

PNNL PMedIC Collaborations LDRD Call Fiscal Year 2026

Request for Application

The PNNL Earth and Biological Sciences Directorate (EBSD) is soliciting applications for collaborative projects between researchers at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) that foster future collaborations and provide new capabilities relevant to the Department of Energy. PNNL and OHSU have a long-standing research partnership known as the Pacific Northwest bioMedical Innovation Co-Laboratory (PMedIC - <https://www.ohsu.edu/pmedic>). This research will be funded by Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) funds.

Program Overview

Projects will be awarded competitively, with budgets not exceeding \$25,000. Collaborative projects must be developed between PNNL and OHSU scientists. Awards will begin in fiscal year 2026. The scope of the work should determine the budget period, not to exceed September 30, 2026.

How to Connect with OHSU Faculty

If you do not have a current collaborator and would like help with partnering, please contact the PMedIC Leadership Team for assistance by:

1. Emailing the PMedIC leadership team at PNNL (PMedIC@pnnl.gov) or OHSU (PMedICTeam@ohsu.edu) with a brief description of your collaboration opportunity using subject line 'PMedIC LDRD Partnering'
2. Complete an online request form (https://ohsu.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3qQkir6KraTi8gm), indicating your request is for the FY2026 LDRD funding round

The PMedIC Leadership Team will suggest possible collaborators at the institution based on your request.

Application Process Overview

1. It is encouraged to have a short conversation with Josh Adkins (Josh.Adkins@pnnl.gov) or Jason McDermott (Jason.McDermott@pnnl.gov) before submitting a new idea or revising a previously submitted one.
2. Submit an application that consists of three pages describing the proposed project and the budget. Please use the template provided at the end of this announcement document. In addition to describing the project, please address the following questions:
 - Why is an OHSU component necessary for the successful completion of this project?
 - How will this project develop capabilities that lay the foundation for new grant applications that include both institutions?
 - How will this project develop new capabilities to be applied to the Department of Energy research areas?
3. Budget form: See template (*****NOTE***** LDRD Funds are intended to largely support staff at PNNL, thus the budget should be planned to be spent at PNNL. If you have questions, please send queries to PMedIC@pnnl.gov.)
4. Include relevant references. These do **not** count towards the page limit.
5. Include IRB/IACUC protocol numbers if appropriate to the project.
6. By 08/01/2025, the PNNL PI should email PMedIC@pnnl.gov with the Subject Line as PMedIC LDRD #PNNL PI Last Name# and with the final application attached. Please cc Eileen Griffin (Eileen.Griffin@pnnl.gov), Josh Adkins (Josh.Adkins@pnnl.gov), and Jason McDermott (Jason.McDermott@pnnl.gov).
7. Applications will be reviewed and discussed using the **Review Criteria** described below.
8. A selected set of finalist applicant teams will be invited to participate in a Q&A with reviewers on 09/15/2025. This will consist of a 10-minute project summary presentation by the team, followed by a 5-minute Q&A session. **Both the PNNL and the OHSU scientists are required to jointly participate in the presentation and Q&A.**
9. Notification of the award will be announced shortly after the presentations. NOTE: The review committee members include the PMedIC leadership team and researchers from PNNL and OHSU; reviewers treat all applications as confidential.

Review Criteria

1. **Project design and feasibility:** The proposed work is feasible within the funding period ending September 2026. Scientists must have timely access to biological samples and/or data so that the project can be completed within the 1-year award period.
2. **Team expertise:** The PNNL scientist and OHSU researcher have the requisite skills, experience, and resources to complete the project successfully.
3. **Multidisciplinary:** The proposed project uses special PNNL capabilities not accessible at OHSU.
4. **Budget:** The budget is appropriate for the proposed project.
5. The proposed studies must have existing IRB/IACUC protocols or be documented as non-human subjects' research. Proof will be required at the time of funding.
6. **PMedIC Partnership Expansion:** How significant and innovative is the proposed project? Will it generate preliminary data that will lead to a successful joint OHSU/PNNL large grant application (NIH R, U, or P series or equivalent)? Plans for a joint grant application should be included in the application.
7. Priority will be given to applications that enhance the breadth of research collaborations between the two institutions and the faculty involved in the collaborations.
8. **Collaborative skills:** Demonstration of the ability to work well in a team.
9. **Novelty of the plan, team, and methodologies.**

Eligibility

All PNNL Research Staff with a partnered qualified OHSU researchers are eligible for LDRD project selection. Limited Term Employees, however, must have a mentoring plan.

Projects involving human subjects research and/or live vertebrate animal studies

Documentation of IRB/IACUC approval for human subjects' research and/or live vertebrate animal projects must be provided at the time of funding. If using de-identified data, deemed non-human subjects research, proof of this determination must be provided at the time of funding. Chris Weir of PNNL can aid in the human subjects determination at PNNL. Jordan Smith of PNNL can aid with the determination of animal research.

Reporting

All awardees must provide a brief update on progress in early spring 2026 and late summer 2026 to the PMedIC team, submit a final progress report following project completion, and present their work at the Annual PMedIC Research Meeting or Seminar Series.

Duration

Awards are expected to be announced before September 30, 2025. The scope of work should determine the budget period, not to exceed the PNNL fiscal year, end of September 2026. Extensions are not allowed.

Publications and Proposals

Publishing of the research is expected to include joint authorship of team members. Ideally, proposals from the joint work will result in expanding and continuing joint research efforts.

Application Template

Please use the headings below to complete your application. Applications are limited to three pages. References and budget do not count towards the page limit.

PNNL Scientist (Name, Title, email):

OHSU Faculty (Name, Title, email):

Project Title:

Background: Briefly describe the significant research question(s) being addressed.

Proposed Design: Describe how the project will be set up to answer the research question(s) and why it is feasible with the proposed budget. Projects with samples in-hand will be more competitive. Describe the multidisciplinary approach and how it best utilizes the PMedIC partnership. Include anticipated outcomes, potential pitfalls, and alternatives.

Statistical Analysis or Computational Plan: Please include a short paragraph focused on the plan for statistical or computational analysis, and the personnel who will be assisting with this. A letter of support is encouraged.

Timeline and Budget: Outline the project timeline with scientific milestones and explain how the funds will be spent within the budget period, not to exceed 12 months. In addition, include a timeline for publication or presentation of findings and future grant submission.

Team Expertise: Describe the relevant experience and special expertise that each scientist and their respective teams, if appropriate, bring to this project. List team members, their expertise, and their project role.

Budget form: Please email the drafted budget to PMedIC@pnnl.gov for quick review for reasonableness at least 1 day before final application submission.

Questions

Please direct all questions to PMedIC@pnnl.gov at PNNL or pmedicteam@ohsu.edu at OHSU. Alternatively, email Josh Adkins (Josh.Adkins@pnnl.gov)

*Note: PMedIC has additional seed funding opportunities or related mechanisms, so if the timing is not right or your joint proposal is not selected, keep refining your ideas for future opportunities and stay in touch. See this link for more information. <https://www.ohsu.edu/pmedic/funding-opportunities>.

Program Director/Principal Investigator (Last, First, Middle):

DETAILED BUDGET FOR INITIAL BUDGET PERIOD DIRECT COSTS ONLY						FROM	THROUGH	
List PERSONNEL (<i>Applicant organization only</i>) Use Cal, Acad, or Summer to Enter Months Devoted to Project Enter Dollar Amounts Requested (<i>omit cents</i>) for Salary Requested and Fringe Benefits								
NAME	ROLE ON PROJECT	Cal. Mnths	Acad. Mnths	Summer Mnths	INST.BASE SALARY	SALARY REQUESTED	FRINGE BENEFITS	TOTAL
	PD/PI							
SUBTOTALS →								
CONSULTANT COSTS								
EQUIPMENT (<i>Itemize</i>)								
SUPPLIES (<i>Itemize by category</i>)								
TRAVEL								
INPATIENT CARE COSTS								
OUTPATIENT CARE COSTS								
ALTERATIONS AND RENOVATIONS (<i>Itemize by category</i>)								
OTHER EXPENSES (<i>Itemize by category</i>)								
CONSORTIUM/CONTRACTUAL COSTS					DIRECT COSTS			
SUBTOTAL DIRECT COSTS FOR INITIAL BUDGET PERIOD (<i>Item 7a, Face Page</i>)								\$

CONSORTIUM/CONTRACTUAL COSTS	FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS FOR INITIAL BUDGET PERIOD		\$