

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health Research Accelerator Just-in-Time (JIT) Funding Opportunity

Application Due Date:	September 8, 2025 at 5 PM CT
Notice of Awards:	September 22, 2025
Project Period:	September 22, 2025 – June 30, 2026
Award Amount:	Up to \$10,000 per award

OVERVIEW

The Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (SWCOEH) Research Accelerator at UHealth Houston School of Public Health announces the availability of a Just-in-Time (JIT) funding opportunity to support doctoral students and early career investigators at UHealth Houston School of Public Health. These funds are intended to accelerate research projects in occupational safety and health with a focus on worker health and well-being.

Due to the abbreviated project period, research projects should be limited to secondary analysis. If your project involves primary analysis (e.g., survey, focus group, observational data collection), please provide an explanation in your application for how you will complete your research within the project period.

Please note that individuals who received a notice of award for a similar funding opportunity through the SWOCEH prior to a lapse in funding are invited to re-apply within the scope of this funding opportunity, and their applications will be given priority consideration.

ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity provides funding for two types of awardees:

- **Research Trainees** – A doctoral student in the dissertation phase of their training who has received approval for their proposal or a postdoctoral fellow.
- **Early Career Investigators** – A researcher who has completed their terminal degree or postdoctoral training within the past 7 years and has not previously served as a Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) on a substantial independent research award, such as an NIH R01 grant.

FUNDING SUPPORT

Researchers may request up to \$10,000 in direct costs. The SWCOEH Research Accelerator will allocate up to \$50,000 in funding to augment active research projects in occupational safety and health with a focus on worker health and well-being.

Support for this opportunity is made available through a grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to the SWCOEH at UTHHealth Houston School of Public Health (T42OH008421).

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications must be submitted by **September 8, 2025 at 5 PM CT** through the online portal linked below. We recommend that you use the .doc version of our application also linked below to prepare your responses prior to submission because your progress will not be saved within the portal.

Application Portal: https://go.uth.edu/JIT_ApplicationPortal

Application Preparation Template: https://go.uth.edu/JIT_PrepTemplate

You must complete all sections of the application marked with a red asterisk (*). The application includes the following sections:

Budget Request

Allowable expenses include:

- Salary support for UTHHealth Houston School of Public Health personnel
- Small equipment essential to the project (totaling less than \$5,000)
- Supplies essential to the project
- Other expenses as typically acceptable in most federal grants

Unallowable expenses include:

- Consultants and sub-contracts
- Travel
- Food and beverage
- Indirect costs

The application will allow you to list up to 5 expenses under each category: personnel costs, equipment costs, supply costs, and other expenses. Please note that funds will be available immediately after receiving a notice of award and expenses must be invoiced by June 1, 2026.

Budget Justification

You will be required to provide a justification for each category of funds requested: personnel costs, equipment costs, supply costs, other expenses [max. 250 words per category].

Project Summary

You will be required to answer each of the following questions [max. 250 words per question]:

- Background: Provide a brief background of the project. It should reference the burden and need for the research.
- Project Objectives and Aims: Concisely state the overall objectives and specific aims of the project, including any intermediate and/or final outcomes that may result from the research.

- **Research Design and Methods:** Briefly describe the research design and methods for achieving the stated objectives and aims of the project.
- **Anticipated Benefit of Funding:** Briefly describe how this funding is anticipated to enhance the impact of your research on worker health and well-being.

Attachments

You will also be required to submit the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae (CV)
- IRB determination letter to conduct research
- Reference list for the project summary section

You may submit up to 2 additional attachments that are no longer than 5 pages each to supplement your application.

REVIEW

Complete applications will be evaluated by a single review panel, consisting of faculty members affiliated with the SWCOEH at the UTHealth Houston School of Public Health. At least two members of the review panel will score each proposal. Reviewers will provide an overall impact score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to achieve its aims. If there is a wide discrepancy in the two scores received for an application, additional members of the review panel may be consulted.

PROGRESS REPORT

A brief progress report will be **due on February 1, 2026**. This report should include preliminary results and any problems encountered in conducting the study. A template will be provided to awardees.

FINAL WRITTEN REPORT

A final written report will be **due on or before June 30, 2026**. This report should describe the results of the study and document all planned and confirmed presentations, publications and follow-on grants that have resulted, in part, directly or indirectly from this award. A template will be provided to awardees.

PUBLICATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Publications resulting from this work should meet the NIH Public Access Policy and have an associated PMCID number. More information is available here:

<http://publicaccess.nih.gov/index.htm>.

The investigator must acknowledge support from the Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health in all related publications and presentations. Specific language will be provided to awardees.

For more information, please contact:

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