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: Visiting Scholars

Eligibility Criteria
The Visiting Scholars Grant Program is open to faculty and graduate students from around the world who are affiliated with accredited institutions of higher education and who seek to visit UT-Austin in order to use materials located on campus, such as those maintained by the Harry Ransom Center or the LBJ Presidential Library, or to work closely on a defined research project with a faculty member at UT-Austin.

Funding Criteria
Funds must be used directly by faculty and graduate students to advance knowledge and understanding of Australia or New Zealand, such as Australian or New Zealand politics and society, culture and literature, economics and business, or law and policy. Research may focus exclusively on Australia or New Zealand, or it may treat either country in comparative context. Examples of competitive applications include those that propose projects that will enable a graduate student to fulfill degree requirements or make progress on his or her dissertation as well as projects by faculty and/or graduate students that will result in publication of the research.

Grants are intended to facilitate research at UT-Austin or facilitate research collaboration with academics based at UT-Austin. For those seeking to make use of resources at UT-Austin, applicants should: (1) clearly explain why travel to UT-Austin is necessary, (2) describe the specific resources that they intend to use while at UT-Austin, (3) demonstrate that those materials are, in fact, available for use, and, (4) explain the value of those resources to their research. Applicants that seek to collaborate with faculty based at UT-Austin must secure a letter of support from their collaborator(s).

A successful grant application does not confer official Visiting Scholar status on a recipient. Grant recipients will need to work with relevant University departments, centers, etc. in order to obtain Visiting Scholar status and/or access University resources. Where appropriate, grant recipients are solely responsible for complying with IRB rules.
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 here 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 that 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. Letters of recommendation should be sent by their authors directly to Dr. Rhonda Evans at revans@austin.utexas.edu.

Applicants who seek to visit UT-Austin for purposes of collaboration with a member of the UT-Austin faculty 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.