

SHSU AGING RESEARCH
COLLABORATIVE (ARC)

ARC SEED GRANT: ROUND 3

OBJECTIVES

The **primary objectives** of the SHSU Aging Research Collaborative (ARC) Seed Grant program are to promote aging-related research across all disciplines and SHSU campuses, to encourage faculty to generate preliminary data for larger external grant proposals, and to support peer-reviewed publications in high-impact journals.

AWARD

For **fiscal year 2026-27**, ARC will offer up to two awards of up to \$7,000 each. Each applicant may submit one proposal as Principal Investigator (PI) but may serve as a Co-Investigator (Co-I) on other proposals. Applications submitted in previous ARC Seed Grant rounds may be resubmitted if they include substantial modifications based on reviewer recommendations. Resubmissions must include a one-page Introduction summarizing the changes made in response to prior reviews (see Section 2a).

POST-AWARD OBLIGATIONS

Awardees must submit a progress report (**maximum two single-spaced pages**) and a financial update by June 30, 2027. A final report and financial summary are due by January 31, 2028.

DEADLINES

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. (CST) on Monday, November 16, 2026.

ELIGIBILITY

All full-time faculty members with continuing 9-month or 12-month tenure-track or tenured appointments at any SHSU campus are eligible to apply as PI. Non-tenure-track faculty are encouraged to participate as Co-Is. Proposals must be innovative and must address aging-related scientific questions in biomedical, neuroscience, nutritional, public health, environmental, mental health, social, or economic fields.

QUALIFYING EXPENSES

Funds may be used for equipment, laboratory supplies, software licenses, database access, research personnel support, research participant payments, sampling, surveys, and travel directly related to data collection. Faculty salary or incentive is allowed up to \$1,000. Publication costs and conference travel are not allowable. Indirect costs (IDC) are not allowed.



LET'S SEE YOU SUCCEED.

PROPOSAL

Include the following sections, with the page limits shown:

- 1. Cover sheet (1 page):** project title, investigators, and affiliations.
- 2. General project information:**
 - Introduction (**resubmissions only, 1 page**): summary of changes made in response to prior reviews
 - Abstract (**350 words maximum**)
 - Aims/Objectives (**1 page**)
 - Methodology and expected outcomes (**1 page**)
 - Significance and innovation (**2 pages**)
 - Approach/Methodology (**2 pages**): describe the methods and processes for each aim. Methods must be sufficient to achieve the stated goals. Include a feasible timeline of milestones.
- 3. Research personnel and environment**
 - Biosketch for each PI and Co-I, prepared as the Common Form for Biographical Sketch in your SciENcv account ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciencv/. Follow the SciENcv page limit.
 - Facilities and resources (**½ page**): If appropriate, describe the laboratory, field, or other facilities available to support the project.
- 4. Deliverables (1 page):** describe how you will disseminate the results. You must identify at least one specific external grant mechanism you plan to target, with an anticipated budget of \$200,000 or more. Include a timeline for submitting the external proposal and for at least one other dissemination product: a peer-reviewed manuscript and/or a presentation at a national scientific conference.
- 5. Budget and justification (1–2 pages):** a table showing the calculation for each line item, followed by a justification explaining each item.
- 6. References (no page limit):** AMA or APA (7th edition) format.
- 7. Supporting documents (when applicable, no page limit):** IRB/IACUC approval or evidence of pending submission, and letters of support. Funds for projects requiring IRB/IACUC approval will be released only after approval is obtained.

FORMATTING GUIDELINES

- Arial, 11-point font. Tables, figures, and references may use 10-point font.
- Single spacing, 1-inch margins.
- Page numbers at the bottom of each page.
- Follow all word and page limits above.
- Submit as a single PDF.

DEADLINE & SUBMISSION

Submit all application materials to Dr. Khalid Khan, Chair of the ARC Seed Grant Review Committee, at kxk051@shsu.edu by 11:59 p.m. (CST), [Monday, November 16, 2026]. Award notifications are expected by early January. Projects must be completed by December 31, 2027.

REVIEW CRITERIA

- 1. Overall responsiveness and relevance:** Does the application include all required sections (Sections 1–6, and Section 7 when applicable) and follow the page limits? Does the project address a topic relevant to aging research?
- 2. Significance:** Are the objectives, rationale, and potential impact clearly stated and well justified? Does the project address an important scientific problem or knowledge gap related to aging?
- 3. Innovation and approach:** Is the research conceptually innovative? Are the study design, methods, and analysis plan rigorous, feasible, and appropriate for the stated aims?
- 4. Investigators and research environment:** Do the PI and key personnel have the expertise, experience, and complementary skills needed to complete the project? Are the laboratory or field facilities adequate?
- 5. Potential for extramural funding and dissemination:** Does the proposal clearly describe how the pilot data will lead to a specific external grant application (anticipated budget of \$200,000 or more)? Does it describe dissemination through a peer-reviewed manuscript and/or a presentation at a national scientific conference?

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Awardees will work with the ARC Grants Coordinator to spend their funds. Original bills and paid receipts are required.

Click here to visit our website: shsu.edu/arc