

## Award description and criteria

The Arizona State University President's Award for Transdisciplinary Collaboration seeks to recognize multidisciplinary project teams that have undertaken exemplary trans-sectoral collaboration addressing a complex societally relevant issue. These research teams work collaboratively with actively engaged participants from different sectors — academia, business and industry, government laboratories, agencies and organizations in civil society.

The approach to transdisciplinary collaboration exemplified in this award aligns with ASU's design aspirations of transdisciplinary intellectual fusion and use-inspired research. Successful projects will feature signature characteristics of Highly Integrative Basic and Responsive research projects. HIBAR projects pursue fundamental knowledge while addressing urgent societal challenges and integrate theories, concepts and methodologies across disciplines and beyond university walls.

The President's Award for Transdisciplinary Collaboration will be awarded to a research team whose leadership includes at least one researcher who is a member of the ASU academic community and at least one affiliated with a societal partner organization. A societal partner organization can be a government agency or laboratory, a for-profit company or a non-profit organization. Researchers in all fields are eligible to apply.

Exemplary transdisciplinary and cross-sectoral projects integrate the following characteristics:

- **Dual motivations** or integrated purposes that seek new knowledge and address a critical societal challenge. These purposes lead project teams to draw from a more comprehensive set of knowledge and skills.
- **Shared leadership** by academic and non-academic researchers representing wider society, working in a collaborative and equitable partnership. Participants from different sectors make more informed decisions when working together, including decisions regarding project goals, direction, theories, concepts and methods.
- **Sustained urgency** is a hallmark of a HIBAR project. Team members are intensely focused on addressing a societal program while recognizing that fundamental understanding requires sustained effort and must be guided by responsible research and innovation principles.

## Critical cover sheet

Multidisciplinary project teams must consist of the following **four essential characteristics** to be considered for this award. These characteristics should be evident within the body of the application and **must be highlighted in a separate cover sheet** that contains the information described below:

1. **ASU researchers and non-academic partners share decision-making authority for all critical aspects of the project equitably:**

- a. Name and identify the ASU co-leaders for this project, specifying their respective roles in the project leadership, beginning with the lead researcher.
- b. Name and identify the co-leaders for this project from industry, government or civil society, including their respective roles in the project leadership.

**2. The project is application-oriented research that produces an academic output:**

- a. In a single paragraph, describe the critical societal challenges the project seeks to address and the impacts, outcomes, and measurable results achieved.
- b. In a single paragraph, please describe the critical new knowledge that was — or is currently being — developed during the project and the academic outputs achieved in terms of scholarly publications and other relevant research metrics.

**What constitutes excellence in this project?**

1. Describe how one or more key decisions were made through a collaborative process throughout the project.
2. Tell the story of the project conception and how the early planning unfolded.
3. How were the research results prepared for publication, and what were the roles of the various collaborators?
4. What difficulties were encountered in aligning the simultaneous objectives of public benefit and academic impact? How were they overcome?
5. Using a timeline format, identify the academic and societal successes of the project to date and those that are expected in the future.