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

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) and the Office of Technology Transfer and Business Development (TTBD) are now accepting applications for the Biomedical Innovation Program (BIP) funding for drug discovery 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 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 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

IMPORTANT: Before submitting an application for the BIP, you must fill out and submit a Technology Disclosure Form to TTBD

1. Submit all required application documents by April 23, 2019
2. Projects will be reviewed internally and finalists selected to advance
3. Finalists will be invited to meet with members of an external review committee to answer questions and identify areas of focus for a final presentation
4. Finalists will be invited to present to the review committee, after which, final funding decisions will be made

All applications are treated as confidential documents. Confidentiality agreements are in place with each member of the review committee.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Via REDCap (link provided below), please submit the following by April 23, 2019:

- Research Plan (5-page limit)
- NIH 398 budget
- Budget justification
- NIH biosketches for the PI and key personnel
- *Optional* Letters of support (up to 3) are encouraged and do not count toward the page limit

Research Plans should include all of the following:

1. **Background/unmet need.** 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. **Proposed solution.** A description of the proposed solution and the advantages it would have compared to current approaches. Include preliminary data.
3. **Market opportunity.** 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.
4. **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.
5. **Budget and timeline.** The expected R&D timeline (including milestones) and budget for project period and for year 2. Please provide realistic timelines specific for your project.
6. **Intellectual property.** 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. **Commercialization path / follow-on funding.** A plan for obtaining additional sources of funding to continue developing the technology. Please indicate how achieving your proposed milestones enable obtaining additional funding.
Submit your APPLICATION via RedCap by clicking here: ONLINE REDCAP SUBMISSION FORM

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?

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. Prior approval from NCATS is required 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 with the approval process: 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 to Jonathan Jubera (jubera@ohsu.edu).