

Center of Excellence in Applied Computational Science and Engineering (CEACSE): Planning and Capacity Building for Collaborative Teams (PACCT) FY2024-25

Information Session

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PACCT Program Overview

CEACSE
PACCT is
seed funding
intended to...

- Enhance and expand UTC's capacities in Computational Science and Engineering
- Stimulate Computational Science and Engineering research activity across a broader range of departments
- Build capacity to attract external funds

NOT to take the place of extramural funding!

Proposals
should
demonstrate
that they...

- Relate to mobility and transportation or quantum technologies
- Will result in high-impact, peer-reviewed publications
- Can “seed” larger, long-term extramural funding

FY2024-25 Priority Areas

1. Mobility and Transportation
2. Quantum Technologies

Project Schedule

- **Year 1:** Formalize collaboration, establish research collaboration website, refine community engagement plan and 5-year research agenda, and prepare for the pilot/small-scale research project.
- **Year 2:** Conduct the pilot/small-scale project, analyze results, implement the community engagement plan, and apply for external funding.

Deliverables

- Successful projects will result in the following outcomes by the end of the project period:
 - Research collaboration website, linked to the UTC Research Institute
 - Community engagement events or activities
 - Preliminary data or prototype
 - Refined 5-year research agenda with specific external funding opportunities
 - At least 1 proposal submitted for external funding

Eligibility

- Eligible individuals can be Lead PI on only **1** proposal and a team member or co-PI on no more than **2** proposals. [3 total]
- The collaboration must be led by a minimum of **2 full-time, tenured or tenure-track UTC faculty**, each with a primary appointment in a different UTC College
 - Identify one to serve as PI and the other to serve as Co-PI
 - Proposals that include two lead faculty from the same college will be returned without review
 - Additional faculty/staff, including non-tenure track faculty, may also participate as collaboration members but must have a meaningful role.
- The collaboration must align with one of the following **FY24 priority areas: Mobility & Transportation or Quantum Technologies**
- All teams **must** receive an endorsement and signature from the Lead PI's Department Head.

Amount and Duration

- Maximum award amount: \$125,000
- Project period: 24 months (January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025)
- Anticipated number of awards: up to six

There will be NO extensions.

Proposal Preparation Instructions

Application Components:

InfoReady Review Form

- Applicant information
- Co-PI information
- Proposal Title
- Proposal Abstract
- Narrative
- Budget Narrative
- Five-Year Funding Plan

Application Components: Uploads

- Proposal Abstract (200 words)
- Narrative (3-page limit)
- Budget Narrative (1-page limit)
- Five-Year Funding Plan (1-page limit)

Instructions for each document can be found in the RFP and in InfoReady Review

Timeline

- Proposals due: **11:59 PM EST on October 23, 2023** in InfoReady Review.

Competition will be open for submissions on or before September 1st, 2023.

Budgeting Considerations

Allowable Costs

- Faculty effort, including course releases and/or summer salary for 9-month appointments
- Student effort, including assistantships and hourly undergraduate students
- Fringe benefits associated with requested salary/wages/stipends
- Consultant fees for industry/community partners
- Equipment (individual units costing \$5,000 or more)
- Materials and supplies, including software
- Planning meeting/workshop costs
- Travel (meeting, conferences, etc.)
- Publication fees

Unallowable Costs

- Extra services compensation during the academic year
- Non-student administrative or clerical support costs
- Indirect or F&A costs
- Supplantation of costs (e.g., lab space) typically covered by other institutional sources

Budgeting

- Budget Narrative - In **1 page or less**, state the amount of funding requested and how you would use PACCT funding to support the aims and activities of the project.
- Budgets narratives will be reviewed only to ensure that costs are allowable, reasonable, and sufficient to support the proposed scope of work.
- UTC Research Institute will work with PIs to create budgets at time of award

Budget Narrative Considerations

- Floor stipend levels required for GAs
 - **\$22K/year** for PhD GAs
 - **\$6k/semester** for MS GAs
- Fringe benefits - 9% for students, 34% for faculty/staff
- Extra services compensation during the academic appointment term is not permitted.
- **Equipment cannot exceed 30% of total budget**
- Contact Anna Lane (anna-lane@utc.edu) with CEACSE budget-related questions.

Project Requirements

Required Approvals

- IRB or IACUC approval*
 - not required for submission, but needed before research with humans or animals begins
- Export Control and other Research Security issues*
- Conflict of Interest issues*
- Human Subjects*
- Vertebrate Animal Research*
- Biohazardous Materials*
- Additional space, equipment, or IT needs
 - must be approved in advance by appropriate administrator

**Contact ORI with questions (utc.edu/ori)*

Award and Reporting Requirements

All awarded PIs must:

- Submit a brief status report by the end of year 1.
- **Year 1 PACCT Workshop:** In fall 2024, awardees must attend a 2-day workshop to present the status of their planning efforts and pitch their plan for the pilot/small-scale research project. The workshop will include industry/community stakeholders to reinforce cross-sector collaboration efforts. Awardees must attend this workshop to be eligible to receive year 2 funding.
- Present research activities at the annual UTC Spring Research and Arts Conference in April 2024
- Submit a final report within 60 days of award end date

Other Requirements

- The collaboration must develop a **community engagement plan** and identify at least one industry or community partner to serve as a collaborator.
- The collaboration must propose a **5-year research agenda** with specific external funding opportunities that will be pursued beyond the project period.

Extramural Funding

- **At least one** external funding application must result from each PACCT award.
- Work with ORSP to complete and submit proposals **well in advance** of the sponsor deadline.
- Failure to apply for external funding will affect eligibility for future PACCT awards.

Review Process

Review Criteria

- **Scientific Merit:** The proposed collaboration identifies a specific challenge within Transportation & Mobility or Quantum Technologies and details an innovative, interdisciplinary approach to address that challenge.
- **Qualifications of the Project Team:** The proposed collaboration includes two lead faculty from different UTC colleges. All collaboration members have a significant role on the project and the necessary expertise to implement it successfully.
- **Impact and Sustainability:** The proposed collaboration details a clear and concise plan for sustainability and utilizes relevant infrastructure and equipment available on UTC's campus.

Peer Review

- Internal review panel
 - The internal review panel will consist of UTC administrators and other stakeholders

FAQ

Eligibility

- I'm not tenured or tenure-track. Can I still apply?
 - Only tenured or tenure-track faculty can apply as the PI, but you can participate as a co-PI.
- Can I have a foreign co-PI?
 - No.
- Can my postdoc be a PI?
 - No, but postdocs may be co-PIs.

Priority Areas

- Does my project have to fit exactly within one of the two research areas?
 - Yes
- What if I'm not sure what area my project fits into?
 - Contact Dr. Mina-Sartipi at Mina-Sartipi@utc.edu
Jordan Gwarjanski at Jordan-Gwarjanski@utc.edu
or Ashley Ledford at Ashley-Ledford@utc.edu
before submitting.

Other

- Will slides be available?
 - Yes! Slides will be posted on the CEACSE program page. (utc.edu/CEACSE)

Q&A

Resources

- CEACSE Program Webpage:
www.utc.edu/ceacse
- InfoReady Review (submission portal):
<https://tennessee.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1915029>

Contacts

- **Program-related Questions:**
Dr. Mina Sartipi at Mina-Sartipi@utc.edu
- **Budget-related Questions:**
Anna Lane at Anna-Lane@utc.edu
- **InfoReady Review-related Questions:**
Jordan-Gwarjanski at
Jordan-Gwarjanski@utc.edu

Thank you!