

Biomedical Innovation Program (BIP) Drug Discovery

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The [Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute \(OCTRI\)](#) in partnership with [OHSU Innovates](#), is accepting applications for the Biomedical Innovation Program (BIP) Drug Discovery track

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

BIP Drug Discovery supports and accelerates creative, interdisciplinary drug discovery and therapeutic development research at OHSU. Examples of responsive application topics include but are not limited to development and validation of drug targets, screening platforms, small molecules, antibodies, vaccines, biologics, and novel methodologies that improve the efficiency of drug discovery.

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, with budgets not to exceed \$60,000. Additionally, each awardee will be assigned a project manager and a mentor to advise and help accelerate their project towards commercialization. Projects will be supported for a 12-month period. **No-cost extensions are not permitted.**

APPLICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

1. Complete a [Technology Disclosure Form](#) and submit to OHSU Technology Transfer (if not previously submitted).
2. Submit via [REDCap here](#):
 - a. Research plan no more than **5 pages** long. Please use the **template** provided on page 3. References do not count toward page total.
 - b. [NIH 398 budget](#) & budget justification
 - c. [NIH biosketches](#) for PI and key personnel
 - d. *Optional* Letters of support (up to 3)
3. Projects selected to advance will be invited to participate in a Q&A with review committee members.
4. Finalists will be invited to present to the review committee, after which, final funding decisions will be made.

All application materials are treated as confidential documents. Confidentiality agreements are in place with all members of the review committee.

KEY DATES

Application deadline:
5/05/26

Q&A with reviewers:
5/28/26

Final presentation: 6/25/26

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR APPLICATION?

To learn more about the BIP or to schedule a consult, please contact:

Jonathan Jubera, M.B.A.

OCTRI Senior Project Manager

jubera@ohsu.edu

APPLICATION RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE AT:

www.ohsu.edu/octri-bip



REVIEW CRITERIA

- **Leverage Pilot Funding:** Will the stated milestones position the technology for follow-on funding and are they aligned with a path to drug discovery?
- **Impact to Human Health:** Does the proposed work aim to solve an important problem or remove a critical barrier to progress in the field? Is the unmet medical need for the technology appropriately described?
- **Market Need Addressed:** Is the market need articulated and supported with data such as number of patients likely affected, expected savings in health care/societal expenditures, etc.?
- **Project Design and Feasibility:** Is the proposed work feasible? What types of expertise will be leveraged to move the technology forward? What are the potential barriers, and what is the plan to overcome them?
- **Innovation and Novelty:** How strong is the potential for the proposed technology to be novel, useful, non-obvious, and enabled? What niche does it fill?
- **Commercialization Potential:** Are the next steps towards commercialization well described and potential funding sources identified to carry them out? Are there target entities identified as potential partners or licensees? Is there interest or potential for creating a start-up?
- **Strength of Team:** Do the investigators have the requisite skills, experience, and capacity to carry out the project successfully?

ELIGIBILITY

BIP Drug Discovery is 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.

PROJECTS INVOLVING HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH AND/OR LIVE VERTEBRATE ANIMAL STUDIES

In addition to IRB/IACUC approval, the National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS) must approve human subjects research and/or live vertebrate animal projects before any funding can be released. Applicants are strongly urged to complete the required components of the NCATS submission(s) during the application phase to reduce the time to funding. Please contact Bridget Adams, OCTRI Regulatory Knowledge and Support Manager, for a list of the required elements and assistance: adamsb@ohsu.edu; 503-494-5077.

POST-AWARD PROCESSES

During the project period predetermined milestones and quantitative metrics of success will be evaluated on a regular basis. All award recipients will be required to submit a final report that summarizes the work completed, barriers or challenges that hindered completion of milestones and next steps for moving the technology forward toward commercialization. More information about awardee responsibilities is included in the REDCap submission form.

BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION PROGRAM (BIP) DRUG DISCOVERY – APPLICATION TEMPLATE

Please use this template and the headings below but delete all italicized instructions before uploading via REDCap.

Application should not exceed 5 pages – excluding references. Please try to pay as much attention to the non-science aspects of your proposal as you do to the scientific aspects. Please refer to the review criteria above when completing your application.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (NAME AND TITLE):

PROJECT TITLE:

BACKGROUND/UNMET NEED: Describe the unmet or poorly met clinical need or disease, including the current approaches for assessment or treatment of your chosen clinical problem and the known shortcomings of those approaches. Make it clear what the problem is that you are trying to solve or make better.

PROPOSED TECHNOLOGY AND SOLUTION: Describe your solution and the advantages it would have compared to current approaches. Include preliminary data. Explain how your technology addresses the problem you are trying to solve.

MARKET OPPORTUNITY: Explain what is clinically significant about your proposed drug or therapeutic. Please outline the market need for drug or therapeutic, including metrics such as the number of patients likely affected, expected savings in health care/societal expenditures, etc. Research and estimate the total addressable market (TAM), what portion of it can you obtain and how? Look at the market for existing/competing products now and forecast what it might be at the end of the development process.

COMPETITION: Identify current competitors and explain why your solution be used instead.

TARGET PRODUCT PROFILE: Please address the elements of the [target product profile](#) to the extent possible. Include some quantitative measures such as minimum potency in vitro and/or in vivo, and minimum ADME/toxicology parameters.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: State the intellectual property status, strategy, and future plans. Include invention disclosures, filed patent applications, IP ownership shared with others, patents awarded and/or technologies licensed, and third- party existing IP related to your proposed drug or therapeutic. IP is considered critical for future financing.

R&D TIMELINE AND BUDGET: Outline 12-month project timeline and milestones. Include a gross estimate of the direct R&D costs for study personnel, minor equipment, and supplies (do not add in the university overhead) for the award period. Please include commercial planning activities in this section and identify substantial post-BIP milestones. Consider using a visual aid to show time to milestones and projected costs. Describe any significant risks you perceive with the proposed work and getting to the next substantial milestone. If there is an opportunity to de-risk later development with the BIP funding, please explain.

COMMERCIALIZATION POTENTIAL: Describe a strategy for pursuing additional funding (e.g., sponsored research agreements, industry partners, or additional grants to further commercial development after BIP funding ends). What is the planned or desired commercialization path: licensing the technology to an existing company or forming a startup company? Make sure to explain why your solution will be adopted.

TEAM MEMBERS: List team members, their expertise, and project role. Make clear why the team can and will make this project a success.

This funding mechanism is supported by the National Center for Advancing Translational Science (UL1TR002369) and the OHSU Foundation/University Venture Development Fund (UVDF). It is open to all OHSU faculty and qualified employees who meet eligibility requirements.