National Research University Fund Eligibility

September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2019

A Report to the Comptroller and the Texas Legislature

April 2020
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Agency Mission
The mission of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) is to provide leadership and coordination for Texas higher education and to promote access, affordability, quality, success, and cost efficiency through 60x30TX, resulting in a globally competitive workforce that positions Texas as an international leader.

Agency Vision
The THECB will be recognized as an international leader in developing and implementing innovative higher education policy to accomplish our mission.

Agency Philosophy
The THECB will promote access to and success in quality higher education across the state with the conviction that access and success without quality is mediocrity and that quality without access and success is unacceptable.

The THECB’s core values are:
Accountability: We hold ourselves responsible for our actions and welcome every opportunity to educate stakeholders about our policies, decisions, and aspirations.
Efficiency: We accomplish our work using resources in the most effective manner.
Collaboration: We develop partnerships that result in student success and a highly qualified, globally competent workforce.
Excellence: We strive for excellence in all our endeavors.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Please cite this report as follows: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. (2020). National Research University Fund Eligibility: September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2019. Austin, TX.
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Executive Summary

In 2009, the 81st Texas Legislature, Regular Session, passed House Bill 51, codified as Texas Education Code (TEC) Subchapter G. National Research University Fund. In 2011, House Bill 1000, 82nd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, amended TEC 62.146(b). The amendment requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to annually verify and certify information about the criteria used for determining the eligibility of higher education institutions to receive monetary distributions from the National Research University Fund (NRUF). Reports on institutional eligibility are due to the Comptroller and Legislature as soon as practicable in each state fiscal year.

The Board of the THECB adopted rules, Texas Administration Code (TAC), Title 19, Part 1, Subchapter C, Sections 15.40 to 15.44 that specify the NRUF eligibility criteria as authorized by TEC 62.145.

This report provides an update to the Comptroller and the Texas Legislature on the progress institutions are making on all eligibility criteria. The report also identifies institutions that meet or will meet the minimum requirements to become eligible to receive distributions from the NRUF. The information is summarized below:

- Eight universities are designated as emerging research universities in the THECB’s Accountability System: Texas State University, Texas Tech University, The University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Texas at Dallas, The University of Texas at El Paso, The University of Texas at San Antonio, University of Houston, and University of North Texas.

- Texas Tech University and University of Houston data are not included in the report, as both institutions met eligibility in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 and began receiving distributions from the NRUF. Each institution received $16.3 million for the 2012-13 biennium, $17.9 million for the 2014-15 biennium, and $16.9 million for the 2016-17 biennium. The University of Texas at Dallas data are not included in the report, as the institution met eligibility in FY 2018 and also began receiving distributions from the NRUF. Each of the three institutions received $15.4 million for the 2018-19 biennium and $8.2 million in FY 2020.

- The University of Texas at Arlington reported restricted research expenditures above the threshold of $45 million in FY 2018 and 2019. In addition, for FY 2019 alone, the institution fulfilled the required four of six optional criteria:
  - Criterion 2: Doctor of Philosophy Degrees Awarded (fulfilled in FY 2018 and 2019)
  - Criterion 3: Freshman Class of High Academic Achievement (fulfilled in FY 2018 and 2019)
  - Criterion 4: Institutional Recognition of Research Capabilities and Scholarly Attainment (fulfilled in FY 2018 and 2019)
  - Criterion 5: High-Quality Faculty (fulfilled in FY 2019)

If the institution fulfills those criteria in FY 2020, for a second consecutive year, the institution would be eligible for fund distribution in FY 2021, pending the requirement to undergo an audit conducted by the State Auditor’s Office in FY 2021.
• The University of Texas at El Paso reported restricted research expenditures above the threshold of $45 million in FY 2018 and 2019, which is the mandatory requirement to receive distributions from NRUF. The institution did not fulfill the required four of six optional criteria either year.

• The University of Texas at San Antonio reached $44.1 million in restricted research expenditures in FY 2019. Should the institution reach $45 million in the following years, the institution will seek to reach the four required optional criteria by including Criterion 5, High-Quality Faculty, through succeeding in a comprehensive review of faculty in five doctoral programs. The institution may also seek to include Criterion 6, High-Quality Graduate Education, which could be fulfilled by passing a comprehensive review of five doctoral programs. The earliest the institution would be eligible for fund distribution is FY 2022, pending the requirement to undergo an audit conducted by the State Auditor’s Office in FY 2022.

• Texas State University and the University of North Texas are not expected to reach the mandatory threshold in restricted research expenditures in FY 2020.
I. Introduction

In 2009, the 81st Texas Legislature, Regular Session, passed House Bill 51, codified as Texas Education Code (TEC) Subchapter G. National Research University Fund, Sections 62.141 to 62.149 (Appendix A). In 2011, the 82nd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, passed House Bill 1000, which amended TEC 62.146(b). The amendment requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to verify and certify information annually about criteria used for determining the eligibility of higher education institutions to receive monetary distributions from the National Research University Fund (NRUF). Reports on institutional eligibility are due to the Comptroller and Legislature as soon as practicable in each state fiscal year.

At its October 2011 meeting, the Board of the THECB adopted rules, Texas Administration Code (TAC), Title 19, Part 1, Subchapter C, Sections 15.40 to 15.44 that specify the NRUF eligibility criteria as authorized by TEC 62.145 (Appendix B).

At its April 2016 meeting, the Board of the THECB amended Section 15.43 of Board rules to clarify: (a) academic achievement of a freshman class, (b) faculty distinctions are counted for each of the two years measured, and (c) faculty awards of distinction are counted only in the year the award was given.

At its October 2019 meeting, the Board of the THECB amended Section 15.43 of Board rules to change and correct (a) the minimum 75th percentile score for the SAT effective with the fall 2017 semester, based on the concordance table for scores prior to and since fall 2017, as provided by the THECB, (b) the names for the academies that provide awards of national and international distinction to faculty, and (c) the names for faculty awards of distinction.

A staff recommendation to amend the statute for NRUF is listed in Appendix C. The statute change pertains to the name of the state’s previous and current higher education strategic plan.

This report provides an update to the Comptroller and the Texas Legislature on the progress institutions are making on all criteria. The report includes data from Fiscal Years (FY) 2018 and 2019. Eligibility criteria require data for the two fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which an appropriation is made, which is FY 2020 for this report. The next report, due in FY 2021, will include data from FY 2019 and FY 2020.

The NRUF statute created two categories of eligibility criteria: mandatory and optional. The mandatory criteria include designation as an “emerging research university” in the THECB’s Accountability System and at least $45 million in restricted research expenditures in each of the two state fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made. The optional category allows institutions flexibility in meeting the criteria: An institution must meet four of the six statutorily established criteria. No institution reached the eligibility criteria for two consecutive years with the FY 2020 review.

Eight universities are designated as emerging research universities in the THECB’s Accountability System: Texas State University (TXST), Texas Tech University (TTU), The University of Texas at Arlington (UT-Arlington), The University of Texas at Dallas (UT-Dallas), The University of Texas at El Paso (UT-El Paso), The University of Texas at San Antonio (UT-San Antonio), University of Houston (UH), and University of North Texas (UNT).

In the FY 2012 NRUF Report, the THECB reported that TTU and UH met eligibility. Both institutions received distributions from the NRUF after the mandatory audit, in accordance with
TEC 62.146(c), was conducted and completed by the state auditor. Similarly, UT-Dallas reached eligibility in FY 2018.

UT-Arlington and UT-El Paso reported restricted research expenditures at or above the statutory threshold of $45 million for two years in a row, for FY 2018 and 2019. However, neither institution fulfilled the required four of six optional criteria for two years in a row.

Section II of the report provides an overview of the eligibility criteria and shows the criteria that universities met for two years. Sections III and IV present specific data related to mandatory and optional eligibility criteria, respectively.

II. Overview of Eligibility

Table 1 presents the eligibility criteria each institution met for two years during the reporting period. An emerging research university must meet the threshold for restricted research expenditures and four of the six optional criteria identified in TAC Sections 15.43(b)(3)(A) to 15.43(b)(3)(F) (Appendix B). The following pages provide the definition of each criterion and the data for each university toward achieving that criterion.

Table 1. Mandatory and Optional Criteria, Fulfilled in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Criteria</th>
<th>TXST</th>
<th>UT-Arlington</th>
<th>UT-El Paso</th>
<th>UT-San Antonio</th>
<th>UNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) Emerging Research University</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) Restricted Research Expenditures</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional Criteria</th>
<th>TXST</th>
<th>UT-Arlington</th>
<th>UT-El Paso</th>
<th>UT-San Antonio</th>
<th>UNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Endowment Funds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Number of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degrees Awarded</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Freshman Class of High Academic Achievement</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Institutional Recognition of Research Capabilities and Scholarly Attainment</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) High-Quality Faculty</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) High-Quality Graduate Education</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. Mandatory Eligibility Criteria

(A) Emerging Research University

TAC 15.43(b)(1): The institution is designated as an emerging research university under the Coordinating Board's accountability system.

Eight public universities are classified as “emerging research universities” under the THECB’s Accountability System:¹

- Texas State University (TXST)
- Texas Tech University (TTU)
- The University of Texas at Arlington (UT-Arlington)
- The University of Texas at Dallas (UT-Dallas)
- The University of Texas at El Paso (UT-El Paso)
- The University of Texas at San Antonio (UT-San Antonio)
- University of Houston (UH)
- University of North Texas (UNT)

(B) Restricted Research Expenditures

TAC 15.43(b)(2): In each of the two state fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the institution expended at least $45 million in restricted research funds.

Figure 1. Restricted Research Expenditures²

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendix E).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

¹ As of Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, TTU and UH, and as of FY 2018, UT-Dallas met eligibility criteria and began receiving distributions from NRUF, following the mandatory audit conducted by the state auditor. Thus, this report does not include data from these three institutions.
² The un-truncated value for UT-Arlington for 2018 is $45,381,710.
IV. Optional Eligibility Criteria

(1) Endowment Funds

TAC 15.43(b)(3)(A): The value of the institution's endowment funds is at least $400 million in each of the two state fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made.

Figure 2. Endowment Funds

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendix H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

(2) Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degrees Awarded

TAC 15.43(b)(3)(B): The institution awarded at least 200 doctor of philosophy degrees during each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made.

Figure 3. Number of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degrees Awarded

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendix H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

3 Values for UT-San Antonio and UNT were rounded by the institutions to nearest whole number of million dollars.
(3) Freshman Class of High Academic Achievement

TAC 15.43(b)(3)(C): In each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the entering freshman class of the institution demonstrated high academic achievement as reflected in the following criteria:

a. Percent of Freshman Class in Top 25 Percent of their High School Class

(i) At least 50 percent of the first-time entering freshman class students at the institution are in the top 25 percent of their high school class; or (ii) and (iii).

Figure 4. Percent of Freshman Class in Top 25 Percent of High School Class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>FY18 (Fall 2017)</th>
<th>FY19 (Fall 2018)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TXST</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-Arlington</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-El Paso</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-San Antonio</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendix H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

\[\text{The un-truncated value for TXSU for FY 2018 is 50.83 percent.}\]
b. SAT or ACT Scores

(ii) The average SAT score of first-time entering freshman class students at or above the 75th percentile of SAT scores was equal to or greater than 1210 prior to fall 2017, consisting of the Critical Reading (CR) and Mathematics (M) Components, or equal to or greater than 1280 starting with fall 2017, consisting of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Mathematics (M) Components, or the average ACT score of first-time entering freshman class students at or above the 75th percentile of ACT scores was equal to or greater than 26; and (iii).

Figure 5. SAT Scores

![SAT Scores Chart]

Source: The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) (Appendices D and H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

Figure 6. ACT Scores

![ACT Scores Chart]

Source: The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) (Appendix H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.
c. Institutional Commitment to Improving the Participation and Success of Underrepresented Students

(iii) The composition of the institution's first-time entering freshman class demonstrates progress toward reflecting the population of the state or the institution's region with respect to underrepresented students and shows a commitment to improving the academic performance of underrepresented students. One way in which this could be accomplished is by active participation in one of the Federal TRIO Programs, such as having one or more McNair Scholars in a particular cohort.

Table 2. Institutional Commitment and Progress Toward Improving the Academic Performance of Underrepresented Students, Fiscal Year 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Demonstrated Commitment and Progress to Improve Performance of Underrepresented Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas State University</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at Arlington</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at El Paso</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at San Antonio</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendices E and H).

(4) Institutional Recognition of Research Capabilities and Scholarly Attainment

TAC 15.43(b)(3)(D): The institution is designated as a member of the Association of Research Libraries, has a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, or is a member of Phi Kappa Phi.

Table 3. Institutional Recognition of Research Capabilities and Scholarly Attainment, Fiscal Year 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Association of Research Libraries</th>
<th>Phi Beta Kappa</th>
<th>Phi Kappa Phi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas State University</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at Arlington</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at El Paso</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at San Antonio</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Membership data reported by the associations (Appendix H).

5 See Appendix E for types of initiatives reported by the institutions.
(5) High-Quality Faculty

TAC 15.43(b)(3)(E): In each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the faculty of the institution was of high quality as reflected in the following:

a. National Academy Members or Nobel Prize Recipients

(i) There must be five or more recognitions of national or international distinction of tenured/tenure-track faculty through membership in one of the National Academies (including National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and National Academy of Medicine), the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, or through receiving a Nobel Prize; or (ii).

Figure 7. National Academy Members and Nobel Prize Recipients

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendices F and H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

See Appendix F for list of awardees.
b. Other Faculty Awards

(ii) The annual number of awards of national and international distinction received by tenured/tenure-track faculty during a given academic year in any of the following categories is equal to or greater than seven for each year.7

Figure 8. Other Faculty Awards8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TXST</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-Arlington</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-El Paso</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-San Antonio</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNT</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendices G and H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

(c) Comprehensive Review of Faculty in Five Doctoral Programs

(iii) In lieu of meeting either clause (i) or (ii) of this subparagraph, an institution may request that a comprehensive review of the faculty in five of the institution's Doctoral degree programs be conducted by external consultants selected by Coordinating Board staff in consultation with the institution, and said review must demonstrate that the faculty are comparable to and competitive with faculty in similar programs at public institutions in the Association of American Universities. Costs for the review shall be borne by the institution. This review is only available if the institution has already met or, as determined by Coordinating Board staff, is on track to meet three of the other eligibility criteria listed in subparagraphs (A) - (D) of this paragraph.

Note: Regarding measure 15.43(b)(3)(E)(iii), no institution requested a comprehensive review of faculty in five doctoral programs during the reporting period.

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7 See Appendix B for list of categories.
8 See Appendix G for list of awardees.
(6) High-Quality Graduate Education

TAC 15.43(b)(3)(F): In each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the institution has demonstrated a commitment to high-quality graduate education as reflected in the following:

a. Graduate Programs

(i) The number of graduate-level programs at the institution is equal to or greater than 50; and (ii) and (iii)

Figure 9. Number of Graduate-Level Programs

Source: THECB program inventory (Appendix H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.
b. Master’s and Doctoral Graduation Rates

(ii) The Master’s Graduation Rate at the institution is 56 percent or higher and the Doctoral Graduation Rate is 58 percent or higher; and (iii)

**Figure 10. Master’s Graduation Rates**

![Bar chart showing Master's Graduation Rates for different institutions over two fiscal years.](image)

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendix H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.

**Figure 11. Doctoral Graduation Rates**

![Bar chart showing Doctoral Graduation Rates for different institutions over two fiscal years.](image)

Source: Institutional data reported to the THECB (Appendix H).
Note: A solid bar indicates that the institution met the required threshold for the measure for that fiscal year.
c. Comprehensive Review of Five Doctoral Programs

(iii) The institution must demonstrate that the overall commitment to five Doctoral degree programs, including the financial support for Doctoral degree students, is competitive with that of comparable high-quality programs at public institutions in the Association of American Universities. The five Doctoral degree programs selected for this review must be those selected in subparagraph (E)(iii) of this paragraph or, if subparagraph (E)(iii) of this paragraph is not chosen by the institution, then any five Doctoral degree programs at the institution. Costs for the review shall be borne by the institution.

Note: Regarding measure 15.43(b)(3)(F)(iii), no institution requested a comprehensive review of five doctoral programs during the reporting period.
V. Conclusions

The information in this status report on National Research University Fund (NRUF) eligibility is summarized below.

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, eight universities were designated as emerging research universities in the THECB’s Accountability System: Texas State University (TXST), Texas Tech University (TTU), The University of Texas at Arlington (UT-Arlington), The University of Texas at Dallas (UT-Dallas), The University of Texas at El Paso (UT-El Paso), The University of Texas at San Antonio (UT-San Antonio), University of Houston (UH), and University of North Texas (UNT).

- TTU, UH, and UT-Dallas data are not included in the report, as the first two institutions met eligibility in FY 2012 and UT-Dallas met eligibility in FY 2018.

- The UT-Arlington and UT-El Paso reported restricted research expenditures above the threshold of $45 million in FY 2019, which is a mandatory requirement to receive distributions from the NRUF. UT-El Paso also exceeded the threshold in FY 2018 but did not fulfill four of the six optional criteria that year.

- None of the remaining emerging research universities reported restricted research expenditures at or above the threshold of $45 million in FY 2019.

TEC 62.146(b) requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to verify and certify information about criteria used for determining the eligibility of higher education institutions to receive monetary distributions from the NRUF each state fiscal year. The next report will include data from FY 2019 and FY 2020. The THECB will submit that report in early 2021.
Appendix A: Texas Education Code

TITLE 3. HIGHER EDUCATION
SUBTITLE B. STATE COORDINATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
CHAPTER 62, SUBCHAPTER G. NATIONAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY FUND

Sec. 62.141. PURPOSE. The purpose of this subchapter is to allocate appropriations from the national research university fund to provide a dedicated, independent, and equitable source of funding to enable emerging research universities in this state to achieve national prominence as major research universities.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.

Sec. 62.142. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:
(1) "Eligible institution" means a general academic teaching institution that is eligible to receive distributions of money under this subchapter.
(2) "Endowment funds" means funds treated as endowment funds under the coordinating board's accountability system.
(3) "Fund" means the national research university fund.
(4) "General academic teaching institution" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.

Sec. 62.143. ADMINISTRATION AND INVESTMENT OF FUND. (a) The national research university fund is a fund outside the state treasury in the custody of the comptroller.
(b) The comptroller shall administer and invest the fund in accordance with Section 43T2043T, Article VII, Texas Constitution.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.

Sec. 62.144. FUNDING. (a) The fund consists of any amounts appropriated or transferred to the credit of the fund under the Texas Constitution or otherwise appropriated or transferred to the credit of the fund under this section or another law.
(b) The comptroller shall deposit to the credit of the fund all interest, dividends, and other income earned from investment of the fund.
(c) The comptroller may accept gifts or grants from any public or private source for the fund.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.
Sec. 62.145. ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM FUND. (a) A general academic teaching institution becomes eligible to receive an initial distribution of money appropriated under this subchapter for a state fiscal year if:

(1) the institution is designated as an emerging research university under the coordinating board's accountability system;

(2) in each of the two state fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the institution expended at least $45 million in restricted research funds; and

(3) the institution satisfies at least four of the following criteria:

(A) the value of the institution's endowment funds is at least $400 million in each of the two state fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made;

(B) the institution awarded at least 200 doctor of philosophy degrees during each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made;

(C) the entering freshman class of the institution for each of those two academic years demonstrated high academic achievement, as determined according to standards prescribed by the coordinating board by rule, giving consideration to the future educational needs of the state as articulated in the coordinating board's "Closing the Gaps" report;

(D) the institution is designated as a member of the Association of Research Libraries or has a Phi Beta Kappa chapter or has received an equivalent recognition of research capabilities and scholarly attainment as determined according to standards prescribed by the coordinating board by rule;

(E) the faculty of the institution for each of those two academic years was of high quality, as determined according to coordinating board standards based on the professional achievement and recognition of the institution's faculty, including the election of faculty members to national academies; and

(F) for each of those two academic years, the institution has demonstrated a commitment to high-quality graduate education, as determined according to standards prescribed by the coordinating board by rule, including standards relating to the number of graduate-level programs at the institution, the institution's admission standards for graduate programs, and the level of institutional support for graduate students.

(b) A general academic teaching institution that becomes eligible to receive a distribution of money under this subchapter remains eligible to receive a distribution in each subsequent state fiscal year.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009. Amended by: Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1131 (H.B. 1000), Sec. 1, eff. June 17, 2011.

Sec. 62.146. ACCOUNTING STANDARDS; VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION. (a) The coordinating board by rule shall prescribe standard methods of accounting and standard methods of reporting information for the purpose of determining:

(1) the eligibility of institutions under Section 62.145; and

(2) the amount of restricted research funds expended by an eligible institution in a state fiscal year.
(b) As soon as practicable in each state fiscal year, based on information submitted by the institutions to the coordinating board as required by the coordinating board, the coordinating board shall certify to the comptroller and the legislature verified information relating to the criteria established by Section 62.145 to be used to determine which institutions are eligible for distributions of money from the fund.

(c) Information submitted to the coordinating board by institutions for purposes of establishing eligibility under this subchapter and the coordinating board's certification or verification of that information under this section are subject to a mandatory audit by the state auditor in accordance with Chapter 321, Government Code. The coordinating board may also request one or more audits by the state auditor as necessary or appropriate at any time after an eligible institution begins receiving distributions under this subchapter. Each audit must be based on an examination of all or a representative sample of the restricted research funds awarded to the institution and the institution's expenditures of those funds, and must include, among other elements:

1. verification of the amount of restricted research funds expended by the institution in the appropriate state fiscal year or years; and
2. verification of compliance by the institution and the coordinating board with the standard methods of accounting and standard methods of reporting prescribed by the coordinating board under Subsection (a), including verification of:
   A. the institution's compliance with the coordinating board's standards and accounting methods for reporting expenditures of restricted research funds; and
   B. whether the institution's expenditures meet the coordinating board's definition of restricted research expenditures.

(d) From money appropriated from the fund, the comptroller shall reimburse the state auditor for the expenses of any audits conducted under Subsection (c).

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Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.
Amended by: Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1131 (H.B. 1000), Sec. 2, eff. June 17, 2011.

Sec. 62.147. INELIGIBILITY OF INSTITUTIONS RECEIVING PERMANENT UNIVERSITY FUND SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE. The University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University are ineligible to receive money under this subchapter.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.

Sec. 62.148. DISTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS. (a) In each state fiscal year, the comptroller shall distribute to eligible institutions in accordance with this section money appropriated from the fund for that fiscal year.

(b) The total amount appropriated from the fund for any state fiscal year may not exceed an amount equal to 4.5 percent of the average net market value of the investment assets of the fund for the 12 consecutive state fiscal quarters ending with the last quarter of the preceding state fiscal year, as determined by the comptroller.

(b-1) Expired.

(c) Subject to Subsection (e), of the total amount appropriated from the fund for distribution in a state fiscal year, each eligible institution is entitled to a distribution in an amount equal to the sum of:

1. one-seventh of the total amount appropriated; and

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(2) an equal share of any amount remaining after distributions are calculated under Subdivision (1), not to exceed an amount equal to one-fourth of that remaining amount.

(d) The comptroller shall retain within the fund any portion of the total amount appropriated from the fund for distribution that remains after all distributions are made for a state fiscal year as prescribed by Subsection (c). The appropriation of that retained amount lapses at the end of that state fiscal year.

(e) If the number of institutions that are eligible for distributions in a state fiscal year is more than four, each eligible institution is entitled to an equal share of the total amount appropriated from the fund for distribution in that fiscal year.

(f) For purposes of this section, the total amount appropriated from the fund for distribution in a state fiscal year does not include any portion of the amount appropriated that is used to reimburse the costs of an audit conducted under Section 62.146(c).

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.
Amended by: Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1131 (H.B. 1000), Sec. 3, eff. June 17, 2011.

Sec. 62.149. USE OF ALLOCATED AMOUNTS. (a) An eligible institution may use money received under this subchapter only for the support and maintenance of educational and general activities that promote increased research capacity at the institution.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a), the use of money shall be limited to the following permitted activities:

(1) providing faculty support and paying faculty salaries;
(2) purchasing equipment or library materials;
(3) paying graduate stipends; and
(4) supporting research performed at the institution, including undergraduate research.

(c) Money received in a fiscal year by an institution under this subchapter that is not used in that fiscal year by the institution may be held and used by the institution in subsequent fiscal years for the purposes prescribed by this section.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 287 (H.B. 51), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2009.
Appendix B: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rules

Chapter 15. National Research Universities
Subchapter C. National Research University Fund

15.40 Purpose
15.41 Authority
15.42 Definitions
15.43 Eligibility
15.44 Accounting and Reporting

15.40. Purpose

This subchapter establishes rules for eligible institutions to receive funds under the National Research University Fund, which is established to support emerging research universities to achieve national prominence as major research universities.

15.41. Authority

Authority for this subchapter is provided by Texas Education Code, Section 62.145 - 62.146, which directs the Coordinating Board to adopt standards for the purposes of determining an institution’s eligibility for funding from the National Research University Fund (NRUF) and authorizes the Board to adopt rules for the standard methods of accounting and standard methods of reporting information for the purpose of determining eligibility of institutions to receive funds under the NRUF.

15.42. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) Coordinating Board or Board--The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2) Doctoral degree--An academic degree beyond the level of a master's degree that typically represents the highest level of formal study or research in a given field, e.g., a Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Musical Arts, Doctor of Engineering, Doctor of Public Health, Doctor of Nursing Practice.

(3) Eligible institution--A general academic teaching institution that is eligible and meets the Coordinating Board's standards to receive distributions of money under the NRUF.

(4) Emerging research university--A public institution of higher education designated as an emerging research university under the Board's accountability system.

(5) Endowment funds--Funds treated as total endowment funds under the Board's
accountability system.

(6) Fund--The National Research University Fund (NRUF).

(7) General academic teaching institution--As defined in Texas Education Code, §61.003.

(8) Graduate-level program--Degree programs leading to master's, professional, and/or doctoral degree.

(9) Master's degree--An academic degree that requires the successful completion of a program of study of at least 30 semester credit hours or the equivalent at the post-baccalaureate, graduate, or professional level.

(10) Master's Graduation Rate--The Master's Graduation Rate is the percent of students in an entering fall and spring cohort for a specific degree program who graduate within five years.

(11) Doctoral Graduation Rate--The Doctoral Graduation Rate is the percent of students in an entering fall cohort for a specific degree program who graduate within 10 years. Doctoral graduation rates do not include students who received a master's degree.

(12) Restricted funds (restricted awards)--As defined in §13.122 of this title (relating to Definitions).


15.43. Eligibility

(a) The eligibility criteria for a general academic teaching institution to receive distributions from the Fund include: having an entering freshman class of high academic achievement; receiving recognition of research capabilities and scholarly attainment of the institution; having a high-quality faculty; and demonstrating commitment to high-quality graduate education.

(b) A general academic teaching institution is eligible to receive an initial distribution from the Fund appropriated for each state fiscal year if:

(1) institution is designated as an emerging research university under the Coordinating Board's accountability system;

(2) in each of the two state fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the institution expended at least $45 million in restricted research funds; and

(3) the institution satisfies at least four of the following six criteria:

(A) the value of the institution's endowment funds is at least $400 million in
each of the two state fiscal years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made;

(B) the institution awarded at least 200 doctor of philosophy degrees during each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made;

(C) in each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the entering freshman class of the institution demonstrated high academic achievement as reflected in the following criteria;

(i) At least 50 percent of the first-time entering freshman class students at the institution are in the top 25 percent of their high school class; or

(ii) The average SAT score of first-time entering freshman class students at or above the 75th percentile of SAT scores was equal to or greater than 1210 prior to fall 2017, consisting of the Critical Reading (CR) and Mathematics (M) Components, or equal to or greater than 1280 starting with fall 2017, consisting of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Mathematics (M) Components, or the average ACT score of first-time entering freshman class students at or above the 75th percentile of ACT scores was equal to or greater than 26; and

(iii) The composition of the institution's first-time entering freshman class demonstrates progress toward reflecting the population of the state or the institution's region with respect to underrepresented students and shows a commitment to improving the academic performance of underrepresented students. One way in which this could be accomplished is by active participation in one of the Federal TRIO Programs, such as having one or more McNair Scholars in a particular cohort.

(D) the institution is designated as a member of the Association of Research Libraries, has a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, or is a member of Phi Kappa Phi;

(E) in each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the faculty of the institution was of high quality as reflected in the following:

(i) There must be five or more recognitions of national or international distinction of tenured/tenure-track faculty through membership in one of the National Academies (including National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and National Academy of Medicine), the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, or through receiving a Nobel Prize; or
The annual number of awards of national and international distinction received by tenured/tenure-track faculty during a given academic year in any of the following categories is equal to or greater than 7 for each year.

(I) American Academy of Nursing Fellows
(II) American Council of Learned Societies Fellows
(III) American Law Institute Members
(IV) Beckman Young Investigators
(V) Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Award Winners
(VI) Cottrell Scholars
(VII) Getty Scholars in Residence
(VIII) Guggenheim Fellows
(IX) Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigators
(X) Lasker Medical Research Award Winners
(XI) MacArthur Foundation Fellows
(XII) Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Distinguished Achievement Award Winners
(XIII) National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows
(XIV) National Humanities Center Fellows
(XV) National Institutes of Health (R37) Winners
(XVI) National Medal of Science Winners
(XVII) National Medal of Technology and Innovation Winners
(XVIII) National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winners (excluding those who are also PECASE winners)
(XIX) Newberry Library Long-term Fellows
(XX) Pew Scholars in Biomedicine
(XXI) Pulitzer Prize Winners
(XXII) Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) Winners
(XXIII) Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellows
(XXIV) Searle Scholars
(XXV) Sloan Research Fellows
(XXVI) Fellows of the Woodrow Wilson Center

In lieu of meeting either clause (i) or (ii) of this subparagraph, an institution may request that a comprehensive review of the faculty in five of the institution's Doctoral degree programs be conducted by external consultants selected by Coordinating Board staff in consultation with the institution, and said review must demonstrate that the faculty are comparable to and competitive with faculty in similar programs at public institutions in the Association of American Universities. Costs for the review shall be borne by the institution.
This review is only available if the institution has already met or, as determined by Coordinating Board staff, is on track to meet three of the other eligibility criteria listed in subparagraphs (A) - (D) of this paragraph;

(F) in each of the two academic years preceding the state fiscal year for which the appropriation is made, the institution has demonstrated a commitment to high-quality graduate education as reflected in the following:

(i) The number of Graduate-level programs at the institution is equal to or greater than 50;

(ii) The Master’s Graduation Rate at the institution is 56 percent or higher and the Doctoral Graduation Rate is 58 percent or higher; and

(iii) The institution must demonstrate that the overall commitment to five Doctoral degree programs, including the financial support for Doctoral degree students, is competitive with that of comparable high-quality programs at public institutions in the Association of American Universities. The five Doctoral degree programs selected for this review must be those selected in subparagraph (E)(iii) of this paragraph or, if subparagraph (E)(iii) of this paragraph is not chosen by the institution, then any five Doctoral degree programs at the institution. Costs for the review shall be borne by the institution.

15.44. Accounting and Reporting

(a) Emerging research universities shall report data pertaining to this subchapter according to the procedures outlined in the Coordinating Board’s reporting manuals.

(b) As soon as practicable in each state fiscal year, the Coordinating Board shall certify to the comptroller and the legislature verified information relating to the criteria established by Texas Education Code §62.145, which are addressed in this subchapter, to be used to determine which institutions are eligible for distributions of money from the Fund.

(c) Information submitted by institutions for the purpose of establishing eligibility is subject to a mandatory audit by the state auditor in accordance with Government Code, Chapter 321. The Coordinating Board reserves the right to request additional audits by the state auditor as deem necessary and appropriate at any time after an eligible institution begins receiving distributions.
Appendix C: Proposed Statute Update

A statute change is recommended to be made by the Texas Legislature. The THECB proposes the following update to the Texas Education Code. The update reflects the fact that the state’s plan, Closing the Gaps ended in 2015. The state’s current plan, 60x30TX, is expected to last until 2030. It is proposed that the plan’s name be removed. Anticipated implementation date: spring 2021, 87th Texas Legislature.

NRUF statute with suggested update:
Sec. 62.145. ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM FUND.
(C) the entering freshman class of the institution for each of those two academic years demonstrated high academic achievement, as determined according to standards prescribed by the coordinating board by rule, giving consideration to the future educational needs of the state as articulated in the coordinating board’s “Closing the Gaps” report state’s plan;

The new statute section would read:
Sec. 62.145. ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM FUND.
(C) the entering freshman class of the institution for each of those two academic years demonstrated high academic achievement, as determined according to standards prescribed by the coordinating board by rule, giving consideration to the future educational needs of the state as articulated in the state’s plan;
Appendix D: SAT Scores

The College Board changed the SAT test and scoring in 2016, affecting fall 2017 data for the first time. In prior years, the test had three components: Critical Reading (CR), Writing (W), and Math (M). Each component scored from 400 to 800. Since fall 2017, the test has two components: Evidence-based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Math (M). Again, each component scores from 400 to 800. Total maximum score for the old test was 2400; total maximum score for the new test is 1600.

The NRUF criterion from TAC section 15.43(b)(3)(C)(ii) was defined for the old SAT test by using the sum of the Critical Reading (CR) and Math (M) components only, for a combined maximum score of 1600. The NRUF threshold for fulfilling this criterion was 1210.

Scores from the new SAT test can be combined, using Evidence-based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Math (M), for a combined maximum score of 1600. A concordance table can be used to convert new SAT scores into old scores (Table 4). The equivalent new SAT threshold for the previous NRUF criterion is 1280. The concordance table was accessed at the College Board webpage (https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/educators/higher-ed/scoring/concordance) in February 2019.
Table 4. Concordance Table for Scores Starting with Fall 2017, Combined Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Math (M), to Pre-Fall 2017 SAT Scores, Combined Critical Reading (CR) and Math (M)

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Appendix E: Report on High Academic Achievement of Entering Freshman Class

To complete the NRUF eligibility certification report, THECB staff need information from institutions regarding the Institutional Commitment to Improving the Academic Performance of Underrepresented Students (Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 15, Subchapter C, section 15.43 (3) (C) (iii)). This report may fulfill a partial requirement of the optional criteria “Freshman Class of High Academic Achievement” for NRUF eligibility.

The information required must illustrate that the composition of an institution’s first-time entering freshman class demonstrates progress toward reflecting the population of the state or the institution’s region with respect to underrepresented students and shows a commitment to improving the academic performance of underrepresented students.

Institutions were asked to include the following components in their reports:

1. **Representation of Underrepresented Students.** Comparison data of first-time entering freshman class to demographic data of the state and/or the institution’s region. Show progress of representation of underrepresented students quantitatively and longitudinally for a minimum of seven years. Data may reflect specific underrepresented students for which progress is sought.

2. **Commitment to Improving the Academic Performance of Underrepresented Students.** Description of initiatives that demonstrate the institution’s commitment to improving the academic performance of underrepresented students. For each initiative, provide a title, one or more defined goals (possibly quantitative), and any outcome(s), which will serve as objective criteria for demonstrating the institution’s commitment. If an initiative is directed toward the general student population, the goal(s) and outcome(s) should also specifically address how it benefits underrepresented students. In response to the 60x30TX plan, classify each initiative under one of the following:
   a. promoting college attainment to underrepresented middle and high school students and their guardians;
   b. increasing completion rates of underrepresented students, including initiatives reducing the time to degree;
   c. addressing the student debt burden for underrepresented students;
   d. focusing on education programs for educationally underserved adults and/or stop-outs from underrepresented groups; and/or
   e. other strategic initiatives that show a commitment to improving the academic performance of underrepresented students.

Institutions were asked to limit the length of the report to one page per initiative. There was no limit on the number of initiatives that could have been submitted.
Appendix F: Detailed List of National Academy Members and Nobel Prize Recipients

Table 5. Detailed List of National Academy Members and Nobel Prize Recipients, Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Faculty Awards</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas State University</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at Arlington</td>
<td>Dereje Agonafer</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Florence P. Haseltine</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>David R. Nygren</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kenneth L. Reifsnider</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Surendra P. Shah</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at El Paso</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas at San Antonio</td>
<td>Rena Bizios</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Micheal J. Yaszemski</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>Michael I. Baskes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard A. Dixon</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James C. Williams</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix G: Detailed List of Other Faculty Awards

### Table 6. Detailed List of Other Faculty Awards, Fiscal Year 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Faculty Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas State University</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Czocher</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The University of Texas at Arlington</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animesh Chakravarthy</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He Dong</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenton Rambsy</td>
<td>Fellow of the Woodrow Wilson Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The University of Texas at El Paso</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Gunn</td>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Kikenveld</td>
<td>Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skye Fortier</td>
<td>Sloan Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The University of Texas at San Antonio</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor Maldonado</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>University of North Texas</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 7. Detailed List of Other Faculty Awards, Fiscal Year 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Faculty Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas State University</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The University of Texas at Arlington</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyungsuk Yum</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jia Rao</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animesh Chakravarthy</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Smits</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The University of Texas at El Paso</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hsueh-Fen Kao</td>
<td>American Academy of Nursing Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The University of Texas at San Antonio</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexis Godet</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bing Dong</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikolaos Gatsis</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teja Guda</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xiaoyin Wang</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>University of North Texas</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eduardo Blanco</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ifana Mahbub</td>
<td>National Science Foundation CAREER Award Winner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix H: Sources and Methodologies for Quantitative Measures

The appendix lists data sources and methodologies of data compilation for each section of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) for the National Research University Fund (NRUF) eligibility criteria.

The data types for all NRUF criteria are indicated below. The data type is either real, integer, or yes/no. If the data type is real, fulfillment of eligibility requirement is based on the truncated whole number. The number is truncated, according to standard practice, to the closest whole number that is equivalent to the number of the criteria’s threshold. For example, the threshold for the restricted research expenditure is $45 million. Expenditures larger or equal to $45,000,000 and smaller or equal to $45,999,999 are truncated to $45 million. Expenditures smaller or equal to $44,999,999 and larger or equal to $44,000,000 are truncated to $44 million. Truncation of real numbers is utilized starting with the FY 2019 report, based on a suggestion by the State Auditor’s Office during its FY 2018 audit of UT-Dallas data. For earlier reports, real numbers were rounded to the closest whole number.

Emerging Research Universities
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(1)
Source: http://www.txhigheredaccountability.org/AcctPublic/Resources/PeerGroup
Methodology: University Peer Group Categories
Data type: Yes/No

Restricted Research Expenditures
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(2)
Source: Institutional data reported to the Coordinating Board, available at the Restricted Research webpage (http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/restrictedresearch). Accountability system measure X07U.
Methodology: Texas Administration Code, Sections 13.120 to 13.127, Restricted Research Expenditures, and Standard and Accounting Methods (SAMs) for Reporting Restricted Research Expenditures at (http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/SAMs)
Data type: Real

Endowment Funds
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(A)
Source: Institutional data reported to the Coordinating Board through the Accountability System. These data are not posted publicly.
Methodology: The total endowment is calculated as the sum of true and quasi endowments.
Data type: Real

Number of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degrees Awarded
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(B)
Source: Institutional data reported to the Coordinating Board through the CBM reporting system. These data are not posted publicly.
Methodology: The Graduation Report CBM009 Item #8, Doctor’s Degree-Research/Scholarship. The accountability system measure C01UH includes
other doctoral degrees such as EDD, DNP, or DMA, which are not counted here.

Data type: Integer

**Percent of Freshman Class in Top 25 Percent of Their High School Class**

TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(C)(i)

Source: [Accountability system](http://www.txhigheredaccountability.org) measure C09UH for Public Universities

Methodology: Percentage of first-time undergraduates entering the summer/fall class who ranked in the top 10 percent and the top 11-25 percent of their Texas public high school classes. Source: CBM001, CBM00B.

Data type: Real

**SAT and ACT Scores**

TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(C)(ii)

Source: The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), [https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/](https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/)

Methodology: Institutions report data if scores are required for admission and at least 60 percent of enrolled students submitted scores for a given test. The College Board changed the SAT test and scoring in 2016, affecting fall 2017 data. For concordance table see Appendix D.

Data type: Integer

**Institutional Commitment to Improving the Participation and Success of Underrepresented Students**

TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(C)(iii)

Source: Institution reports submitted to the Coordinating Board

Methodology: For objective criteria suggested to institution for demonstrating fulfillment of this measure, see Appendix E.

Data type: Yes/No

**Institutional Recognition of Research Capabilities and Scholarly Attainment**

TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(D)

Source: Membership data posted by associations

Methodology: Institution is designated as a member of the Association of Research Libraries, has a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, or is a member of Phi Kappa Phi.

Data type: Yes/No

**National Academy Members or Nobel Prize Recipients**

TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(E)(i)

Source: Institutional data reported to the Coordinating Board through the Accountability System. These data are not posted publicly.

Methodology: Faculty awards from National Academy of Science, National Academy of Engineering, Academy of Arts and Sciences, Institute of Medicine, and Nobel Committees

Data type: Integer
Other Faculty Awards
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(E)(ii)
Source: Institutional data reported to the Coordinating Board through the Accountability System. These data are not posted publicly.
Methodology: The number of tenured/tenure-track faculty who have been awarded national or international distinction. See TAC Title 19, Chapter 15, Rule 15.43 for list of awards. Awards are counted only in years of awards made.
Data type: Integer

Comprehensive Review of Faculty in Five Doctoral Programs
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(E)(iii)
Source: No institution requested a comprehensive review during the reporting period.
Methodology: An institution wishing to undergo a review must notify the Coordinating Board at least one year in advance of the next scheduled report to the Legislature in order to ensure sufficient time to identify out-of-state consultants, organize and schedule site visits, and draft reports on each doctoral program. The application form for this review is available at the Coordinating Board’s webpage for NRUF (www.thecb.state.tx.us/NRUF).
Data type: Yes/No

Number of Graduate-Level Programs
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(F)(i)
Source: Coordinating Board’s program inventory for each institution at http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/apps/programinventory/InvSearch.cfm
Methodology: Number of graduate-level degree programs by Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code at the master’s and doctoral degree level
Data type: Integer

Master’s and Doctoral Graduation Rates
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(F)(ii)
Source: Accountability System (http://www.txhigheredaccountability.org) measure C13UH for Public Universities
Methodology: The Master’s Graduation Rate is the percent of students in entering fall cohort for a specific degree program who graduated within five years. The Doctoral Graduation Rate is the percent of students in an entering fall cohort for a specific degree program who graduated within 10 years. The master’s cohort does not include students who received a master’s level certificate or were classified as a doctorate student within the next 5 years and did not earn a master’s degree.
Data type: Real

Comprehensive Review of Five Doctoral Programs
TAC Rule: 15.43(b)(3)(F)(iii)
Source: No institution requested a comprehensive review during the reporting period.
Methodology: An institution wishing to undergo a review must notify the Coordinating Board at least one year in advance of the next scheduled report to the Legislature in order to ensure sufficient time to identify out-of-state consultants, organize
and schedule site visits, and draft reports on each doctoral program. The
application form for this review is available at www.thecb.state.tx.us/NRUF.

Data type: Yes/No
For more information contact:

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Academic Quality and Workforce
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
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Austin, TX 78711
(512) 427-6156
Reinold.Cornelius@thecb.state.tx.us