



Request for Applications (RFA)
Biomedical Innovation Program
Drug Discovery/Therapeutics Track

This funding is intended to support translational drug discovery research & development efforts.

KEY DATES

Letters of intent due	10 April 2018
Invitations sent for full applications	26 April 2018
Full applications due (if invited)	17 May 2018
Applicant presentations (if invited)	20 June 2018
Awards announced	21 June 2018

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) and the Office of Technology Transfer and Business Development (TTBD) are now accepting letters of intent for the Biomedical Innovation Program funding for drug discovery platforms and therapeutic technology projects. Examples of responsive application topics include but are not limited to development and validation of drug targets, screening platforms, small molecules, antibodies, vaccines, and biologics. Through this funding mechanism, OCTRI and TTBD intend to support and accelerate creative, interdisciplinary drug discovery and therapeutic development research at OHSU. Project budgets should not exceed \$60,000. Projects will typically be supported for a one-year period; predetermined milestones and quantitative metrics of success will be evaluated on a regular basis.

This funding mechanism is supported by the OHSU Foundation/University Venture Development Fund (UVDF) and is offered in partnership with the School of Medicine's Research Roadmap. It is open to all OHSU faculty and qualified employees who meet [eligibility guidelines](#).

The BIP Drug Discovery/Therapeutics track offers tailored and dedicated project management. The involvement of BIP staff is a crucial part of success for the early-stage projects that are targeted by this particular funding mechanism. The project management staff monitor progress, identify and mitigate barriers to success, and provide access to mentors and experts that can help move the project forward.

APPLICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

Proposal submission is a three-stage process:

1. Submit a letter of intent (LOI) that is no more than 2 pages long. Letters of support are encouraged and do not count toward the page limit. Prior to submitting your LOI, please submit a [Technology Disclosure Form](#) to TTBD.
2. Projects selected by the review committee will be asked to submit a full application.
3. A small group of finalists will be invited to present to the review committee, after which, final funding decisions will be made.

All letters of intent and full applications are treated as confidential documents. Confidentiality agreements are in place with all members of the review committee.

REVIEW CRITERIA

1. Leverage Pilot Funding: How will this funding move the technology to the next phase of development?
2. Impact to Human Health: Does the proposed work aim to solve an important problem or remove a critical barrier to progress in the field? How will the project move the technology closer to benefiting human health?
3. Commercial Potential: 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?
4. 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?
5. Patentability: Is the technology novel, useful, non-obvious, and enabled?
6. Commercialization Path: What is the commercialization strategy and path(s) to secure additional funding? Are there target entities identified as potential partners or licensees? Is there interest and potential for creating a start-up?

LETTER OF INTENT (LOI) SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Please download the required LOI template [here](#), which contains the full instructions for completing.

Reminders:

- **Please limit LOIs to 2 pages. Letters of support (maximum of 2) are encouraged and do not count toward the 2-page limit.**
- **Prior to submitting your letter of intent, please submit a [Technology Disclosure Form](#) (note: a Technology Disclosure Form will need to be submitted to TTBD before any intellectual property analysis can be conducted).**

Submit your LOI via RedCap by clicking here:

[ONLINE REDCAP SUBMISSION FORM](#)

FULL APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Instructions and a link to an online application form will be provided to those applicants who are invited to submit full applications. Biosketches are required and letters of support are encouraged, and do not count toward the 5-page limit. The proposal should build on the LOI and must include a complete discussion of the following items (**5-page maximum**):

1. 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.
2. The clinical relevancy and market need for the proposed research, including the market metrics for your proposed drug or therapeutic, such as the number of patients likely affected, expected savings in health care/societal expenditures, etc.
3. A description of the proposed solution and the advantages it would have compared to current approaches.
4. The expected R&D timeline to develop the proposed drug or therapeutic.
5. Specific quarterly and yearly milestones and the plan for their achievement.
6. Intellectual property status, strategy, and future plan. 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.
7. Estimated R&D costs to achieve the complete clinical product.
8. A plan for obtaining additional sources of funding to continue developing the technology.

FOR PROJECTS INVOLVING HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH ONLY: The National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS) requires applicants to submit an anticipated enrollment table and an inclusion of women, minorities, and children (if applicable) statement **before any funding can be released**. Applicants are strongly urged to complete these at this stage of the application process. Please contact Bridget Adams, OCTRI Regulatory Specialist, for assistance: adamsb@ohsu.edu; 503-494-5077.

PROPOSAL PRESENTATION

Instructions and a presentation template will be provided to finalists. Each applicant will have 10 minutes to present the main points of his/her application. The brief presentation will be followed by a 15-minute question and answer period. Applicants invited to present will be required to attend at least one coaching session with BIP staff and an [OHSU Executives-In-Residence](#) prior to the final presentation.

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 Jonathan Jubera (jubera@ohsu.edu) or the Research Navigator program (503-418-9790, octri@ohsu.edu).