



What's YOUR Big Idea? - Contest Rules

Contest Categories & Focus -

- Categories (choose one)
 - Diversity
 - Work/Life Balance
 - Workload Innovation/Resources
- Focus Choices Within Categories (choose one or more)
 - Staff recruitment
 - Staff retention
 - Staff or office social/team building
 - Staff climate
 - Staff or office efficiency/streamlining processes

Persons Eligible to Compete -

- The contest is open to any employee or group of employees within the Divisions of Academic Affairs/Enrollment & Academic Services/Research.
 - Subcommittee members will not be allowed to vote or have any advantage for their submission or their co-workers' submission.
- Employees will need to be budgeted
 - Staff may be full-time, part-time, or student worker at any percentage.
- Participants are not required to attend workshops or development sessions.

Eligibility of Submission -

- An eligible staff member may submit multiple submissions (individual or team).
- Ideas must be in line with Texas A&M University Rules and Standard Administrative Policies (SAP's), and support Texas A&M University's mission and core values.
- Submissions must fit in at least one of the categories mentioned in the Contest Categories section above.
- Submissions must be completed by the posted timelines along with all supporting documents using only the methods posted by the subcommittee.
- A submission can only win one award.
- If multiple entries are received for a similar idea/concept, the subcommittee may recommend the creation of a group team from individual entries in order to advance the idea into the second round for additional consideration. This is intended to help initiate collaboration on ideas which hold merit that, alone, may not be developed enough initially to compete with other similar ideas submitted. However, individuals will have the choice whether to join a group team or remain in the contest as an individual entry.
- For ideas advancing to Round Two, the subcommittee will contact supervisors to discuss feasibility of idea.

Awards:

- Best Overall-Individual : \$200
- Best Overall-Group : \$300 (shared)
- Best idea in each category will also receive \$100
 - Diversity
 - Work/Life Balance
 - Workload Innovation/Resources
- Award recipient(s) would receive the total award, the entire withholding amount on the award would be paid by the program/AACDC.

Project Funding -

- The Ideas subcommittee designed the 'What's YOUR Big Idea?' contest as an avenue to allow staff to submit contest entries as a way to promote an innovative idea they have; however, project funding for the idea is not guaranteed for each winning idea through the Academic Affairs Climate and Diversity Committee. The subcommittee will defer to the AACDC to determine which ideas will be funded.
- Any project funded by the AACDC could:
 - Be a fully funded project
 - Have matching funding provided by AACDC for partially funded ideas within an office or department
 - Ideas submissions, which would have a project cost greater than the funds available to AACDC Committee for project funding, may be forwarded by the committee to the Provost's or President's Office for additional consideration with regard to project funding/implementation. This would be done solely at the AACDC's discretion.