

**TIANQIAO & CHRISSEY CHEN INSTITUTE FOR NEUROSCIENCE**  
T&C Chen Center for Systems Neuroscience  
FY2022 Request for Proposals

The T&C Chen Center for Systems Neuroscience seeks proposals to study neural systems underlying perception, cognition, emotion, and behavior, with a preference for proposals that seek to clarify basic principles. Proposals should be focused on the systems level of analysis rather than on more reductive levels.

*Up to four awards of \$50,000, depending on quality of submissions.*

**Purpose:** The Chen Institute offers seed funding to allow Caltech faculty to develop new directions of neuroscience research, leveraging the Institute's interdisciplinary and collaborative environment.

**Proposals must explicitly address the following requirements. Failure to fulfill the requirements will result in an administrative rejection.**

**Proposal Requirements - All Proposals**

The proposal should be 1 – 2 pages (excluding figures and references), 12-point font and **MUST** address the following questions:

1. What do you propose to do?
2. How is it innovative and different from “business-as-usual” science in your lab?
3. How does it engage other members from the Caltech community?
4. What is a successful outcome, and what would it allow you to do that is currently not possible?
5. To your knowledge, is anything similar being done by colleagues at other universities?

**The following items should be included with your proposal submission:**

**1. Proposal:** addressing the questions, and using font size, shown above (2-page limit)

**2. Simple budget** (no page limit): Outline how you propose to use the funds, each with a short (1-2 sentence) justification.

Budget may include:

- personnel (graduate RA, postdoc, SURF or other undergraduate)
- equipment, equipment usage (e.g. fMRI hourly fees)
- reasonable consumable supplies
- travel for dissemination of research findings

Budget may **NOT** include:

- faculty salary

**3. Document listing other support:** title of grant, amount of money, and brief one sentence description, (no page limit).

**4. Division Approval Form (DAF):** Please note that if you are submitting a proposal with collaboration between labs in different divisions then the DAF must be signed by all Division Chairs.

## Rules

- Applications are open to Caltech research faculty, tenured faculty, and tenure-track faculty.
- No faculty member may participate in more than one application or receive funding for more than one project in a given grant cycle.
- Collaborative proposals should be with other Caltech laboratories.
- Individual researchers will not receive Chen Institute funding for more than two consecutive years (e.g., a researcher who is supported for years 1 and 2 should not apply in year 3 but can apply again in year 4).

**Proposal Deadline: Monday, October 18, 2021, at 5pm**

## Proposal Submission

- Email your proposal, budget, list of support, and DAF as a combined pdf file to [2022\\_Sy.48ck5n8eh7jar92g@u.box.com](mailto:2022_Sy.48ck5n8eh7jar92g@u.box.com)
- Name your attached PDF file as follows: Last Name\_2022
- Your proposal will be uploaded to Box and you will receive a confirmation email from Box within a few hours of submission. If you do not receive a confirmation email after 24 hours, please contact us directly at [Chen.Inst@caltech.edu](mailto:Chen.Inst@caltech.edu)

## Proposal Terms

- Grants are for 1-year (with six-month extensions permitted upon request, with justification). A progress report is required after one year.
- Any research involving human subjects, including human data, or animal vertebrate, including animal data, will require approval from IRB or IACUC before research can be funded.
- There is an IP obligation associated with these grants. For more details about this obligation, please contact Case Cortese [casecortese@caltech.edu](mailto:casecortese@caltech.edu) in the Office of Technology Transfer and Corporate Partnerships.