IDEA Gap Funding

RFA & Application

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

OHSU Technology Transfer and OHSU Collaborations and Entrepreneurship is accepting applications for the IDEA Gap Fund program. Applications will be reviewed quarterly.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Innovation Development and Entrepreneurship Acceleration (IDEA) Gap Fund provides funding for developing technologies to help bridge the early-stage funding gap often experienced by innovators when moving through the commercialization process. With fewer administrative restrictions than other types of grant funding, one objective of the IDEA Gap Fund is to make strategic awards in a timely manner.

Examples of eligible projects for gap funding support may include: 1) previously awarded Biomedical Innovation Program (BIP) projects; and 2) previously disclosed technologies that could benefit from a targeted grant to bridge a critical gap or achieve a significant milestone toward commercialization. Projects which have achieved proof-of-concept or will do so by the end of the proposed work plan are preferred.

Grants will be considered and reviewed on a competitive basis, quarterly, with budgets not to exceed $40,000. Projects will typically be supported for a 12-month period; predetermined milestones and quantitative metrics of success will be evaluated on a regular basis.

APPLICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

1. Email Project Manager oce@ohsu.edu, to schedule an initial consultation to confirm eligibility. Include “IDEA Gap Fund” in subject line.
2. Complete the attached application template and send to oce@ohsu.edu.
3. Reviewers may request additional information before making a funding decision.
4. PIs will be notified of a decision within (3) weeks of the quarterly due date.

All applications are treated as confidential documents. Confidentiality agreements are in place with all members of the review committee.
REVIEW CRITERIA

- Leverage funding: How will this funding move the technology to the next phase of development and toward commercialization? What is the plan to secure additional funding? Are there target entities identified as potential partners or licensees?

- Market need addressed: What is the market need (number of patients likely affected, expected savings in health care/societal expenditures, etc.)? How many potential applications or products could come from the proposed technology?

- Project design and feasibility: Is the proposed work feasible? What are the potential barriers, and what is the plan to overcome them?

- Innovation and novelty: Does the proposed work strengthen OHSU intellectual property?

- Strength of team: The investigators must have the requisite skills and experience to carry out the project successfully.

ELIGIBILITY

- IDEA Gap Funds are open to all employees and students of OHSU, with these important caveats:
  - If either human subjects or animals are included in the project scope of work, the applicant MUST meet OHSU Principal Investigator requirements.
  - Non-faculty applicants must submit written approval from their supervisor or department head authorizing “effort” on the grant – including the specific amount.

- Technology must be previously disclosed to OHSU Technology Transfer.

POST-AWARD PROCESSES

All award recipients will be required to submit progress reports using guidelines that will be provided at a later date.

QUESTIONS?

Please direct all questions to Jonathan Jubera, Senior Project Manager oce@ohsu.edu
IDEA GAP FUND APPLICATION TEMPLATE

APPLICATION & SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Application should not exceed (3) pages. Total funding requested should not exceed $40,000. When complete, please save as a .pdf and email to Project Manager, IDEA Gap Fund; oce@ohsu.edu.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (NAME AND TITLE):

PROJECT TITLE:

BACKGROUND: Briefly describe the significant problem or unmet need to be addressed.

PROPOSED TECHNOLOGY AND SOLUTION: This section should be focused on the idea for the planned technology. The details of the technology need not be described, but sufficient information should be provided to allow a determination of the feasibility of the approach. What value does your solution provide?

MARKET NEED ADDRESSED: Identify the market for the proposed technology and estimate its size. Where does your technology fit? How is your technology different and/or superior?

WORK COMPLETED: Please describe work completed and ongoing.

PROPOSED USE OF IDEA FUNDS: Please describe how you propose to use IDEA funding if awarded and how it bridges a critical gap or helps to accomplish a significant milestone. If contracting with a third party, please explain the process by which they were selected (were bids solicited, etc?).

OTHER FUNDING & RESOURCES: Please identify other funding received and the status of pending applications. What other commercialization resources have you used or are considering using to move your technology to market?

R&D TIMELINE AND BUDGET: Outline 12-month IDEA fund project timeline and milestones. Include estimates of direct R&D costs for study personnel, minor equipment, and supplies (do not add in the university overhead) for the award period.