

Research Fund Categories (Program Code 20)

The Research Funds (Program Code 20) have basic categories that must be defined and identified when requesting new fund set ups. Below are definitions of the basic categories as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the National Science Foundation.

As defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

Biological sciences are life sciences (apart from medical sciences and agricultural sciences described above) that deal with the origin, development, structure, function, and interaction of living things. Examples of biological sciences are as follows: anatomy; animal sciences; bacteriology; biochemistry; biogeography; biophysics; ecology; embryology; entomology; evolutionary biology; genetics; immunology; microbiology; molecular biology; nutrition and metabolism; parasitology; pathology; pharmacology; physical anthropology; physiology; plant sciences; radiobiology; systematics.

Medical sciences are concerned with the causes, effects, prevention, or control of abnormal conditions in man or his environment as they relate to health. Included are the clinical medical sciences, which are concerned with the study of the origins, diagnosis, or treatment of a particular disease in living human subjects under controlled conditions, and other medical sciences. Examples of the medical sciences are as follows: internal medicine; neurology; ophthalmology; preventive medicine and public health; psychiatry; radiology; surgery; veterinary medicine; dentistry; physical medicine and rehabilitation; podiatry.

As defined by the National Science Foundation:

Basic research is experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundation of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view.

Applied research is original investigation undertaken in order to acquire new knowledge. It is directed primarily towards a specific, practical aim or objective.

Experimental development is systematic work, drawing on knowledge gained from research and practical experience and producing additional knowledge, which is directed to producing new products or processes or to improving existing products or processes.