

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS
FY 2027 TEACHING AND RESEARCH GRANT FOR EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY (TARGET)

Deadline: October 12, 2026

PURPOSE

State-of-the-art equipment is essential for conducting modern research and instruction that is capable of attracting external funding. Equipment used for research and to enhance teaching and learning evolves rapidly and can be instrumental in creating a quality learning environment. Such equipment is increasingly expensive, difficult to acquire through normal external funding mechanisms, and often required for preliminary research to compete for external funding. Therefore, approximately \$200,000 has been allocated for this program to support TWU faculty in obtaining research equipment, ideally for shared use. The committee will look favorably upon research equipment that can also be used to enhance the scholarship of teaching and learning.

ELIGIBILITY AND ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be full-time TWU tenured, tenure-track, or research faculty. Faculty with outstanding reports or other obligations from previously awarded internal funding will not be considered for funding. Applications will be accepted from individuals or groups of full-time faculty members at TWU. Proposals that promote faculty collaboration are especially encouraged. For proposals listing multiple users who are not co-applicants, the primary applicant must obtain a signed acknowledgment from the individuals listed that they have agreed to be so recognized and certifying that they have a legitimate need for the equipment being sought in the proposal.

Total acquisition costs for equipment include the price of the equipment, plus any shipping and installation if those items are listed on the original invoice. Building modifications, training, and maintenance agreements beyond any standard warranty period are not covered by this program.

Any equipment purchased with awarded funds remains the property of TWU and should be disposed of in accordance with appropriate university policies and procedures.

APPLICATIONS

Applicants must submit proposals on or before **October 12, 2026**. Proposals must be on the application form provided.

ITEMS ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Funding requests should focus on equipment to support research. Note that individual requested items must be at least \$500 to be eligible for TARGET funds. The request must be for equipment that is not normally provided by the applicant's academic component or college, and not available through other university funds. The equipment must be essential to a particular research project. Items may be requested from both HEF and TARGET funding and the administrative offices will coordinate regarding the funding source.

ITEMS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

- New equipment that has been previously purchased, encumbered, or is already on-site.
- Software (regardless of cost) that is not an integral component of an instrument. That is, if the software is invoiced separately from an instrument or appears on an invoice as a separate line item with a unit cost associated with it, TARGET funds cannot be used to pay the invoice.
- Personal computers/workstations (regardless of cost).
- Construction and building renovations (i.e., fume hoods, permanent lab benches).
- Improvements Other Than Building (IOTB): examples of IOTB might include concrete pads to be used as storage or staging areas, installation of fencing, and construction of flumes or similar experimental structures.
- If the investigator is proposing to build an instrument or piece of equipment, TARGET funds cannot be used to cover TWU personnel labor costs.
- Training costs associated with learning how to operate or use the new equipment.
- Items that must be purchased using a TWU purchasing card.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Prior to being sent to the review committee, proposals will be screened by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs to assure that the investigators are eligible to receive these funds based on eligibility criteria.

A review committee will be established to review applications. This review committee will include the Vice Provost for Research, Innovation, and Corporate Engagement, a representative from Faculty Commons, and a representative from the TWU Research Advisory Committee.

The review committee may also include representatives from the Office of Technology and the Office of Teaching and Learning with Technology. A representative from the TWU Facilities or Risk Management Department or an expert in a particular area addressed in applications may be asked to serve in an advisory capacity, if needed. No one may serve on the review committee if she/he is a current applicant for funds. The committee is advisory in nature, and the final decisions about funded equipment rest with the Vice Provost for Research, Innovation, and Corporate Engagement and the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Reviewers will be asked to provide a summary recommendation for each proposal consisting of:

- High priority for funding
- Support if funds are available, or
- Not recommended for funding.

Reviewers will be asked to evaluate all proposals based on the following criteria:

1. Potential impact on faculty research and teaching and learning;
2. Potential for departmental or interdisciplinary collaboration, i.e., the proposed equipment can support multiple investigators and programs;
3. A well-developed justification for the requested equipment;
4. Adequately documented lack of FINAL REPORTING AND PRESENTING REQUIREMENTS
5. Award recipients (primary applicant or co-applicant) are required to submit a final report within one year of equipment procurement.
6. Award recipients (primary applicant or co-applicant) who fail to submit the required final report will be ineligible to receive future funding from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.
7. The final report should contain the following information: available comparable or near-comparable capabilities on campus;
8. Budget reasonable for both the effort and the anticipated results;
9. Potential to generate activities leading to scholarly publications and/or presentations; and
10. The applicant's record of completing projects and submitting required materials from previously received funding.
11. Long-term implications for sustainability, support, and maintenance.
12. Has the applicant made the case that acquisition of the proposed equipment will generate or support high impact research?
13. Will this capability build on an existing area of strength within TWU, or will this expand TWU capabilities into novel areas of investigation?
14. Will the focus of the research to be conducted with the equipment attract diverse sponsors and provide leverage for future proposals for external support?

Proposals that also include a teaching and learning component will be evaluated on the following additional criteria:

1. Has the applicant made the case that acquisition of the proposed equipment will support enhanced scholarship of teaching and learning?
2. Will the proposed equipment have a broad impact at TWU? Impact can be demonstrated by describing the number of students or sections affected.
3. Will the proposed equipment support pedagogical innovation or a new or shifting teaching paradigm?

FINAL REPORTING AND PRESENTING REQUIREMENTS

Award recipients (primary applicant or co-applicant) are required to submit a final report within one year of equipment procurement.

Award recipients (primary applicant or co-applicant) who fail to submit the required final report will be ineligible to receive future funding from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

The final report should contain the following information:

- Proposal Title/Equipment, recipients, academic component, college.
- A brief summary of the scholarly work and, if applicable, the effective teaching and learning activities made possible as a result of the funding.
- A description of the broader impact at TWU.
- All external funding requests that have been developed and submitted as a result of the funding as applicable (i.e., proposals).

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Submit the completed application form with all attachments electronically as a PDF document to twuresearch@twu.edu by **October 12, 2026**. Once the completed application is submitted, ORSP will route the application using Adobe Sign to all applicants, unit administrators (i.e., chairs, directors), and deans for approval.