



School of Medicine

*Dean of Research
Lina M. Obeid, M.D.*

FUSION SEED-GRANT AWARDS

The School of Medicine and the Office of the Vice President for Research announce the continuation of a Seed Grant program (**FUSION Awards**) designed to support highly meritorious and innovative research focusing on biomedical discovery, health, and the community. Up to four \$80,000 awards will be funded, anticipated to provide \$40,000 annually for two years. Awardees will utilize these funds to support interdisciplinary, basic and applied research, and/or community-based research with the potential to advance health, add value to clinically-relevant diagnostic and therapeutic technologies, or to facilitate development of commercially-promising biomedical intellectual property. FUSION Awards are designed to promote collaborations/partnerships among basic science faculty, health care professionals.

GENERAL GUIDELINES AND ELIGIBILITY

Proposals must clearly demonstrate the potential applicability of the research to human health, and should describe a “critical path” plan that delineates the steps essential to translating the science and/or technology from “bench-to-bedside,” and where applicable to the general community. To emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of the research, applications must include two faculty members from different Departments, Schools, and/or participating institutions, with clear delineation of project responsibility. Match funding of \$5,000 per year from each participating unit/department will be required (match total must equal \$10,000), and can include corporate partner or private foundation.

Eligibility for program funding is limited to investigators with faculty level appointments (or appointments in progress) at Stony Brook University, the VAMC/Northport, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Winthrop University Hospital, etc. Junior faculty is encouraged to apply for these awards. Completed applications should be submitted, and questions should be addressed to Jacqueline Nicoletto at 631-444-2641. Applications received after the deadline will be returned without further consideration.

FUNDING CRITERIA

The peer reviewers will be asked to assess the scientific merit and clinical significance of the science, the translational research methods, and if appropriate the technology development strategy, and community participation outlined in the proposal. Applications should adequately describe the clinical problem and intended outcomes of the research, and demonstrate how the proposed project may impact the clinical and community settings. In addition, reviewers will be encouraged to consider how translational research proposals integrate or result in one or more of the following: (a) clinical research to improve care, b) validation of new procedures/diagnostics, c) investigation into markers of disease in patients, and d) development of novel methodologies with clinical impact. Additional considerations will incorporate the potential for (e) new intellectual property, (f) corporate sponsored research opportunities, (g) commercial license agreements, and (h) Investigational New Drug (IND) applications or Investigational Device Exemptions (IDE) for entrance into FDA-regulated clinical trials. For applications responding to the community engagement component, investigators are encouraged to consider how the proposal integrates or will result in one or more of the following: innovative ways to engage community members in mentoring processes, partnerships in clinical and translational research, and collaborations to enhance research perspectives (e.g., health disparity research), public trust, and recruitment for clinical and translational research.

Stony Brook, NY 11794-8430
Tel: (631) 444-2641
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APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (See Forms Face Page)

All faculty holding academic rank who has not received a TRO within the last three years in the category for which they are applying is eligible.

Completion of the 2019/2020 Targeted Research Opportunities Award Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NPTXRR3>

Cover Page. In the Category Section, type in FUSION Awards. ****Applications will not be considered without the Department Chair and Administrator's signature (agreeing to supply the matching funds) on the front of the cover page****

Summary (*Limit to One-Half Page*):

The Summary will provide a succinct and accurate description of the proposed work when separated from the application. Briefly describe the biomedical science and/or technology to be developed in this application for funding. State the application's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims, making reference to the clinical relevance, translational research goals, and community participation and expected impact of the project. Describe concisely the research design and methods for achieving these goals and discuss the potential of the research to impact patient care and community health and quality of life.

Research Plan (*Limit to Five Pages; applications exceeding the page limit will not be reviewed*).

- a. Hypothesis & Specific Aims:** State concisely what the proposed translational biomedical research is intended to accomplish in terms of advancing the technology towards tangible clinical application, impact and implementation within the community.
- b. Background & Clinical Significance:** Describe and reference the clinical significance of the science and/or technology, including its potential impact on the diagnosis and/or treatment of disease, as well as quality-of-life enhancements that will help patients experience longer, healthier and more productive lives. It is important to support these claims with information that demonstrate an unmet health care need to be addressed by the science and/or technology. Include information about the potential impact resulting from the clinical adoption and potential community participation and dissemination of the science and/or technology, as well as any competitive advantages over existing art and practice.
- c. Preliminary Evidence/Feasibility:** Outline the scientific evidence previously generated by the PI and/or Co-PI, that supports the further development of this science/technology towards clinical utilization.
- d. Experimental Design & Methods:** Discuss the experimental design, and the means by which the data will be analyzed and interpreted. Discuss potential difficulties and alternative approaches to achieve the aims. When appropriate, discuss how the investigators will engage the community in the research process to aid study design, implementation and dissemination of research findings. Primary and secondary outcome measures should be included in this section.
- e. Clinical adoption and/or technology development strategy.** Summarize the planned translational pathway, including a time-line for accomplishing key milestones such as pre-clinical and clinical testing of the science/technology. State concisely the importance of the proposed research by relating its specific aims to translational research objectives such as prototype design, lead compound generation, animal testing and clinical trials.

Budget Outline and Justification. One-page budget and one-page Budget Justification.

The budget should be \$40,000/year (**requires \$5,000 per year match from each of two departments or institutions) for two years, although in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, the full \$80,000 may be budgeted in Year 1.

NOTE: Indirect/administrative costs, travel, conference fees, memberships, subscriptions, and PI/co-PI salary support are prohibited.

NIH-Biosketch and Other Support: Please use PHS 398 modular 4-page format only.