

CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Core Facilities Support Awards— Competitive Renewal RFA R-26.2-CFSA

FY 2026

Fiscal Year Award Period September 1, 2025-August 31, 2026

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VERSION HISTORY

8/5/25

Instructions for Applicants (IFA) document posted

1. ELIGIBILITY

- This is a competitive renewal application for current awards scheduled to end on August 31, 2025, or August 31, 2026.
- The Principal Investigator (PI) must be the director of the facility and must have a doctoral degree, including MD, PhD, DDS, DMD, DrPH, DO, DVM, or equivalent, and must reside in Texas for the duration of the award.
- The PI must hold a faculty position, preferably at the level of associate or full professor or the equivalent.
- The PI must commit a minimum of 10% effort for the entire award period.
- This award and the core facility must be directed by the PI.
- Multi-Principal Investigators (MIs) are not permitted.
- Collaborations are encouraged, and collaborators may or may not reside in Texas.
 However, collaborators who do not reside in Texas are not eligible to receive Cancer
 Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) funds.
- Subcontracting and collaborating organizations may include public, not-for-profit, and
 for-profit entities located outside of the State of Texas, but non-Texas-based
 organizations are not eligible to receive CPRIT funds. In no event shall equipment
 purchased under this award leave the State of Texas.
- An institution may submit only 1 renewal application under this Request for Applications (RFA) for this funding cycle. An exception will be made for institutions submitting renewal applications for core facilities that support research totally directed toward childhood and adolescent cancer or population science; in this case, institutions may submit 1 childhood and adolescent cancer application or 1 population science application and 1 additional renewal application in another area of cancer research.
- Academic institutions and health science centers that are components of the same university are only eligible to submit a single application
- Support for only 1 facility may be requested per application.
- Since support is requested for an existing facility, applicants must provide details on how CPRIT support will enhance its capabilities and improve access for cancer investigators rather than simply replace ongoing institutional support.

An individual may serve as a PI or MI on no more than 3 active Academic Research
grants. For the purpose of calculating the number of active grants, CPRIT will consider
the number of active grants at the time of the award contract effective date (for this cycle
expected to be 6/1/2026).

2. INTRODUCTION

The CPRIT Application Receipt System (CARS) (https://cpritgrants.org) provides a means for the research community (ie, PIs and Application/Authorized Signing Officials [ASOs]) to respond to CPRIT funding opportunities electronically over the Internet through a secure connection. This document provides instructions and guidance to applicants to submit an application in response to CPRIT's RFA for Core Facilities Support Awards- Competitive Renewal (RFA R-26.2-CFSA). Applications may be submitted from September 9, 2025, through December 2, 2025.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Applications that support research/projects directed toward childhood and adolescent cancer must select "Yes" on Tab 2 (application information).
- For the Competitive Renewal CFSA, an applicant may request a maximum of \$2,000,000 in total cost for a period of 5 years.
- CPRIT only allows 1 opportunity to submit an active award renewal application.
- The CFSA must be led by 1 PI; MIs are not allowed.

3. SUMMARY INSTRUCTIONS

- **Technical Support:** Applicants are strongly advised to carefully read this document in its entirety before starting an application. The Helpdesk (section 22.1) is available to answer technical questions and guide applicants with application submission. This *Instructions* document will be updated as necessary. Revisions will be listed in the *Version History*.
- **Document Format for Uploaded Files:** Use Portable Document Format (PDF) only.
 - Do NOT password protect documents.
 - o Do NOT submit documents that are bound together in a single PDF package.

- Font Type/Size: Arial (11 point), Calibri (11 point), or Times New Roman (12 point).
- **Page Format:** Single spacing, 0.75-inch margins in all directions.
- **Templates:** Templates are provided under <u>Current Funding Opportunities</u> in CARS. Applicants are encouraged to use the templates provided. For a list of required templates please see <u>section 19</u>. NIH biosketches may be used.

• Submission Process:

- The applicant completes/finalizes all sections and forwards it to the organization's
 ASO for review and final submission to CPRIT. The ASO is an individual authorized to submit an application for the organization.
- The application must be submitted by the ASO by December 2, 2025, 4 PM central time.
- o **NOTE:** CARS will be unavailable the third Thursday of each month between 7 PM and 9 PM central time for routine system maintenance.

• Tab Finalization and Reset:

- o Application information saved "as draft" can be edited later.
- Once application information is "finalized for ASO approval," it can be edited only after an ASO has reset the section to draft mode at the request of the Contact PI.

• Adding an ORCID ID to Applicant Profile (optional step)

All applicants who are currently registered with ORCID are encouraged to associate their IDs with CARS as described below in <u>section 7</u>. Applicants who are not registered with ORCID can do so using the link provided above or within CARS as described in <u>section 7</u>.

• Application Submission Deadline

The application must be submitted on or before <u>December 2, 2025, 4 PM central</u> time.

4. APPLICATION PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

- The applicant completes/finalizes a series of numbered tabs of the application.
- Finalized tabs can be reset by the ASO.
- Once all tabs are finalized, the ASO reviews, approves, and submits the application to CPRIT.

5. APPLICATION/AUTHORIZED SIGNING OFFICIAL (ASO)

The ASO is an individual authorized to submit an application on behalf of an organization. An ASO is required on the application and must be identified by the Contact PI. As the organization's representative, the ASO is required to review the tabs finalized by the Contact PI and subsequently submit the application. Only the ASO is authorized to officially submit the application to CPRIT. The ASO can reset Contact PI-finalized tabs to draft at the request of the Contact PI.

6. GRANTS CONTRACT/OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROJECTS OFFICIAL

The Grants Contract/Office of Sponsored Projects Official is the individual who will manage the grant if an award is made. This individual must be identified for the application. The Contact PI or the ASO can assign this individual to this role.

7. USER REGISTRATION AND/OR LOGIN

Applicants begin the application process by registering or logging into CARS (https://cpritgrants.org). On successful login into the system, applicants will be presented with the *My Applications* page. All prior submitted applications by that user are listed on this page. After initial registration or after login, all users are encouraged to complete/verify the information under the *My Profile* link on the top left of this screen.



As directed by the modal window, during the initial login, on the "My Profile" page, the user is displayed a description of the authentication process and is invited through an ORCID-branded

link to correlate his or her CARS and ORCID profiles. Note that the system will also provide identical functionality within the "Contacts" tab of all new applications.

Upon clicking on the ORCID-branded link, the system will open a new tab on the user's browser that will direct the user to enter his or her ORCID username and password. <u>Users without an</u> ORCID account can initiate one from this window.

Upon a successful login to the ORCID system, the user will be directed to a modal window that explicitly requests permission from the user to share his/her public ORCID profile with CARS.

If permission to correlate the 2 accounts has been provided by the authenticated user, the system then returns the user to the page from which the authentication started (ie, either the "My Profile" page or the "Contacts" tab of a new application). The system will then display a brief message confirming the authentication and replacing the ORCID-branded link with a new button that directs the user to his/her specific ORCID profile page.

8. STARTING A NEW APPLICATION

New applications are not allowed for this RFA.

9. STARTING A RESUBMISSION APPLICATION

Resubmissions are not allowed for this RFA.

10. STARTING A RENEWAL APPLICATION

- Renewal applications may be submitted for funded CFSAs.
- Renewal applications can be started from the *My Applications* page by clicking the "Start Renewal Application" link of a previously funded application.
- Options to "Select Renewal Application Award Type" will appear on the screen. The
 appropriate award mechanism under which the renewal will be submitted must be
 selected. After selecting the award mechanism, instructions and requirements for selected
 mechanism, as specified in the appropriate RFA, must be followed.
- Upon starting a renewal application, applicants may revise the title of the application
 (prepopulated from the previous submission; 160-character limit) and select the submitter
 role. Do NOT use symbols or special characters—these will not be transmitted correctly.

• Applicants are also required to select the category of research to be supported and enter a brief explanation (250 characters; can be edited later).

Once these steps are completed, applicants will be directed to the summary page.

Important: CPRIT only allows 1 opportunity to submit an active award renewal application in response to this RFA.

NOTE: Only the title of the previously funded CFSA is prepopulated for a renewal application. All other information, collaborators, and all required documents must be submitted afresh.

Applicants are advised to carefully read the information on the summary page before moving on to the numbered tabs.

- Tab 1 (Contacts) **must** be completed/finalized prior to Tab 3 (Project Personnel & Collaborators).
- Tab 2 (Application Information) must be completed/finalized prior to Tab 5 (Budget).

All tabs must be completed/finalized by the Contact PI before the ASO can review, approve, and successfully submit the application.

11. STATUS DISPLAY

11.1. Tab Status

The status of each tab is displayed under the row of numbered tabs. The figure below is an example of the status of Tab 1.



Status	Status Definition			
DRAFT	The tab is being prepared by the applicant.			
PENDING ASO APPROVAL	The tab has been finalized by the applicant. When all tabs are finalized and reflect this status, the ASO will receive email notification stating that the application can be reviewed/ submitted. The applicant is included on this notification.			

ASO APPROVED AND SUBMITTED

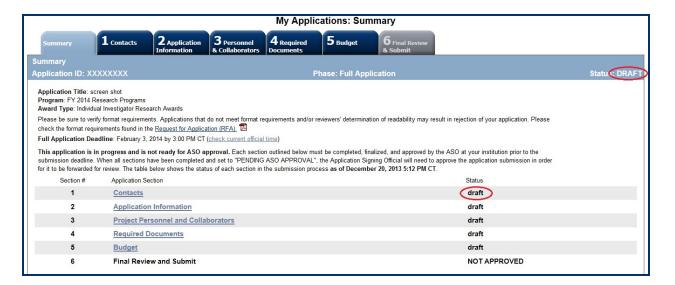
The ASO has reviewed, approved, and submitted the application to CPRIT. Once the application has been submitted by the ASO, the Contact PI is notified via email.

11.2 Application Status

The status displayed under the row of numbered tabs on the *Summary* tab indicates the status of the application (as indicated in the figure below).

12. TAB: SUMMARY

The status of each tab is also displayed on this page. Status definitions are described below.



Section	Status	Status Definition
1-5	Draft	The tab is being prepared by the applicant.
1-5	The tab has been finalized by the applicant. Who finalized and reflect this status, the ASO will red notification stating that the application can be resubmitted. The applicant is included on this notification revert a tab with this status back to	
6	Not Approved	The application has not been approved/submitted by the ASO.

6	Pending	All tabs have been finalized by the applicant and reflect the status "PENDING ASO APPROVAL." At this point, the application is awaiting ASO approval and subsequent submission.
All Tabs	ASO Approved and Submitted	The ASO has reviewed, approved, and submitted the application to CPRIT. Once the application has been submitted by the ASO, the PI is notified via email.

NOTE: As stated in the preceding section, the status displayed under the row of numbered tabs on this page indicates the status of the entire application.

13. TAB 1: CONTACTS

- **Contact Principal Investigator:** Verify information for the Contact PI; update as necessary.
- Alternate Submitter (Optional): An alternate submitter may be designated on the application by the Contact PI. If an alternate submitter is to be designated on the application:
 - Click the Search for *Alternate Submitter* button.
 - o Enter information and click the Search Contacts button.
 - o If the individual is listed on the subsequent search results page, that individual may be added to the application via the *Add Contact* link.
 - o If the individual is not listed, different search criteria may be used (eg, using the last name only, spelling variations). Alternatively, the individual may be invited to register in CARS and be part of the application by clicking the *Send Invitation* link. On the subsequent page, complete the fields, and click the *Send Invitation* button. When this individual joins the application as an alternate submitter, his or her information will be listed in the appropriate section of the tab.
 - Change or remove an individual by clicking the appropriate button.
- Application Signing Official (Required): An ASO <u>must</u> be listed to complete/finalize
 this tab. Click the *Search for Application Signing Official* button. Follow the search
 guidelines above.

- Alternate Application Signing Official (Optional): This individual can be assigned only by the ASO. Follow the search guidelines above.
- Grants Contract/Office of Sponsored Projects Official (Required): A Grants
 Contract/Office of Sponsored Projects Official <u>must</u> be listed to complete/finalize this
 tab. This individual can be assigned by the Contact PI or the ASO. Follow the search
 guidelines above.

When all information is entered, click the *Finalize Contacts Section* button. Note that this tab cannot be finalized until the 3 required fields of this section, namely, "Contact Principal Investigator," "Application Signing Official," and "Grants Contract/Office of Sponsored Projects Official" have been completed. Contact PI information is entered automatically; an ASO must be identified and added by the Contact PI. The Grants Contract/Office of Sponsored Projects Official may be identified and added by the Contact PI or the ASO.

14. TAB 2: APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Application Identification:
 - Award Mechanism: Verify the listed award mechanism. Note that the award mechanism cannot be changed here.
 - o Application Type: Verify application type (drop list defaults to Renewal).
 - o **Application Title:** The application title is stated. Edit if necessary.
 - Category of research/project to be supported: Applications that support research/projects directed toward childhood and adolescent cancer must select "Yes."
 If "Yes" is selected, description text is displayed. Edit as necessary.
 - o **Population Science Focus:** Select "Yes" if the research has a focus on population science. Edit the description text that is displayed if necessary.
 - Texas Regional Excellence in Cancer (TREC) Eligibility: Select the appropriate
 option based on your institution's eligibility as a TREC institution (see <u>appendix 3</u>).

• Project Information:

 Contract Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy): The contract start date of 6/1/2026 is prepopulated. o **Proposed End Date (mm/dd/yyyy):** Enter the proposed end date of the project. The maximum duration for CFSAs is 5 years (60 months).

• Application Classification:

- Research Area: Select the research area that best describes the proposed work. Please refer to *appendix 1* for a detailed description of each research area.
- Program Focus: Select the focus of the proposed work. Please refer to <u>appendix 2</u> for the definitions of cancer research types.
- Cancer Focus: Select the most relevant cancer focus, up to a <u>maximum of 3</u>. If the focus of the project is not on a specific cancer site(s), select All Cancers. The selection of cancer focus in this section assists CPRIT with reporting on cancer research that is being performed.
- Vertebrate Animals: Indicate whether vertebrate animals will be used.
- **Biologic/Anatomic Substances:** Indicate whether cadavers will be used. In addition, specify the use of human anatomical substances. If human anatomical substances will be used, specify if the substances are traceable to specific donors. Also, select applicable safety provisions.
- **Human Subjects:** Indicate whether human subjects will be used. Specify the gender, age, and ethnicity of the study population. Specify the method of data collection. Provide the general demographic focus. Select the type of clinical trial, if applicable.

• State Legislative Districts:

- o **State Senate District:** Enter the State Senate District of your institution. Use the link provided to find this information using the applicant's institutional address.
- State House District: Enter the State House District of your institution. Use the link provided to find this information using the applicant's institutional address.

• Cancellation of Applications/Awards by Granting Organization (in past 5 years):

- Select whether the Contact PI is currently eligible to receive federal grant funds. If
 "No" is selected, provide a reason.
- Select whether the Contact PI had an application or award terminated for cause within the last 5 years. If yes, then select the category of Application or Award. Select the Granting Organization. Enter the Award Title, Award Number, Award Amount, and

the Reason for Cancellation. Click the *Add Application/Award* link to add additional applications or awards.

• Donations:

- Select whether the Contact PI or any individual listed on the application has made a
 donation, gift, or grant to CPRIT, the CPRIT Foundation, the Texas Cancer Coalition,
 or any nonprofit organization/entity established to benefit CPRIT.
- o If yes, then enter the name of the donor, entity name, donation amount, and date of donation. Click the *Add Donation* link to add additional donations.

• CPRIT Priorities Addressed (from Statute or Texas Cancer Plan):

 Choose the CPRIT priority addressed in the application. More than 1 priority may be selected.

Review the instructions and click the appropriate button (Save Application Information as Draft or Finalize Application Information for ASO Approval) to save entered application information.

NOTE: Application information saved "as draft" can be edited later. Application information "finalized for ASO approval" can be edited only after the ASO has reset the application to draft mode at the request of the Contact PI.

15. TAB 3: PROJECT PERSONNEL AND COLLABORATORS

• Investigators and Submitters:

- o Please make sure that the Contact PI is appropriately listed here.
- Contact Principal Investigator: The Contact PI will be responsible for the submission of the application, all reporting requirements, and all budgeting decisions.
- Multi-Principal Investigator(s): MIs are not allowed under this RFA. Note that CPRIT does not allow the use of the term Co-PI.
- O Please note that the biosketch for the Contact PI must be uploaded under the *Required Documents* tab (see section 16). Biosketches previously uploaded in *My Profile* will not be included in the application

• Project Personnel and Collaborators:

 It is your responsibility to enter information for all project personnel, paid or unpaid, including any collaborators.

- All roles listed for a specific person under this tab must match the role listed for that person under the Budget for All Key Personnel and Budget Justification.
- A <u>collaborator</u> is an individual who contributes to the scientific or business development or execution of the project but is not responsible for leadership or accountability for managing the project. A collaborator can be paid or unpaid. A collaborator can be paid or unpaid. Please note that collaborators at organizations outside of the State of Texas <u>cannot be paid</u> with CPRIT funds.
- The purpose of this section is for reviewers to be able to determine if they have any conflicts of interest with any of the listed individuals, at which point they would be required to recuse themselves from the review of the application.

When all information is entered, click the *Finalize Project Personnel & Collaborators* button. Note that this tab can be finalized only after Tab 1 (*Contacts*) has been finalized.

16. TAB 4: REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

NOTE: All documents must be uploaded in PDF format only. The system will not allow upload of documents in other formats or of documents that exceed the page limits specified in the individual RFAs. Do NOT password protect documents. Do NOT submit documents that are bound together in a single PDF package.

• Application Abstracts: Abstract and Significance and Layperson's Summary: Enter the Abstract and Significance (5,000 characters) and Layperson's Summary (2,000 characters) of the proposed work. Character limits include letters, spaces, and punctuation. Do NOT use symbols or special characters (eg, Greek letters)—these will not be transmitted correctly. Save the entered information by clicking the Save Application Abstracts as Draft button. Information must be saved before any documents are uploaded below or the Abstract and Significance and/or Layperson's Summary will be lost when the upload refreshes the web page.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to capture CPRIT's attention primarily with the information provided in the <u>Abstract and Significance</u>. Please refer to the RFA for specific requirements. The <u>Layperson's Summary</u> will be used by advocate reviewers to evaluate the significance and impact of the proposed work. The information provided in

the Layperson's Summary should describe, in simple, nontechnical terms, the overall goals of the proposed work, the type(s) of cancer addressed, the potential significance of the results, and the impact of the work on advancing the field of cancer research, early detection, prevention, treatment, or survivorship. The information provided in the Layperson's Summary will be made publicly available by CPRIT, particularly if the application is recommended for funding. Do not include any proprietary information in the Layperson's Summary.

- Specific Aims and Subaims: Enter your specific aims and subaims as plain text (1,200 characters per aim and per subaim). Please provide a description of the aims and subaims and milestones to be achieved for each year of the project. Provide 2 to 3 sentences describing activities to be performed and anticipated milestones. Your goal is to develop aims that are attainable during the proposed award duration and have clear end points that reviewers can readily evaluate. The project's subaims are the steps you will build to reach your specific aim. The specific aims and subaims will also be used during the evaluation of annual progress reports to assess project outcomes and progress. HTML formatting, tables, charts, and diagrams are not supported. Specific aims and subaims may be saved as a DRAFT at any time by clicking the Save Specific Aims and Subaims as Draft button. Any unsaved specific aims and subaims will be lost.
 - At least 1 specific aim and 1 subaim are required. At least 1 subaim is required per aim. Up to 5 specific aims and 5 subaims per aim may be entered.
 - o Click the "Add Subaim" link to add an additional subaim to a specific aim.
 - Click the "Add Specific Aim" link to add additional aims.
- Timeline (1 page): The timeline should include key dates, tasks, responsible parties, and milestones, all clearly outlining the project's progression and feasibility. It should demonstrate how the project will be executed within the given time frame and budget, and it should be detailed enough for reviewers to understand the project's management and timeline. Upload a PDF of the timeline document. The timeline must correspond with the specific aims and subaims and the duration requested for the award. Timelines will be reviewed during the evaluation of annual progress reports. A sample timeline can be found under *Current Funding Opportunities* for Academic Research in CARS. If the application is approved for funding, this section will be included in the award contract.

- Applicants are advised not to include information that they consider confidential or proprietary when preparing this section.
- Institutional Support (2 pages): Upload the letter of institutional support from the president or provost or equivalent indicating commitment to the program and certifying that this is the sole application submitted by this institution in response to the RFA. The letter should also indicate any support of the facility for activities not related to cancer research. Please refer to the RFA for specific details.
- Renewal Summary (2 pages not including Renewal Tables): Upload the Renewal Summary PDF document. This option is available for renewal applications only. Applicants preparing a renewal proposal of a CPRIT-funded core facility must describe and establish that exceptional progress has been made on the current funded award and demonstrate a compelling justification for continued CPRIT support of the facility. Quality and cost efficiency of the services alone are not sufficient justifications for continued CPRIT support.
- Renewal Tables: This is available for renewal applications only. Using the provided templates, list the number of users utilizing the facility and the institutions served (Table 1), the peer-reviewed grants resulting from facility support (Table 2), publications (published and in press) citing utilization of the facility (Table 3), clinical trials utilizing the facility (Table 4), and patents filed or granted that have resulted from work supported by the facility (Table 5).
- The following 5 tables displayed below are required. Note that the utilization parameters and table formats should follow the instructions for completing the CPRIT annual progress report. Refer to the Table templates in the document located in *Current Funding Opportunities* for Academic Research in CARS.

Table 1: Utilization of the facility. In Table 1, list the total number of users that have utilized the facility by PI's institution.

Table 1: Utilization of	f the facility
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Institution	# Of Users

Table 2: Additional/Follow-On Funding. Provide information about the peer-reviewed grants resulting from facility support in Table 2. Include the funding source, type of funder, grant ID, title of grant, total amount received (direct and indirect costs over the entire performance period), total project period of investment/award, a description of the funding, PI of the grant, and PI's organization.

Table 2: Additional/Follow-On Funding

Funding Source	Type of Funder	Award ID	Title of Grant	Total Amount Received(Direct and Indirect Costs for All Years)	Total Project Period of Investment/Award	Investment/ Award Description	PI	PI Organization

Table 3: Publications citing the facility. Enter publications citing utilization of the facility in Table 3. Include the following information: PubMed ID, authors, title, journal name, and publication date.

Table 3: Publications citing the facility

PubMed ID	Authors	Title	Journal	Publication Date

Table 4: Clinical trials supported by the facility. In Table 4, provide information on the clinical trials utilizing the facility. Enter clinical trial name, clinicaltrials.gov identifier, clinical research category (interventional and observational), primary purpose, primary anatomic cancer site, phase of clinical trial, clinical trial focus, clinical trial site, and number of patients enrolled.

Table 4: Clinical trials supported by the facility

Trial Name	Clinicaltrials.gov ID	Clinical Research Category	Primary Purpose*	Primary Anatomic Cancer Site	Phase	Trial Focus**	Trial Site	Total Number of Patients Accrued to Date

Table 5: Filed/granted patents resulting from research supported by the facility. In Table 5, provide information on the patents filed or granted that have resulted from work supported by the facility. Enter patent number, inventors, patent title, description, date of publication or issue, and date the patent application was filed and/or granted.

Table 5: Filed/granted patents resulting from research supported by the facility

Patent Number	Inventors	Patent Title	Description	Date of Publication or Issue	Date of Patent Filed and/or granted

- Core Facility Plan (up to 5 pages): Upload the Core Facility Plan PDF document (see RFA for details).
- Documentation that the proposed core facility does not duplicate existing services (up to 2 pages): Upload documentation that the proposed core facility does not duplicate existing services as a PDF document (see RFA for details).
- Vertebrate Animals and/or Human Subjects (up to 2 pages): Upload the Vertebrate Animals and/or Human Subjects PDF document. If not applicable, upload a page with the following statement: "No vertebrate animals and/or human subjects will be used."
- **Publications/References:** Upload the Publications/References PDF document. Complete journal articles are not allowed under this section.
- User Group (up to 8 pages): Upload the User Group PDF document. Provide a tabular summary of all users of the requested facility. Discuss if cancer researchers from other Texas academic institutions or industry scientists have access to the facility and the terms for such access (see RFA for details).
- Contact PI Biographical Sketch (up to 5 pages): Upload the PDF biographical sketch of the Contact PI. NIH biosketches may be used.
- Biographical Sketches of 5 Additional Key Personnel (25-page maximum): If desired, up to 5 additional biographical sketches for key personnel may be provided (a template is posted under the *Summary* tab, but an NIH biosketch may also be used). Biosketches must not exceed 5 pages for each individual. If multiple biosketches are provided, these must be combined into a single file and submitted as a single PDF document (ie, a 25-page document consisting of five 5-page biosketches).
- Current and Pending Support: Information on all active and pending support should be listed on the Current and Pending Support document including any potential overlap in funding. For all personnel for whom a biosketch is submitted with the application, upload their current and pending support (use the template posted under the Summary tab). Do not provide current and pending support for individuals for whom a biosketch was not included in the application. Multiple documents must be combined and submitted as a

single PDF document. At a minimum, the current and pending support of the Contact PI must be included in this document. Each Current and Pending Support document must include the corresponding investigator's name at the top of the page.

- Institutional/Collaborator Support and/or Other Certification (up to 4 pages):
 Upload letters of institutional and/or collaborator support and other certification
 documents. Multiple letters/files must be combined and submitted as a single PDF
 document. A maximum of 2 letters may be present on a page. Applicants MUST NOT
 submit "appendix material," such as publications, figures, and/or data.
- **Budget Justification:** Upload the Budget Justification PDF document. Provide a <u>brief</u> and concise justification of the budget for the entire proposed period of support for all charge categories: personnel (salaries and fringe benefits), travel, equipment, supplies, consultant charges, contractual (subaward/consortium) charges, research-related subject charges, other expenses (including animal care charges), and indirect charges. <u>Each</u> subaward must itemize project charges for all charge categories. (see also <u>section 17.4</u>).

When all information is entered, click the *Finalize Required Documents* button.

17. TAB 5: BUDGET

This tab should include only the amount requested from CPRIT; do NOT include the amount of the matching funds.

The Budget section is composed of 4 subtabs:

- 1. Budget for All Project Personnel
- 2. Detailed Budget for Year 1
- 3. Budget for Entire Proposed Period of Performance
- 4. Budget Justification

All 4 subtabs must be completed to finalize this section. A detailed budget for the first year of the project is required. For a Renewal CFSA, an applicant may request a maximum of \$2,000,000 in total costs.

NOTE: Some or all the following buttons appear on each subtab:

Previous = Move to the previous subtab

Next = Move to the next subtab

Save Budget as Draft = Save entered information

Finalize Budget for ASO Approval = Finalize section

The *Previous* and *Next* buttons allow the user to move between subtabs while retaining entered information for as long as the user is on the *Budget* tab. Information entered on any subtab is NOT saved until the *Save Budget as Draft* button is clicked. Moving to another tab without saving will result in loss of any unsaved changes.

Expenses in the proposed budget must be categorized as personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, contractual, other, and indirect costs. Information on the expenses associated with these budget categories and allowable costs can be found in Chapters 9 and 10 of the *CPRIT Policies and Procedures Guide*. The guide's expense classifications in each budget category carry over to the quarterly financial status report that must be completed for every funded project and approved by CPRIT. If for any reason an expense is not categorized correctly in the budget of an application that becomes an approved project, that expense will have to be recategorized to conform to CPRIT's requirements and be approved in a quarterly financial status report.

17.1. Budget for All Project Personnel (use web form provided)

Complete the requested information.

First Name and **Last Name**: The Contact PI's name is prepopulated. Enter names of other individuals, as necessary. Additional rows will autopopulate once text is entered into the existing last row.

Role on Project: The Contact PI's role is prepopulated. Enter roles of other individuals as necessary. Please make sure that the individual's role matches their role entered under Tab 3: Project Personnel and Collaborators and their role in the Budget Justification document.

Type of Appointment (Months): For each individual listed, enter his or her appointment type (eg, 6-month, 9-month, 12-month appointment).

Annual Base Salary: For each individual listed, enter his or her institutional base salary. The salary cap for CPRIT awards for FY 2026 (September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026) is \$225,000; see section 17.5 Salary Cap.

Effort on Project: For each individual listed, enter their percent effort on the project. Note the Contact PI must commit a minimum of 10% level of effort throughout the entire award period. An individual's effort on the project must be entered here even if they will be paid through a subcontract award and their salary is entered as \$0.

Salary Requested: After entering the information in these categories, click "Calc" to autocalculate the requested salary. If a project personnel is being paid through a subcontract award, enter a \$0 amount in the Annual Base Salary field and the Salary Requested field. Their salary can be included in the Contractual (Subaward/Services Contracts) section of the detailed budget.

Fringe Benefits: For each individual listed, their institutional fringe benefits must be calculated based on their direct *Salary Requested*. Fringe benefits may not exceed 35% of the salary requested (a warning will be displayed).

17.2. Detailed Budget for Year 1

Provide the information requested for other direct charges in the first year of the project.

Travel: Include any project-related travel charges. CPRIT cannot support patient-related travel charges. CPRIT funds may be used to send up to 2 people to CPRIT's biennial conference. International travel requires approval prior to the travel occurrence through either the application or the submission of a request after a project is funded.

Equipment (400-character limit): Equipment having an acquisition cost of \$10,000 or more per unit must be specifically approved by CPRIT. An applicant does not need to seek this approval prior to submitting the application. Per Texas Grant Management Standards, as of September 1, 2024, for all CPRIT grantees, the minimum threshold for equipment purchases is \$10,000. Generally, any purchases up to \$9,999 should now be categorized as supplies. However, any proposed equipment purchase in an application removed by a peer review panel will not be reconsidered if the project is funded.

Supplies (800-character limit): Itemize costs for research materials, consumable office supplies, and tangible equipment with a cost under \$9,999.

Contractual (Subaward/Services Contracts) (400-character limit): Itemize each subaward, consulting service contract, and service contract directly related to the project such as those for contract research organizations or other specialized services. For the purposes of the budget, these are all considered subcontracts. If project personnel are paid through a subcontract award, enter \$0 in the Annual Base Salary field and the Salary Requested field and enter their salary information here. Provide direct contract costs only. Any indirect costs charged on a subcontract must be categorized as an *Indirect Cost* and are calculated in the overall 5% indirect cost limitation. Each subcontract must be itemized in the *Budget Justification* subtab by providing project charges for personnel, travel, equipment, supplies, and other expenses.

Other (800-character limit): Itemize other project-associated expenses such as the organization's costs for the participation of human subjects in clinicals trials or animal care charges for animal studies that will not be paid through a contractual arrangement. Funds can be used to pay for any patient care costs outlined in the RFA as well as patient participation incentive gift cards or direct paid transportation services; however, grant funds cannot be used to reimburse a patient or pay for travel expenses or other participation expenses of a patient participating in a clinical trial at this time.

Indirect Costs: Texas state law limits the amount of award funds that may be spent on indirect costs to no more than 5% of the total award amount (or 5.263% of the direct costs).

<u>Total Indirect Charges for Year 1</u> (line D) should not exceed 5% of the <u>Total Charges for Year 1</u> (line E). As an example, for a total award of \$100,000, indirect charges may not exceed \$5,000; direct charges would be \$95,000.

Calculate as follows: Total Indirect Charges = (Total Direct Charges/0.95) – Total Direct Charges.

Note on Subaward Contracts: Subawards may recover up to the maximum of 5% in indirect charges of the total requested subaward amount. However, any indirect charges recovered in a subaward count toward the overall 5% indirect cost limitation of the funded award. Therefore, the primary institution completing the application must ensure that all indirect costs are

calculated correctly in the total amount requested. If a project is funded, the primary institution receiving the award must manage the subaward contract costs including the allowable indirect costs.

17.3. Budget for Entire Proposed Period of Performance

Amounts for *Budget Year 1* will be autopopulated based on the information provided on the previous subtabs, namely, *Budget for All Project Personnel* and *Detailed Budget for Year 1*. For each additional year of support requested, enter the budget requested for personnel charges and other applicable direct charges. Fringe benefits may not exceed 35% of the salary (a warning will be displayed). Adjustments of up to a 3% annual increase for salary and other categories are permitted for additional years. A 3% salary increase for each year after Year 1 is permitted up to the cap of \$225,000. The salary cap (section 17.5) may be revised every year at CPRIT's discretion.

Enter the indirect charges for each additional year of support requested. *Total Indirect Charges* (line D) should not exceed 5% of the total requested award amount for that year (sum of lines C and D).

17.4. Budget Justification

Provide a brief and concise justification of the budget for the entire proposed period of support for all budget categories: Personnel (salaries and fringe benefits), travel, equipment, supplies, contractual charges, other expenses, and indirect charges. <u>Each subaward must itemize project charges for all budget categories.</u>

If you uploaded this document under Tab 4 (Required Documents) (see <u>section 16</u>), you can click on the link directing you to your uploaded file. If you have not uploaded this document yet, please click on the link that will direct you to Tab 4 (*Required Documents*) where you can upload this file (see <u>section 16</u>).

17.5. Salary Cap

The salary cap for CPRIT awards in FY 2026 (September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026) is \$225,000. Thus, the maximum direct salary support an individual can request is up to \$225,000 of his or her institutional salary based on effort on a project. Note: Salary does not include fringe

benefits and/or facilities and administrative costs, also referred to as indirect costs. (See RFA for details).

The following table outlines the salary cap guidelines; note that the maximum salary for levels of effort below 100% is proportionate to the allowable direct salary (see the third line in the table as an example). Institutional fringe benefits should be calculated based on the direct salary support requested.

Base institutional salary (full-time calendar appointment)	Effort on project	Maximum direct salary support that would be requested by the applicant		
Less than \$225,000	1%-100%	Up to base salary		
More than \$225,000 (eg, \$300,000)	100%	\$225,000		
More than \$225,000 (eg, \$300,000)	50%	\$112,500		

18. TAB 6: FINAL REVIEW & SUBMIT

When Tabs 1 through 5 have been completed and finalized by the applicant, the status of the application is set to "PENDING ASO APPROVAL." The ASO will then receive email notification to review, approve, and submit the application to CPRIT. Only the ASO is authorized to officially submit the application. The ASO must log in to the system and click the appropriate application ID number listed under his or her *My Applications* page. To submit the application, the ASO must enter his or her password and click the *Approve and Submit Application* button. The ASO will then be asked to click the *Continue* button to submit the application. After the application has been submitted, the status of the application on the *My Applications* page (and on all tabs of that application) will be "ASO APPROVED AND SUBMITTED." The ASO at the Contact PI's institution must submit the application by the submission deadline: December 2, 2025, 4 PM central time.

19. PROVIDED TEMPLATES

Applicants <u>must</u> use the provided template to prepare and submit the following documents.

- <u>Current and Pending Support</u> (.doc, .PDF)
- CFSA Renewal Tables (.doc, .PDF)

A template is provided for the biographical sketch. An NIH biographical sketch may also be used if desired. Additional templates and samples are also provided for the Timeline and Specific Aims Page.

Templates are posted under <u>Current Funding Opportunities</u> for Academic Research in CARS and are available in .doc and .PDF format.

20. VERTEBRATE ANIMALS/HUMAN SUBJECTS

Whenever vertebrate animals or human subjects are part of a CPRIT-funded project, a copy of the recipient organization's Institutional Review Board (IRB) and/or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval must be provided to CPRIT before funding can be released. For multiyear projects, annual confirmation of IRB or IACUC approval is required. This information is not required at the time of submission of the application.

21. FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS

All sections of the application must be written in clear and legible text and must follow the guidelines described below. Applicants are advised to use font sizes, font faces, line spacing, page sizes, and page margins that permit easy readability of the application text. Every attempt should be made to keep files sizes to a minimum (see *Scanning Resolution* below). Applications that do not meet these guidelines are subject to administrative withdrawal.

Formatting guidelines for all submitted CPRIT applications are as follows:

• Language: English

• **Document Format:** PDF only

• Font Type/Size: Arial (11 point), Calibri (11 point), or Times New Roman (12 point)

• Line Spacing: Single

• Page Size: 8.5 x 11 inches

• Margins: 0.75 inch, all directions

• Color and High-Resolution Images: Images, graphs, figures, and other illustrations must be submitted as part of the appropriate submitted document. Applicants should include text to explain illustrations that may be difficult to interpret when printed in black and white.

- Scanning Resolution: Images and figures must be of lowest reasonable resolution that permits clarity and readability. Unnecessarily large files will NOT be accepted, especially those that include only text.
- References: Applicants should use a citation style that includes the full name of the article and that lists at least the first 3 authors. Official journal abbreviations may be used. An example is included below; however, other citation styles meeting these parameters are also acceptable if the journal information is stated. URLs of publications referenced in the application may be included.
 - Smith, PT, Doe, J, White, JM, et al (2006). Elaborating on a novel mechanism for cancer progression. *Journal of Cancer Research*, 135:45-67.
- Internet URLs: Applicants are encouraged to provide the URLs of publications referenced in the application; however, applicants should not include URLs directing reviewers to websites containing additional information about the proposed research.
- **Headers and Footers:** Headers and footers <u>should not be used</u> (unless they are part of a provided template).
- Page Numbering: <u>DO NOT</u> add page numbers in any of the submitted documents.

 These will be added automatically by the system when the application is concatenated.
- All attachments that require signatures must be filled out, printed, signed, scanned, and then uploaded in PDF format.

22. CONTACT INFORMATION

22.1. Helpdesk

The Helpdesk will answer queries submitted via email within 1 business day. Helpdesk support is available for questions regarding user registration and online submission of applications as well as page limitations, formatting, and how to upload application components/subsections in the appropriate tabs of the CARS. Helpdesk staff cannot answer scientific questions and/or Academic Research Program aspects of an application.

Hours of operation: Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM central time

Tel: 866-941-7146

Email: <u>Help@CPRITGrants.org</u>

22.2. Scientific and Programmatic Questions

Scientific and programmatic questions should be directed to the CPRIT Director of Academic Research. Before contacting CPRIT, please refer to this document and the corresponding RFA document carefully and contact the Helpdesk for any items related to the Application Receipt System (CARS), page limitations, formatting, etc.

Email: research@cprit.texas.gov

Website: www.cprit.texas.gov

Appendix 1: DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH AREAS

In <u>Tab 2</u> (Application Information/Application Classification) the applicant is **required** to select a research area that best describes the proposed work. A list of research areas can be found below:

- Imaging
- Radiation Oncology/Radiotherapy
- Informatics, Computational Biology and Analytic Methods
- Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning
- Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Prognosis
- Oncogenes, Tumor Suppressor Genes, Signal Transduction
- Genetics, Genomics
- Gene Regulation and Expression, Epigenomics
- Protein Biology/Proteomics
- Targeted Therapies
- Immunotherapies
- Drug Discovery/Drug Development
- Drug Delivery
- Nanotechnology, Nanomedicine
- Immunology/Inflammation
- Tumor Microenvironment
- Tumor Metabolism/Metabolomics
- Microbiome
- Neuro-oncology/Neuroscience
- Population Science
- Epidemiology

Appendix 2: PROGRAM FOCUS-Definitions of Cancer Research Types

In <u>Tab 2</u> (Application Information/Application Classification), the applicant is required to select a program focus that best describes the proposed cancer research type. Descriptions of cancer research types are as follows*:

- **Basic Research** results in the acquisition of new knowledge and elucidates fundamental mechanisms in biology.
- Translational Research involves the application of discoveries from basic research to
 practical problems associated with cancer as well as research on how to improve best
 practices in the community.
- Clinical Research involves studies with human subjects and includes patient-oriented
 research on mechanisms of disease, therapy, and development of new technologies as
 well as epidemiological and behavioral studies and outcomes and health services
 research.
- Cancer Prevention, Control, Survivorship, Outcomes, and Population Science

*Taken from, Rubio et al, "Defining Translational Research: Implications for Training," *Academic Medicine*, 85:470-475, 2010.

Appendix 3: TREC ELIGIBILITY

In <u>Tab 2</u> (*Application Information/Application Classification*), the applicant can select whether their institution is designated as a TREC-eligible institution.

TREC-Eligible Institutions are the following:

- Baylor University
- Texas A&M University
- Texas Tech University
- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso
- The University of Texas at El Paso
- The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler
- The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley