

Emory Medicine Bridge Funding Program

Applications are Due April 15, 2019

To assist investigators who have temporarily lost significant federal research funding, and to facilitate carefully planned changes in research direction, the School of Medicine has expanded its Bridge Funding Program. Bridge funding up to \$100,000 (including Department support/matching funds) or up to 50% of the last year's direct costs, whichever is lower, will be available to investigators based on merit, potential for renewal of external funding, and availability of SOM funds.

- Bridge funds cannot be used for faculty salary support of the PI(s).
- For Department of Medicine Applicants Only - DoM internal review due dates are April 1 and December 1. Please [click here](#) for more details.

I. Criteria for Eligibility (all three criteria must be met)

- A. BRIDGING: A previous award must be demonstrated. This would include:
 - i) For the most part, these awards will be given to projects seeking RO1 levels of funding, but other types of applications could be considered.
 - ii) New unfunded federal applications that substitute for an "existing" research award.
- B. NEED: Eligible applicants must have less than \$500,000 in current total annual direct extramural and intramural funds (discretionary, start up, SaLaD, etc...). Individuals with start-up funds remaining in excess of \$100,000 are not eligible.
- C. POTENTIAL: The competitive renewal should typically have been discussed and scored if an NIH application, or received excellent or equivalent ratings from NSF or other federal applications. Proposals that have been triaged are not eligible for review.

II. Application Procedure

Applications will be accepted for deadlines of April 15 and December 15, and should be submitted by the investigator's department chair as an electronic, single pdf, in the order listed to Nicole Tharp (nicole.c.tharp@emory.edu) in the Office of the Executive Associate Dean for Research (incomplete packages will not be considered for funding):

- A. A letter (2 pages maximum) from the investigator using the following organization:

A.O. PI NAME AND DEPARTMENT

A. 1. BUDGET: A proposed budget for use of the bridge funds, including names and roles for the personnel. **Note that the School's bridge funds cannot be used for salary support of the PI or co-PIs, travel, or equipment.*

A.2. Dollar amounts (direct funding) available from ALL sources source type, and number, your role, and their ending dates. If none, state none. Please list: examples:

\$250,000/yr, NIH R01 AI34000, PI, 12-31-2017;
\$75,000, Dept Interim funding, PI, no end date;

\$65,000/yr, American Heart Association grant, co-PI, 1-15-18;
\$35,000, So-in-so endowed professorship, PI no end date, salary only, etc.

A.3. The number of laboratory personnel and positions (tech, grad student, postdoc, etc.), and the current annual direct costs for running the lab.

A.4. The specific consequences to the research program and laboratory personnel of having lost the grant, including a description of how operating costs are being reduced.

A.5. The termination date of the current grant and when current funds for that grant will expire.

A.6. The author, title, journal and reference of five articles that the applicant considers to be the most significant, recent papers.

A.7. A statement that remaining bridge funds will be relinquished as soon as additional funding is secured.

B. A ONE page plan for resubmission, including responses to major criticisms of the grant and intended resubmission date. This could resemble the "Introduction" page of a revised NIH grant proposal. Also, include plans to gather essential preliminary data for this submission.

C. A copy of the entire relevant grant application.

D. The study section review sheets (summary statements) or NSF/ VA/ Federal Grant evaluations of the competitive renewal.

E. Requesting faculty member's Full CV.

F. A separate, confidential letter (pdf) should be prepared from the investigator's chair (or Division Chief) and sent directly to the **Executive**

Administrator, Research Programs and Operations c/o Lisa M.

Carlson. This is a confidential letter that only the leadership team making the final funding decisions will read (this letter should not be included in the applicant's packet). The letter should include the following:

- F.1. confirming the amount of the request;
- F.2. indicating the degree of departmental enthusiasm for the investigator;
- F.3. stating that the investigator does not have other monies to draw on;
- F.4. whether the investigator would benefit from mentoring and if so the outline of a plan;
- *F.5. whether additional departmental funds are available to pool with institutional bridge funds. Departmental matching funds are strongly encouraged but might not be possible in all situations. Requests to bridge subprojects on U- and P-series grants must have a separate endorsement of the U- or PPG PI.

III. Selection and Funding Procedures

A committee of seasoned investigators will review applications and recommend action, recognizing that sufficient funds are unlikely to be available to support all applicants. Decisions will be made in consultation with the Dean, the EAD-Research office, and WHSC VP-Research. Work funded under this mechanism must meet all regulatory requirements of Emory University School of Medicine. Funds unexpended within 15 months of the initial payment will be relinquished.

IV. Follow-up

One year after the end of the bridge award the faculty member and departmental chair will prepare a brief letter to the Executive Associate Dean Research describing the outcome of the award (e.g., grant applications, publications, and grant awards derived from this funding).