The Clark Center's Small Grants Programs

The Clark Center maintains two small grants programs both programs accept applications on a rolling basis from September 1, the start of a new fiscal year. One program is for faculty and graduate students affiliated with UT-Austin, and the other is for faculty and graduate students who wish to visit UT-Austin. Applications for both programs enjoy a higher likelihood of success to the extent that they propose well-defined and feasible projects that are likely to result in a publication or, for graduate students, facilitate their completion of a degree requirement. Grants typically do not exceed $5,000, but requests in excess of that amount will be considered. Direct inquiries to Dr. Rhonda Evans at revans@austin.utexas.edu.

Small Grants Program: UT-Austin Faculty and Graduate Students

Eligibility Criteria

The Clark Center welcomes proposals that satisfy all criteria outlined below. All full-time faculty and graduate students affiliated with UT-Austin are eligible to apply. Those affiliated with the College of Liberal Arts, in which the Center is located, may receive added consideration. There are no restrictions as to academic discipline, and interdisciplinary applications are welcome.

Funding Criteria

Funds must be used directly by faculty and/or graduate students to advance knowledge and understanding of some aspect of Australia or New Zealand, including but not limited to Australian or New Zealand politics and society, culture and literature, economics and business, or law and policy. Grants are intended to facilitate research in Australia or New Zealand or facilitate research collaboration with academics based in Australia or New Zealand. Research may focus exclusively on Australia or New Zealand, or it may treat either country in comparative context.

Applications from those seeking funding for fieldwork should demonstrate that they have well-thought out plans for their research, including identification of appropriate sites, interview subjects, and/or materials and awareness of the arrangements that must be made to obtain access to those sites, interview subjects, and/or materials. Where appropriate, grant recipients are responsible for complying with IRB rules.

Examples of competitive applications include those that propose projects that will enable a graduate student to fulfill a degree requirement or make progress on their dissertations as well as projects by faculty and/or graduate students that will result in publication of the research.

Deadline and Notification

Applications are received on a rolling basis each fiscal year until all funds allocated to the Program have been expended. Applicants can expect to receive decisions by email no later than three weeks from the Clark Center’s receipt of their applications.
Submission Instructions

Application materials can be found below. Complete all areas of the Applicant Information Form. Provide a Project Information Statement, a Budget Information Statement, and a copy of a current CV. Submit proposals as a single PDF file to Dr. Rhonda Evans at revans@austin.utexas.edu.

Graduate students must secure two letters of recommendation from faculty, at least one of whom must be based at UT-Austin. Letter writers should have direct and substantial familiarity with the student’s work, especially with the proposed project. For joint-projects that involve a faculty member and a graduate student, a single letter of recommendation for the student from the collaborating faculty member will suffice. They should send their letters of recommendation directly to Dr. Rhonda Evans at revans@austin.utexas.edu.

Applicants who seek to visit another university for purposes of collaboration with a member of the faculty based there must secure a letter of support from that faculty member. The author of that letter should send it directly to Dr. Rhonda Evans at revans@austin.utexas.edu.

Only complete applications will be considered.

Post-Grant Obligations

Faculty and students who accept grants agree to:
(1) upon accepting the grant, provide a recent photo of themselves, a bio, and a description of the project. These materials will be posted the Clark Center’s website.

(2) no later than three weeks after the funds have been expended, provide a report that summarizes the research efforts undertaken and how they aided the recipient’s professional development, including but not limited to publications, conference presentations, and satisfying degree requirements;

(3) acknowledge the Clark Center’s support in any publications that emanate from the funded research;

(4) notify the Clark Center of any such publications in a timely fashion; and

(5) allow the Clark Center to publicize the research in various media outlets, including but not limited to the Clark Center’s website, its promotional publications, and its social media accounts.