

\$500,000 in grants for projects that help mitigate the situation of COVID19 in Puerto Rico. ^[1]

Submitted on 31 March 2020 - 11:10am

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Original Source:

Fideicomiso para la Ciencia, Tecnología e Investigación de Puerto Rico

By:



In order to support projects that facilitate knowledge about the development and control measures available to COVID-19, the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust (PRSTRT) has created the **COVID-19 RAPID Grant** with a total of \$500,000 through its Research Grants Program. PRSTRT expects to award five grants of \$100,000 each.

"The World Health Organization has declared a worldwide public health emergency in response to the new coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). In keeping with our mission to promote investment and funding for science and technology research and development, we have created the Covid-19 RAPID Grant," explained Lucy Crespo, CEO of the PRSTRT.

The Trust's RAPID funding mechanism is used for proposals that are highly urgent in terms of availability of, or access to, specialized data, facilities or equipment, including rapid response investigations of natural or anthropogenic and other similar unforeseen disasters. This request for proposals will focus on helping Puerto Rico to respond to the epidemic of COVID-19 and to advance knowledge of it.

The COVID-19 RAPID Grant is open to researchers from public and private universities, colleges and affiliated non-profit research institutions located in Puerto Rico. Startups and established companies based in Puerto Rico are also invited to submit their application. Priority will be given to research leading to immediate action and response that promotes prevention, risk reduction, positive health outcomes, and the development of the infrastructure necessary to minimize virus transmission and impact.

"Many members of the scientific community in Puerto Rico have the ability to accelerate processes and save lives with their knowledge. We recognize the urgency of this emergency and that is why we have decided to open this call," said Andreica Maldonado, Director of the PRSTRT Research Grants Program.

To be eligible and receive funding, projects must be submitted in one of the following strategic activities:

- Pathology of the disease
- Epidemiology
- Clinical research
- Pharmacology
- Mental health and Social Sciences
- Development of artificial intelligence infrastructure and / or computer programs that address the challenges of COVID-19
- Development of products such as: innovative personal protective equipment (PPE), valves, sample swabs, ventilators, reagents and assays for virus detection, rapid, sensitive and specific diagnostic tests or devices and technologies that kill the virus.

The call will open on March 31, 2020 through the website of the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust (prsciencetrust.org). The application deadline is April 7, 2020.

For more information, you can call 787-523-5858, or send email to grants@prsciencetrust.org ^[2]



Application now open!

With the aim of supporting projects that will improve our understanding and available control measures for the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Puerto Rico Science Technology and Research Trust's Research Grants Program is pleased to issue the **COVID-19 RAPID Grant**.

This grant is open to researchers in public and private universities, colleges, and affiliated non-profit research institutions located in Puerto Rico. Startups and established companies based in Puerto Rico are also invited to apply.

- ▶ **DEADLINE:** APRIL 7, 2020
- ▶ **APPLY HERE:** [PRSCIENCETRUST.ORG/RESEARCH-GRANTS-PROGRAM](https://prsciencetrust.org/research-grants-program)
- ▶ **GOT ANY QUESTIONS?** CONTACT US AT GRANTS@PRSCIENCETRUST.ORG



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