

Applicant Resources 2023-24 Teaming Grants Rubric

TEAMING GRANTS (up to \$60,000 for one year) help multi-disciplinary teams plan and build capacity to successfully pursue large-scale external funding and must include faculty from at least three schools, as defined in the application materials.

Pitt Momentum Funds awards will support projects to grow research and scholarship. Curriculum development and student-centered projects are not the focus of Pitt Momentum Funds – the Office of the Provost’s Innovation in Education Awards supports new instructional approaches and techniques to advance student learning. Please evaluate this proposal through a research development lens.

Funds can be used to hire temporary workers, travel, capital purchases or other acquisition of materials, consulting or other technical support, software and other expenses needed to successfully implement the project. Momentum Funds awards cannot be used to support or supplement salaries for either Pitt faculty or external co-investigators; neither are the funds intended to be used to hire new staff. Teaming Grants project budgets are expected to include funding for convenings and travel to meet with program managers at funding agencies or foundations to further refine that funding strategy.

Teaming Grant awards are not intended to be used to extend existing, externally funded projects or for projects with preliminary results sufficient to obtain funding from external agencies (e.g., NIH, NSF).

SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE: Teaming Grants support the planning and capacity-building stages for large multidisciplinary team projects for groups of faculty at all ranks at the University of Pittsburgh. How well does the proposed work support the early stages of a well-articulated new project?

Score 0-2

- 0 = Project value for the research domain and a potential agency or foundation sponsor is modest.
- 1 = Project value for the research domain is excellent and has the potential to gain the team national attention within and across their scholarly communities. Lead investigator has made a plausible case of the project’s potential to make a meaningful contribution to a potential sponsor’s strategic goals.
- 2 = Project is highly innovative and has the potential to gain the team attention for transformational interdisciplinary contributions. Lead investigator has made a plausible case of the project’s potential to be a marquee award for a potential agency or foundation sponsor.

TEAM: Project leadership is critical to a project’s success; select a rating reflective of the lead investigator’s ability to demonstrate a track record of success. Will the team-building strategy develop a group of investigators that is poised to execute their follow-on funding opportunities? If an exceptionally innovative, complex research project is proposed, is there a credible strategy for building a positive reception among potential funders and the relevant research communities from which reviewers will be drawn?

Score from 0-3

- 0 = Fails to demonstrate a credible strategy for building a highly competitive research team; strategy for developing receptivity in the relevant research communities for an ambitious project appears naïve or disorganized.
- 1 = Presents an acceptable team building strategy, but strategy for building research community buy-in for an ambitious project is cursory.
- 2 = Persuasive in the vision for building a team of competent, qualified investigators; while the proposed project may be considered too risky by future reviewers, there is no reason to believe that the team will be unable to shore up a broader case for investment over the course of the teaming award.
- 3 = Demonstrates a compelling strategy for developing a team of diverse, highly qualified investigators and for building broader research community support and funder interest.

FEASIBILITY: Project personnel should have the required skills, capacity, and experience to arrive at the anticipated outcome(s). Do the budget and plan align with a realistic understanding of the costs and tasks to implement the proposed work?

Score from 0-2

- 0 = The proposed deliverables are unlikely to be completed.
- 1 = The proposed deliverables will likely be completed.
- 2 = The proposed work will likely see successful completion within identified resources.

FOLLOW-ON FUNDING: Applicants for Teaming Grants must explain their follow-on funding strategy, including identifying one or more target agencies or foundations. Project budgets are expected to include funding for travel to meet with program managers at funding agencies or foundations to further refine that funding strategy. Score from 0-3

- 0 = Fails to demonstrate a credible large-scale follow-on funding target.
- 1 = Presents an acceptable case for how the proposed project will provide value to a future funder, but the strategy for follow-on funding is notional.
- 2 = Presents a clear case for how the proposed project will provide value to a future funder; strategy for follow-on funding will solidly prepare team for their particular funding target.
- 3 = Demonstrates a compelling understanding of how the proposed project will provide strategic value to a future funder; strategy to build research community and develop follow-on funding are exceptionally clear and well-resourced for their particular funding target.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATION: Recommendations for partial or full funding should not differ meaningfully in terms of the overall merit of the work proposed (i.e., total score greater than 7). If you are on the fence about funding this proposal (would rate as a “maybe,” select “Do not fund” here, and include an explanation in the reviewer comments section as to why this proposal would merit a second look if resources allow.

- 0 = Do not fund.
- 1 = Partially fund (include recommended amount with reviewer comments).
- 2 = Fully fund.

REVIEWER COMMENTS: Please provide feedback on the proposed project that can help differentiate this proposal from other proposals: particular strengths or weaknesses, significance of the project to the investigators’ career development, significance of the project for the university or for the broader area of study, or an unusually strong potential for impact. Is the proposed project of a size and scope that it is beyond what an individual investigator or a small group of loosely coordinated investigators could accomplish in the proposers’ scholarly community? Please provide comments on the appropriateness of the proposed budget.

Comments on the credibility of the teaming, research community building, and follow-on funding strategy, including whether adequate resources are dedicated to these efforts, are particularly welcome. Recommendations to the investigators on how the project may be improved will be shared with the lead investigator.

Overview of what comprises the Teaming Grants application:

Application Field	Instruction to Applicant	Teaming
https://upitt.infoready4.com/	Download and review program documentation and template from the 'Files' area To start your application Click on the 'Apply' button	
Apply button	Login with Pitt Passport	
Select Option : To which track are you applying	<p>At the time of your required LOI submission you must select the track to which you are proposing a Pitt Momentum Funds project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Priming Grants (Creative Arts, Performing Arts & Humanities) *Priming Grants (Engineering, Technology, Natural Sciences, and Mathematical Sciences) *Priming Grants (Health and Life Sciences) *Priming Grants (Social Sciences, which includes Business, Education, Informatics, Law, Policy, and Social Work) *Teaming Grants *Scaling Grants <p>Review Coordinators may reassign your proposal to a smaller scale grant if they feel you will have a greater chance of success, e.g., moving a scaling proposal to the teaming track</p>	
APPLICANT DETAILS (input online)	APPLICANT DETAILS (input online)	Teaming
Applicant First Name		Y
Applicant Last Name		Y
Email Address	Enter your @pitt.edu email address; program updates (application status and outcomes) will be directed to your institutional email account.	Y

Primary Organization	Select the department in which you have your primary appointment . If your responsibility center is not listed in the dropdown menu or if you plan to have funding disbursed to a responsibility center other than your home department, please enter that information in the next field	Y
If your responsibility center is not listed in the above menu, or if you plan to have funds disbursed to a different responsibility center, enter that information here	Please enter your responsibility center's official name (no acronyms)and include the 5-digit code (for reference see: https://www.osp.pitt.edu/find-your-office-contact)	Y
Select your faculty position	Select one from the drop-down menu: Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, Appointment Stream	Y
Primary Appointment Title		Y
Applicant Degree(s)		Y
Year of Terminal Degree		Y
Website	Enter a link to your personal faculty or lab web site	Y
Department Financial Administrator who will establish and manage your Momentum Funds account (First name, Last name)	First name Last name	Y
Department Financial Administrator email address	(remove old instruction)	Y
Contact Person's Email Address	Enter an alternate email address if you would like to receive updates at an address in addition to your pitt.edu address	Y
Contact Person's Name	(excluded)	
Contact Person's Phone Number	(excluded)	
Phone Number	(excluded)	

Co-Applicant : Co-Applicant Name (include prefix i.e. Dr., Mx., etc.)		<p>Please input the names and affiliations of your faculty co-investigators and any partners from community organizations. Include only individuals eligible to serve as (co-)PI on future submissions to externally sponsored funding programs. Do not include student research assistants, postdoctoral trainees, or administrative staff as co-investigators.</p> <p>PI Eligibility for each Pitt co-investigator must be attested to in the letter of support signed by the lead investigator's Associate Dean for Research. PI eligibility may be described briefly in the "Personnel & Team Building Description" section of the application.</p> <p>Co-investigators unclear of their eligibility to act as PI on proposal submissions to extramural sponsors must work with their department chair and provide confirmation to the lead investigator.</p>
Co-Applicant : Co-Investigator's University of Pittsburgh primary School and Department (official names, no acronyms) OR Community Organization name		
APPLICATION DETAILS (input online)	APPLICATION DETAILS (input online)	Teaming
Budget Requested	Enter the sum total of your Momentum Funds Budget (whole number only, rounded up to nearest \$100): Priming may not exceed \$25,000, Teaming may not exceed \$60,000, and Scaling may not exceed \$400,000	Enter the sum total of your Momentum Funds Budget (whole number only, rounded up to nearest \$100)

Proposal Title	LOI: Required information. Applicants will be able to edit this field after the LOI deadline for the final, full application submission	Enter the title of your propose Pitt Momentum Funds project
Proposal Abstract	LOI: Required information. Applicants will be able to edit this field after the LOI deadline for the final, full application submission	(200 word max) Input a 1-paragraph proposal abstract. Open with the core research question or point of scholarly inquiry motivating the proposed project. Write for a broad audience.
Comments to the Administrator(s)	LOI: Optional information. Enter any questions for OSVCR or OSP that you have about the administrative aspects of the Momentum Funds Program.	
Faculty Development Outcome	required all tracks	(100 word max) As lead investigator describe your readiness to lead a Pitt Momentum Funds project and comment on how this will enhance your career trajectory at the University of Pittsburgh.
Contribution to One's Scholarly Community or Broader Impact on Society	required all tracks	(300 word max) Describe the significance of the proposed project to your field. Describe, where appropriate, how success in this project and the follow on work it enables can contribute to the achievement of societally relevant outcomes.
Project Description	required all tracks	(1000 word max) Describe the proposed project, including overarching objectives and methodological approaches. Tables, figures, images and references are to be uploaded separately

Personnel & Team Building Description	required all tracks	(500 word max) Explain the expertise that each co-applicant contributes to the project and how your group will converge as a team
Project Work Plan	required all tracks	(500 word max) List major milestones, include dates.
Project Outputs	required all tracks	(500 word max) List and briefly describe expected project outputs - articles, chapters, experiments, student research experience, etc
Other Project Resources & Support	required all tracks	(500 word max) Describe the current or promised financial and in-kind commitments that will be contributed by team members' schools, departments, or other organizations to the proposed project. Dollar amounts must be included.
Follow-On Funding Strategy with Specific Targets	required all tracks	(500 word max) Identify the follow-on funding targets that will sustain this project beyond the Momentum Funds award period. Be as specific as possible, include web links for funding opportunities where you can.
Pitt Internal Funding history	optional all tracks	(200 word max) Excluding startup packages, describe any internal Pitt funding team members have received in the last 3 years
APPLICATION DOCUMENTS (file uploads)	APPLICATION DOCUMENTS (file uploads)	Teaming
Tables, Figures, Images and References	required all tracks	Upload a 2-page (max) PDF file. Page 1: Tables, Figures, Images Page 2: References

Budget	required all tracks	<p>Upload your (PDF) Pitt Momentum Funds budget</p> <p>Page 1 = Year 1 Budget</p> <p>A budget template is available for download on the Pitt Momentum Funds information page for you to use. You will need to convert documents into a single PDF file.</p>
Budget Justification	required all tracks	<p>Please upload your 1-page (PDF) budget justification.</p>
Letter of Commitment	required all tracks	<p>Please upload a single letter from your school's Associate Dean for Research, co-signed by the appropriate leadership for your co-investigators, describing the in-kind or other financial commitments being made to this project.</p> <p>Only one letter of support will be considered as part of a Pitt Momentum Funds project.</p>