

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
LOUISIANA TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH CENTER
TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION FOR RESEARCH EXPLORATION (TIRE)
AWARDS - FY 2018

LTRC invites proposals for small-scale, exploratory research in all fields of transportation science, engineering and education normally supported by LTRC. Such research is characterized by:

- i. Preliminary work on untested and novel ideas
- ii. ventures into emerging research ideas
- iii. application of new expertise or new approaches to "old" research topics
- iv. multi/cross-disciplinary work crossing LTRC program boundaries
- v. research having severe urgency with regard to availability or access to data, facilities or equipment (i.e. study to supporting on-going research or construction projects)
- vi. efforts of similar character likely to catalyze rapid and innovative advances.

LTRC TIRE award amounts are for a maximum of \$30,000. Awards are for a 12-month period and work must begin on or after July 1, 2018. TIRE awards are non-renewable and will not be eligible for additional funds or extension of contract time. It is anticipated that five awards will be made in March 2017. Because of the limited value of the award, **INDIRECT COSTS SHOULD BE WAIVED!** Proposals not waiving indirect costs will not be competitive. ***Since TIRE Awards are tied to a fiscal year budget, the final invoice for TIRE Awards must be submitted to LTRC on or before July 31, 2019. Invoices submitted after July 31, 2019 will not be eligible for reimbursement. The proposal submitting university's Office of Sponsored Programs or Office of Research must sign the statement on the budget sheet agreeing to final invoice reimbursement policy.*** TIRE awards are available to Teaching/Research Faculty/Staff from Louisiana Universities. All proposals will be subject to internal and/or external review. We have also attached for your information, a copy of a Proposal Rating Form that our review panel uses to rate the proposals.

Recipients of 2017 TIRE awards are not eligible to submit proposals for the 2018 TIRE program. If the investigator has received a TIRE award or awards prior to 2017, the investigator must provide a brief description of the results of the prior award/s, list publications/patents generated, and state how the award/s were leveraged to secure additional external funding. This information must be provided on one page (maximum) attached to the proposal.

Investigators can serve as a PI only on one proposal. If an investigator submits more than one proposal as a PI, then all of his/her proposals will be returned without review and deemed ineligible for funding consideration.

Proposals should be submitted electronically as a PDF file. A proposal should include the four standard pages described in the LTRC Manual of Research Procedures (Proposal title page, budget page, bio sketches page and Title VI statement page), a project summary and project description. The project summary and project description should not exceed 5 pages. The four

standard pages are included in the attached file titled "Proposal Form". Proposals exceeding the 9-page limit (4 standard pages + 5-page summary and project description) for new PIs and the 10-page limit (4 standard pages + 5-page summary and project description + 1-page additional information) for prior TIRE awardees will be returned without review. Each proposal should include clear statements demonstrating that the proposed work meets at least one of the six criteria listed above. No supplemental material -- including bios -- is allowed.

Final project reports will be required within the study period and will follow the guidelines in the LTRC Publication Guidelines. Investigators are required to submit a two-page technical summary of the completed project along with the final project report. LTRC TIRE Program Technical Summary Template must be used to prepare the two-page technical summary. Investigators are expected to perform research in accordance with approved proposal and document all efforts and outcomes, even if the results are not considered successful.

Application Deadline: February 16, 2018

Announcement of Awards: March 23, 2018 (anticipated)

Authorization to Begin Work: July 1, 2018

Submit electronically to: Sheri Hughes
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