9 THINGS TO DO
AS A NEW (OR RETURNING) UT INVESTIGATOR

1 **Check out the PI Book**
This is a quick start guide with all the essential information a principal investigator (PI) needs to conduct research at UT. The PI Book is updated regularly and provides an overview of topics such as the structure of UT's research enterprise, the proposal submission process (pre-award), project management (post-award), research compliance, and legal considerations.

2 **Meet your Associate Dean for Research (ADR)**
Each UT college or school has an ADR who oversees strategic research priorities and operations. They will be able to tell you the services your college or school provides for investigators. Contacting your ADR is a great first step to getting your research program up and running at UT.

We recommend asking your ADR about:
- Staff support available for submitting proposals and managing funded projects.
- Pilot/seed funding and other research development opportunities available through your college or school.

3 **Explore resources by topic or stage**
Our Resources for Researchers site helps you search for funding opportunities and find proposal development support, research project management guidance, and compliance information.

4 **Create a Pivot account to search for funding opportunities**
Pivot is an online database that compiles active funding opportunities from federal and private sponsors so that you can search them simultaneously. All UT personnel have free access, and you can perform custom searches, track opportunities, and have new results delivered to your inbox.

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5 **Attend (or watch) the Funding My Research info session**
This [annual information session](#) showcases university-wide internal research funding opportunities as well as best practices for tracking potential external funding sources to support your research.

6 **Sign up for the Internal Competitions listserv**
Our office oversees campus-wide internal competitions to select nominees for funding opportunities or honorific awards where the sponsor has limited the number of proposals/nominations a university may submit. Join our [listserv](#) to be notified of [internal competitions](#) as they are launched.

7 **Check out Research Interest Groups (RIGs) or the Bridging Barriers research grand challenges to connect with colleagues**
[Research Interest Groups](#) (RIGs) connect investigators across campus to build interdisciplinary teams for which there is not an established research unit on campus. There is a wide variety of RIGs — join one or start one yourself!

[Bridging Barriers](#) is UT's research grand challenges initiative, bringing together disciplines from all colleges and schools to examine climate change, health, and AI issues in our region and beyond. All investigators at UT are welcome to participate.

8 **Read and acknowledge UT's Researcher Responsibilities**
The [Researcher Responsibilities Memo](#) (RR Memo) is UT's formal policy guide for safe, ethical, and productive research conduct. All UT PIs are expected to review and acknowledge the RR Memo annually.

9 **Meet your research compliance requirements**
Try to get your required research-related compliance training out of the way as soon as possible so it doesn't delay your work later. Research compliance includes mandatory conflict of interest and foreign involvement disclosures and, when applicable, human participants and animal research training. The [Office of Research Support and Compliance](#) facilitates disclosures and training.

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