

CSCRS Year Five Call for Research Proposals

Overview

To support the Collaborative Safety Center for Road Safety (CSCRS) mission to create and exchange knowledge to advance transportation safety through a multidisciplinary, [Safe Systems](#) approach, we are pleased to announce the 2020-2021 call for innovative, cross-disciplinary research projects on key transportation safety issues, taking a systems-oriented approach. Since this is the fifth and final year of our first UTC grant, this call will be more focused than most in order to best wrap up existing work, consider our progress, and plan for success in future years.

Funding Amount and Use

CSCRS intends to fund projects up to \$150,000 for one-year¹, but smaller-budget and shorter projects are encouraged. Funds for Year 5 are more limited, totaling \$500k plus funds already committed to FAU and Duke and those going toward completing existing multiyear projects. The funds will be granted only to CSCRS partner institutions. Multidisciplinary teams that transcend traditional silos of transportation research are encouraged. We welcome collaboration with other institutions and private partners, not involving CSCRS financial resource exchange (e.g., collaborations involving data sharing, project study coordination, student mentoring, twinning/parallel studies, matching funds, or other partnerships).

Eligibility

To be eligible for a research grant, proposed teams must:

- Identify one Principal Investigator (PI), who is employed at a University that is a CSCRS consortium member (e.g., UNC, FAU, UC-B, UT-K, or Duke).
- Notify the CSCRS Associate Director (AD) at your PI's institution of your intent to propose.
- Identify the source of any available non-Federal matching funds. A 100% match for the requested budget is preferred, but not required.
- Demonstrate the requisite experience to conduct the proposed research.
- Complete a proposal and draft budget.

Selection Process

Proposals must be submitted by the proposed project PI, by Friday, November 20, 2020, to be evaluated as part of the annual CSCRS research funding process. All proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Technical quality, feasibility, and potential impact of the proposed work, and soundness of the proposed team, and breadth of disciplines and partners involved
- Supports the goals of the [CSCRS Strategic Roadmap](#) including multi-disciplinary collaboration ([see report](#))
- Results and deliverables enhance existing transportation safety practice and are broadly applicable
- Research focused on gaps, specifically
 - Study of CSCRS research to-date
 - Integrate Safe Systems principles into road safety/public health/planning initiatives. (Strategic Goal 1)
 - Facilitate states and cities in implementing a Safe Systems approach in different contexts, utilizing the tools and research from CSCRS. (Strategic Goal 1)
- Project is a next steps from current research, especial those geared toward implementation, tech transfer and sharing research findings more broadly.
- Potential for sustained partnerships, impact on research or practice, and future funding opportunities, including outreach to potential future partners for the next phase of CSCRS. Ask your AD or CSCRS staff for details.
- Better understanding equity issues in transportation safety. Proposals should contribute to equity and diversity in transportation, either by including underrepresented partners in the research process or by providing value to underserved communities.

For additional information, contact Krista Nordback: nordback@hsrc.unc.edu.

¹ We will update proposers on the potential for project extensions into Year-6 (beyond September 2022) depending on USDOT decisions which may be made in early 2021.