

Texas Biomed IN-TRAC Preliminary Data Pilot Grants
2026 Request for Proposals (RFP)

Narrative/Scope:

This opportunity for IN-TRAC participants supports pilot research projects of up to \$50,000 per application to generate preliminary/feasibility data from technologies or disciplines that are new to a laboratory. Awarded preliminary data pilot grants will generate preliminary/feasibility data for federal grant submissions or peer-reviewed manuscript submission/resubmission.

Applicant eligibility:

IN-TRAC participants that are faculty, staff scientists or postdoctoral fellows may apply as a Principal Investigator (PI). Graduate students may submit as a co-PI. Applicants must be in good-standing with the program. To be in good standing the applicant should have completed or be scheduled to complete the requirements below.

- 1 annual journal club presentation
- Attend at least half of the Texas Tuberculosis Journal Club sessions
- 1 annual IN-TRAC Forum presentation or original research progress presentation

Submission Guidelines:

- Requests must be between \$20,000 - \$50,000, can support one year of research, and will support on-campus research projects that generate preliminary data from skills, technologies, and disciplines that are new to a laboratory.
- Funds can be used for salaries and benefits of the applicant.
- Funds can be used for animal costs, core fees and/or supplies, and externship training/travel.
- For post-doctoral fellows and staff scientist's, salary/benefits overages must be covered by supervisor funds.
- Research related to this award is expected to equip the applicant with new skills and technical abilities needed to generate data for pilot/feasibility data for external grant submissions (e.g. NIH R or K awards) or studies for peer-reviewed manuscript submission/resubmission.

Review Criteria and Process:

The IN-TRAC Development core will screen applications through a committee of IN-TRAC Core Directors/Co-Directors and externship leaders assessing the following review criteria (in priority order):

- Proposal generates preliminary data from a skill, technology, or discipline that is new to the applicant and/or laboratory.
- Proposal generates preliminary data for federal grant submissions or peer-reviewed manuscript submission/resubmission.
- Significance, innovation, and approach of the research project.
- Likelihood that the applicant will be competitive for extramural funding at completion.
- Capability of the applicant to complete the study.

Approval by the NIH IN-TRAC program leadership is required prior to any award being made. Applicants' participation in IN-TRAC events and classes will be considered. Applicants are awarded with the expectation of continued participation in IN-TRAC events and classes. Funds may be awarded with contingency of meeting criteria for being in good standing (see applicant eligibility).

Principal Investigators will receive feedback in the form of review sheets.

Reporting Requirements:

No-cost extensions require prior approval from the IN-TRAC Development Core 60 days before award end date.

At six month intervals a 1-page progress report will be submitted to the IN-TRAC Development Core until funding has been exhausted.

Important Deadlines and Instructions:

Due Date	Action	Instructions
Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 5pm	NOI/SOW to Submit	Principal Investigator must fill out this form stating intention to submit and a list of all co-investigators. No other information needed.
Friday, March 27, 2026	Approval to submit	Applicant will receive confirmation of approval or decline to submit a proposal from an IN-TRAC Program administrator. Sponsored Program Administration will be informed and will assign someone to assist you. You can contact them at spa@txbiomed.org .
Friday, April 3, 2026	Complete Required Training	Attend a scheduled Biosketch workshop, Infoed and final document procedure review, or complete on Paylocity
Friday, April 10, 2026 5pm	Vet Services Request (if needed)	If NHP resources are needed, the Principal Investigator must contact SNPRC Research Coordination and submit a Vet Services request. Please note that Research Coordination budgeting may take up to 3 weeks.
Monday, April 13, 2026, 5pm	Request Budget Assistance from SPA	For assistance with budget development of non-vet services costs, contact Sponsored Programs Administration by this date (spa@txbiomed.org).
Friday, April 24, 2026 5pm	Finalize Documents; Submission to SPA	Finalized documents are to be sent to your Sponsored Programs Administrator assistant for review.
Friday, May 1, 2026, 5pm	Final Proposal Package; Submission to VPR office	Documents are to be submitted via InfoEd by your Sponsored Programs Administration assistant.
Monday, June 1, 2026	Funding Announcements	Principal Investigator will be informed of the outcome of their application.