

TWU Office of Research and Sponsored Programs
2025-2026 Chancellor's Research Faculty Scholars (CRFS) Program

Application Deadline: Friday, March 20, 2026
Start Date of Award: September 1, 2026
End Date of Award: August 31, 2027
Expected Number of Awards: 5 protégé / mentor teams

Program Description

The Chancellor's Research Faculty Scholars (CRFS) Program at Texas Woman's University (TWU) provides support to promising scholars and their mentors to facilitate completion of a specific project. The objectives are as follows:

- to identify faculty with strong potential for obtaining external funding for research;
- to provide additional research support that will help protégés and mentors succeed in their research agendas;
- to facilitate the building of internal and external partnerships.

Protégés who demonstrate a strong potential for research select a mentor who can help them enhance their research program to become competitive for external funding. Mentors should have a successful record of research publication and external funding and possess the ability to successfully mentor research protégés.

Program Funding

The CRFS Program is supported by funds received from the Chancellor's Circle and the TWU Foundation. It is anticipated that mentors will receive awards of approximately \$3,000 and Protégés will receive awards of approximately \$5,000.

Funding will support TWU faculty members' individual research needs; this may include travel, supplies, training costs, equipment and/or research time when it can be arranged by the academic unit. CRFS funds cannot be used to supplement regular salary during the academic year. Mentors who are not TWU faculty members will receive individual payments. The duration of the awards will be from September 1, 2026 - August 31, 2027, and are contingent upon funding availability.

Eligibility

Protégé applicants must be full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty members at Texas Woman's University. They should have completed preliminary work and publication in their areas of research. Applicants must demonstrate a strong potential for research, but need assistance to accomplish their research programs and be competitive for external funding. Applicants should be at the beginning stage of their research career, although more experienced researchers who are changing research trajectories would be considered. Faculty in administrative roles are not automatically disqualified but non-administrative faculty will be given preference as protégés.

Protégés should select mentors who are faculty members or researchers with successful records of research publication and funding and shared research interest with the protégé. Mentors are not required to be TWU faculty. Mentors should ideally be university faculty that are located in the U.S. The selection of a mentor who is the former chair or post-doctoral advisor of the

protégé, but who does not share the protégé's research focus, will not be viewed as favorably as mentoring relationships based on shared research interests.

Protégés may apply for a second award (but not a third). Protégés will be selected with the expectation that they will continue in service at the University for at least one academic year following the program period. Persons known to be in the terminal year of their employment at TWU are not eligible to apply as a protégé in this program.

Application and Submission Instructions

Signatures (to be obtained by ORSP): After receipt, the application will be routed by ORSP via Adobe Sign to the protégé and mentor applicants using the email addresses provided. Applicants must sign to certify that he/she agrees to accept responsibility for the scientific conduct and/or carrying out of the project and abide by conditions of the grant as outlined in the guidelines. The application will also be routed for approval to the unit administrators and deans.

- If the protégé and mentor are from more than one TWU department and/or college, the signatures of both chairs and/or deans will be obtained.
- If the mentor is not a TWU faculty member, signatures from the chair and dean of the non-TWU mentor are not required.

Each protégé applicant may submit only one application. The application must include the following (in this order):

1. Cover Sheet. The email addresses entered here will be used for Adobe Sign routing of the application.
2. Application Form. Protégé applicants and their prospective mentors will apply as a team and share one application form.
3. Current Curriculum Vitae. TWU faculty members may use the format required by TWU for annual review, promotion, and tenure applications. See the Faculty Resources section of the Academic Affairs website. Non-TWU mentor-applicants must submit comparable vitae.

Submit the application via email to twuresearch@twu.edu by the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Review Process

Selection Committee: The CRFS Selection Committee will review applications and select the Protégé/Mentor teams. The committee will have representation from the Graduate Council's Research Committee, the Research Support Committee, the Council of Chairs, the Academic Deans, and a past recipient of the CRFS who is not in the current class and who has not applied to be in the 2026-2027 class.

Selection Criteria: The following criteria will be considered when selecting protégés:

- Potential for obtaining external research funds,
- Proposal submission record (internal and external),
- Funding record (internal and external),
- Research publication record,
- Research presentation record,
- Other scholarly work,
- Description of research agenda,

- Involvement of students
- Selection of a mentor with a successful record of research publication and external funding and the ability to successfully mentor research protégés.

The following criteria will be considered when evaluating mentors:

- Scholarly research record and match of research interests with those of the protégé,
- Research funding record,
- Research publication record,
- Other scholarly work,
- Description of research knowledge, skills, and match with protégé's needs.

Expectations and Reporting Requirements

Protégés:

- Attend the initial CRFS organizational meeting early in the fall semester,
- Construct a research development plan and timeline that may include (but is not limited to)
 - submission of a research proposal for external funding,
 - submission of at least one manuscript in area of research to a refereed journal, and
 - presentation of research at a professional meeting.
- Participate in the review of other CRFS scholarly work as needed;
- Submit written progress reports to ORSP as requested; and
- Submit year-end report.

Mentors:

Mentors will serve as a mentor to their protégé through the following activities and serve as a resource to other protégés in the program as requested:

- Assist protégé in building a research development plan,
- Review and provide meaningful critique for scholarly work submitted by protégés; and
- Collaborate with protégé to prepare written progress reports to ORSP as requested.

Failure to meet the requirements of the program may affect future eligibility to receive internal research support.

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Evaluation Sheet

Applicant: _____

Evaluation. Rate each item in the space at the far right of the line where **1 = Outstanding;**
2 = Excellent; 3 = Satisfactory; 4 = Meets Minimal Expectation; and 5 = Does Not Meet Expectation.

	Outstanding	Excellent	Satisfactory	Meets Minimal Expectation	Does Not Meet Expectation	N/A	Score
	1	2	3	4	5		
1. Statement of research project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Self-evaluation of strengths and weaknesses relating to the project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Explanation of choice of mentor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Evaluation of expected outcomes as a researcher and as a CRFS member	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Realistic outcomes of the project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Scholarly (publications/presentations) work (vita)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

TOTAL _____

13. Comment on internal and external research proposal record here:

14. Comment on internal and external research award record here:

15. Please offer constructive feedback to the applicant here:

Evaluator: _____