Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology

Promoting the advancement of graduate education in Clinical Psychology that produces psychologists who are educated and trained to generate and integrate scientific and professional knowledge and skills as to further psychological science, the professional practice of psychology, and human welfare.

Request for Proposals:
Science of Training Research Seed Grants

The Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology (CUDCP) is requesting proposals from affiliated faculty of CUDCP member programs for seed grants fostering research that contributes to the **science of training** in health services psychology.[1] Please read the following instructions carefully before submitting your proposal. Funding will be capped at a maximum of $10,000.

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A. DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

B. Proposal Deadline

All proposals must be submitted electronically by noon central standard time (CST) on June 1, 2026.

2. Submission Process

All proposals must be submitted electronically by the deadline via the following address: disparities@unt.edu

Applicants will receive an email notification within three working days that the application was received and is complete. If the application is incomplete, the applicant will be notified and will have one business day following notification to complete the application.

A signed proposal cover letter must be submitted as part of the application. Applicants should electronically scan the signed letter so that an original signature for both the applicant and the Director of Clinical Training's endorsement is provided on the cover letter.

3. Inquiries

Communications with potential applicants will be limited to email correspondence (i.e., CUDCP will not be able to accept phone calls regarding the RFP). Questions may be emailed to disparities@unt.edu. Responses that may be relevant to other applicants will be posted on the CUDCP website under "Q&A," so potential applicants are encouraged to check the website often for updates.

4. Notification

Announcement of award(s) will be made via email.

5. Narrative and Fiscal Report

Grantees will be required to submit a narrative and fiscal report of their research activities funded by the grant. The report is due 30 business days after the end of the grant period and should be sent by the deadline at the following address: disparities@unt.edu

Grant recipients will be provided with specific instructions and expectations for this report at least 30 days prior to the end of the grant period. Failure to provide a final report may result in ineligibility for future awards to the applicant or other individuals from the CUDCP member program. Following review of the final report, grantees may be invited to present findings at a CUDCP Midwinter Meeting.

B. INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE

Since its founding in 1987, the purpose of the Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology ("CUDCP") has been to promote the advancement of graduate education within the field of clinical psychology. Consistent with this purpose, CUDCP member programs strive to train future clinical psychologists who promote human welfare, the growth of psychological science, and the professional practice of psychology. CUDCP espouses graduate education that produces a clinical psychologist capable of functioning as a scientific investigator and as a practitioner, and may function as either or both, consistent with the highest standards of clinical psychology.

Through this request for proposals, CUDCP seeks to award seed grants to faculty at CUDCP member institutions specifically for research that advances **the science of training in clinical psychology**. The primary purpose of this initiative is to support the initiation of high-quality **research focused on training methods, models, outcomes, and innovations in clinical psychology education**. Proposals that solely

involve training students in clinical psychology **without a clear research component on training itself** will not be considered.

A secondary goal is to encourage the dissemination of research findings to the greater field of mental health researchers, policy makers, and providers by having the grant recipients present their findings at state and/or national conferences and meetings (e.g., the annual CUDCP Midwinter Meeting).

C. PROPOSAL INFORMATION

1. Eligible Applicants
Faculty conducting research on training in clinical psychology are eligible to apply. CUDCP welcomes applicants from any CUDCP member program, to include provisional member programs. Individuals from non-CUDCP programs and international affiliate programs may not apply.

2. Eligible Projects
To be responsive to faculty conducting varied research, the specifications for this award are broadly and flexibly defined. Projects that do not include a focus on training in clinical psychology will not be considered responsive to this call for proposals.

3. Use of Grant Funds
Applicants have considerable flexibility in proposing how to utilize the grant. Grant funds may be utilized for any of the following (or some combination of these):
- Summer salary support
- Wages for a research assistant
- Research expenses incurred, such as, but not limited to:
    - Recruitment incentives
    - Web survey costs
    - Purchase of survey instruments
    - Travel related to data collection
    - Statistics consultation

Grant funds may not be utilized to pay for the following:
- Faculty salary during the 9-month academic year
- Indirect costs to universities
- Fringe for faculty salaries
- Purchase of standard office equipment, such as computers

All funds must be expended prior to June 30, 2026.

4. Ability to Withdraw or Reissue RFP
CUDCP retains the right to withdraw the RFP at any time during the procurement process or to reissue the RFP in the future.

5. Review and Selection Process
Because the available funding limits the number of awards that can be made, the process will be competitive, and it may not be possible to support all worthy proposals. The peer-review panel will use a standardized rating instrument to review the proposals and select finalists. CUDCP may also use external reviewers to evaluate proposals. The primary criterion in judging applications is perceived merit—both the merit of the applicant and the merit of the proposal are important. The merit of the applicant will be based on the curriculum vitae and information presented in the cover letter. Judgment of the merit of the proposal will be based on the description of the proposed research.

6. Selection Criteria

Factors in judging the merit of the project include: The expected benefit to the applicant, evidence of the investigator's ability to carry out the project, importance of the proposed work, soundness of the work plan, and necessity of the grant to accomplish the proposed work.

Each section of the grant proposal will be weighted as follows:

Section	Points
Cover Letter & Curriculum Vitae	20
Project Description	60
Project Budget & Budget Narrative	10
Project Work Plan/Timeline	10
Total Points	**100**

Other sections of the proposal not listed above will not be scored. However, they may be addressed in raters' recommendations or in the final selection of awardees. If all required sections are not included in the application, the proposal will be considered ineligible for review.

D. INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST FOR GRANT PROPOSAL

The proposal must be prepared using single-spaced 12-point Times New Roman font and a one-inch page margin on all sides.

Completed proposals must include the documents listed below. Applicants must put required information in the designated sections or the proposal will not be considered eligible.

The following documents (in Word or PDF) must be submitted electronically in the online proposal:
1. Proposal Cover Letter with signature of the applicant as well as signature of endorsement from the CUDCP member program's Director of Clinical Training
2. Letter of Approval from applicant's University Grant Office
3. Project Description
4. Project Work Plan/Timeline
5. Project Budget
6. Budget Narrative
7. Curriculum Vitae

1. Proposal Cover Letter
The proposal cover letter is limited to one page. It should be submitted on the applicant institution's letterhead and should include:
   a. Applicant's position and institution (including a clear statement that the applicant is affiliated faculty)
   b. Title of the project
   c. Applicant's ability and preparation to carry out the proposed project
   d. Amount of funding requested
   e. Manner in which the applicant would like to use the funds (summer salary, research assistant, research expenses – or some combination of these)
   f. Applicant's contact information
   g. Applicant's signature

2. Required Letter of Approval from University Grant Office
Applicants must obtain written approval from their institution's grant office (sometimes called "Office of Sponsored Projects" or "Grants and Contracts"), or a letter stating that such approval is not needed for this type of grant application. The grant office review and approval process may take several business days, so please check with your institution and plan accordingly. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit their proposals to their grant office with sufficient time for review and approval before the application deadline of June 1, 2026.

3. Project Description
The project summary should include a description of the proposed research, limited to 1,200 words, single-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font.

The research question should be clearly stated. The proposal should include detailed information concerning:
   a. Background
   b. Research design, methodology, and planned analyses (please address whether proposed sample size is sufficient to power planned analyses)
   c. Significance
   d. Relationship of the proposed project to long-term research plans
   e. Expected results or outcomes if awarded (e.g., paper, book, chapter)
   f. Implications for advancing the science of training in clinical psychology
   g. The involvement of doctoral students in the planning and implementation (if applicable)

4. Project Work Plan/Timeline
Identify important project milestones and due dates. Milestones could include, for example, launching the project, securing and maintaining Institutional Review Board approval, recruiting participants, collecting data, analyzing data, writing up the project, and submitting a manuscript. The amount of work proposed should be reasonable for the period of time covered by the grant.

5. Project Budget
The project budget should outline how funds will be spent. All funds must be expended prior to June 30, 2027. Justification and explanation of expenses should be reserved for the budget narrative. If an applicant plans to utilize the grant for summer salary or a research assistant (RA), this information should be specified and the amount planned should be included. Neither fringe for faculty salary, nor tuition assistance for doctoral students, may be paid from grant funds. If funds are to be utilized for research expenses, please itemize the expenses and add categories as needed. Include other sources of funding (if applicable) when preparing the budget. The maximum grant will be $10,000. Smaller requests are encouraged, when feasible, as it allows for the possibility of funding being spread across multiple worthy proposals. Partial funding may be allocated at the discretion of CUDCP. CUDCP reserves the right to not award funds in any given award cycle.

6. Budget Narrative
The budget narrative provides an opportunity to explain expenses reported in the project budget. State in a narrative format how funds are to be utilized and justify why utilizing funds in this manner is necessary to carry out the research project. If funds are to be utilized for research expenses, please provide as much detail as possible. If funds will be used to support salary/wages, please provide as much detail about the specific faculty or research assistant activities and time requirements that will be supported with these funds. The budget narrative is limited to one page.

7. Curriculum Vitae

The curriculum vitae will be utilized to assess the investigator's ability to carry out the project. The applicant's vitae should include education and employment history; awards, administrative service, any other information relevant to the application; and a complete list of publications.