items I. through IV. The purpose of the Research Strategic Plans is to outline each institution's goals and strategies. There is no need to provide extensive data, as each institution already reports data for funding purposes through a separate process, but an institution may wish to include available supplementary data that would support the goals and objectives. Please keep information succinct, and plans should be no more than 25 pages. Submit a Word document and PDF version of the plan to the Coordinating Board.

PURPOSE: The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will publish the Research Strategic Plans on the agency's website. Information about research priorities will be aggregated to help the Coordinating Board understand the research, development, and innovation priorities identified in the plans. This information will help the Coordinating Board serve as a partner, advocate, and resource to higher education institutions as they work to help Texas be the leading state in generating knowledge through basic and applied research and translating discoveries into innovations that benefit individual Texans' lives and drive economic development.

I. Plan to Elevate Research Enterprise

- a. Goals and priorities. Define and describe the institution's priorities for research, development, and innovation. How will the institution advance these priorities? For example, how do centers and institutes at the institution support these priorities?
- b. Collaborations and partnerships. How does the institution foster cooperative efforts amongst faculty across disciplines at the institution? Does the institution collaborate or partner with other Texas institutions? Describe any existing partnerships with Texas institutions or other entities, as appropriate.
- c. Economic impact. How does the institution plan to strengthen its ability to understand, explain and improve the economic impact of research? Are local or regional economic priorities emphasized? How does the institution characterize its economic impact on the region and state?

II. Plan to Increase Research Funding and Productivity

- a. External funding. How does the institution plan to increase private and federal research expenditures? How does the institution plan to increase industry sponsored research (e.g., number of industry contracts and industry-sponsored research funding)?
- b. Research facilities. If applicable, how does the institution plan to improve or expand its research facilities (e.g., research parks or other research infrastructure with incubator capabilities)?
- c. Commercialization. What is the role of technology transfer? How does the institution plan to increase its commercialization impact (e.g., patents, licenses)?

III. Doctoral Programs

- a. Doctorate Awards. How does the institution plan to maintain or increase the number of research doctorates awarded?
- b. Supports for Doctoral Candidates. How does the institution plan to provide competitive financial support to doctoral students including teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and fellowships for research priorities?
- c. Areas of emphasis. How do the institution's doctoral programs emphasize disciplines with high current or projected workforce demand?

IV. Plan for Faculty Development

- a. New faculty. How does the institution plan to recruit additional faculty who can contribute to the institution's research, development, and innovation goals? For example, does the institution have plans to use the governor's University Research Initiative or other programs for recruitment?
- b. Faculty research. How does the institution plan to assist faculty in becoming more productive, more innovative, and more effective in their research? For example, how does the institution provide support to high-potential, early-career researchers?