

Emory Orthopaedics Seed Grants

Emory Orthopaedics provide seed grants to help **basic and translational scientists** (PhD required) establish new and exciting musculoskeletal research, with the **aim** of advancing the prevention and treatment of diseases relating to Orthopaedics care. The **expectation** is to obtain strong scientific data that would result in:

- 1) at least one publication in a peer-reviewed journal and
- 2) an application to other funding agencies (i.e. foundation, DoD, VA and/or NIH).

Successful Seed Grants (resulting in publication and/or grants) may result in subsequent supplemental grants to foster and expand these research programs.

Grant cycle for Emory fiscal year 2023-2024:

RFA Posted	Application Due	Start of Funding
October 1, 2024	November 15, 2024	March 1, 2025

Please submit your application in one pdf file to Thanh.Doan@emory.edu.

I. Criteria for Eligibility

- For **Faculty** initiated grants
 - Seed funding for a **maximum requested amount** of **\$25,000** will be available with possibility of **no cost extension** (NCE) **upon approval** of progress report and justification. If your proposal requires more funds, please include other secured funding source(s) that is available to successfully execute and complete the proposed project within the seed grant period. Seed grant fund cannot exceed \$25,000.
 - The Initiating-PI (PhD required) must hold a primary faculty appointment in the Department of Orthopaedics.
 - The Initiating PI must partner with at least one Emory Orthopaedic clinician (M.D. or equivalent) to serve as co-PI.
 - Funds cannot be used for salary or fringe support for any personnel, including PI's, co-I's and staff. The use of departmental or institutional core facilities is highly encouraged and budget should include these costs.
- A PhD Emory Orthopaedics faculty may submit only one application per funding cycle. Any previous seed grant, awarded to the initiating PI, must be completed, i.e. funds reconciled, account closed and progress report submitted to Thanh Doan. Previous awardees that have not completed their proposed seed research and have not submitted a progress report are ineligible from applying.
- The proposal must be for an original project that has not been previously or currently funded by any agency. The proposal may represent a new direction or extension of a previous or currently funded research project without any overlap. The proposal should be completed within one year from time of NOA.

- The applicant(s) MUST clearly demonstrate their plans for dissemination (conference abstracts/presentations, manuscripts) and have specific targets and deadlines for subsequent grant submissions. A timeline of intended conference and grant submission is recommended.
- This mechanism requires a multi-investigators team to foster and demonstrate intra-departmental relation. Additional collaboration with faculty at partnering institutions (GT, UGA, etc.) are allowed.
- Failure to initiate the proposed work **within 90 days of the Notice of Award (NOA)** will result in retraction of the award and ineligibility for subsequent cycles.

II. Application Procedure

Applicants should submit their grant as a **single pdf file** to Thanh Doan, thanh.doan@emory.edu, within one month of the submission deadline.

- A. **Cover Letter** (2 pages maximum) from the initiating principal investigator(s) using the following organization (i.e. A.1, A.2, etc.):

A.1. **Project Title**

A.2. **Principal Investigators:** Initiating-PI (PhD required) full name, contact email, primary appointment; co-PI (MD or equivalent) full name, contact email, primary appointment.

A.3. **Significance** and **Innovation** of the proposed project, the long-term goals of such project, and potential scientific/medical outcomes associated with the project, and planned peer-reviewed journal for submission.

A.4. **Detailed Budget:** Clearly state upfront the amount requested of the seed grant program and provide any other secured funding source(s) and amount that are needed to complete the proposal. Please provide a justification for the requested budget, including cost for animals, facility cost, core cost, laboratory supplies, etc. Please list anticipated personnel for the project and funding source for the personnel. Please disclose any potential conflict of interest (e.g. funding from company, investment in company, etc.)

**Note: The seed funds cannot be used for salary and fringe support of initiating PI, co-PIs and staff. Seed funds cannot be used for travel, for gift cards, or for purchase of equipment.*

A.5. **Expansion and Continuance:** Please state a specific plan for submission of work for extramural funding (i.e., grants to OREF or other foundations, NIH, DoD, VA, etc.). It is highly recommended that a time frame of submission be provided and how the data achieved in the proposed seed grant will contribute to the over-arching science program. Please explicitly include if PI has a track record of submitting and/or receiving awards from agency. At least 1 paragraph should be devoted towards this plan.

A.6. **Declaration of any Conflict of Interest.** Please list any potential conflict of interest that may occur or arise from or during the proposed research. Explain how the conflict of interest will be mitigated and managed during the proposed research. If no conflict is anticipated, please state explicitly.

- B. **Project Description** (4 pages maximum)

B.1. **Specific Aims** style page for the project (1 page limit)

B.2. **Approach** (2 pages limit): Briefly and clearly describe the approach to accomplish the specific aims mentioned in B.1. This section must include and address statistical methods for sample size and analysis. Preliminary data may be included.

B.3. **Leadership Plan** (1 page limit): Briefly describe the involvement of initiating PI and of clinician partner to the project and to future publications, conferences, and grants.

(https://grants.nih.gov/grants/multi_pi/sample_leadership_plans.pdf)

C. **Biosketches** of the initiating-PI and of the co-PI are required. Please submit NIH PHS format (guideline can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>).

III. Selection and Funding Procedures

Grants will be judged on four criteria, on a scale of one (best) to nine (worst):

- 1) Significance of the scientific question and innovative potential (A.3 and B.1)
- 2) Investigative team (A.2, A.5, A.6, B.3 and C.)
- 3) Proposed aims and approach (A.4 and B.2)
- 4) Plan for dissemination and subsequent funding opportunity. (A.5 and B.2)

Applications will be submitted for review by expert reviewers. A departmental executive committee will review scored applications and recommend for funding based on priority scores. All initiating-PI will be notified (favorably or unfavorably) upon completion of review process.

IV. Follow-up

The initiated faculty investigator must provide a one-year progress report, describing the outcome of the award, including any subsequent conference presentations, journal submissions or grant applications. Progress reports should be submitted as **a single pdf file** to Thanh Doan, thanh.doan@emory.edu. When requested, a NCE may be granted upon review of the progress report and its justification for incompleteness. Failure to submit a progress report will result in ineligibility for subsequent seed grants.