



**SOM IMAGINE, INNOVATE, AND IMPACT (I³)
VENTURE RESEARCH AWARDS RFP**

VENTURE AWARDS: The Dean of the Emory School of Medicine (SOM) is soliciting innovative research proposals to catalyze promising early-stage concepts with commercial potential that do not yet qualify for funding from external sources. The **I³ Venture Research Awards** aim to cultivate inventors, innovators, and entrepreneurs driven to solve medicine's challenges and create patient impact. In the current round, grants will be considered for:

- **I³ Venture Research Awards:** Proposals with the potential to shape, de-risk, or scale up a potential new drug or technology in medicine (diagnostic, therapeutic, device or software) in less than **one year**. If successful, the proposal would ready the project for the next stage of translation (not necessarily to market readiness). Particularly creative ideas, even without preliminary data, will be considered provided compelling impact, feasibility and commercial potential is demonstrated.
- Note that an invention disclosure to the Emory Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) is not necessary in order to submit and be eligible. Also, the opportunity being developed does not necessarily have to be fit for development into a startup company.

Funding Availability –

- **I³ Venture Research Awards: Awards will be made in \$1,000 increments, up to \$20,000** in total direct costs. Budgets should be rounded off to the nearest \$1,000.
- The total of number of awards to be made is variable based on merit and funds requested; a maximum of \$100,000 will be awarded in this round.

Eligibility –

- Cannot be duplicative of current funding at the time of award
- Faculty may participate in more than one proposal and may serve as PI on more than one proposal
- Faculty PI with a primary appointment in the Emory SOM at the rank of Assistant Professor or above at an FTE or 0.5 or higher
- Collaborations are strongly encouraged but not required. If the proposal includes a non-SOM entity, that second entity must agree to fund its share of the budget if awarded.

Timeline

February 1, 2019 – RFP released

April 1, 2019 – Proposals due by 5:00 pm

May 15, 2019 – Applicant award notification

July 1, 2019 – Project start date

June 30, 2020 – Project end date (Up to 1-year No Cost Extension (NCE) may be granted with strong justification. Funds not expended by 24 months will be returned to SOM.)

Application Information

Applicants should submit the following materials using the [online application](#) no later than 5:00 p.m. (no exceptions) on Monday, April 1, 2019.

The online application must be completed in one sitting, so it is recommended that applicants gather the information/documents below before beginning the application.

At above link, answer:

- Title of the proposal/innovation
- Category: Venture Research
- Does your project involve investigators from more than one institution? (Yes or No)
- PI name and department/division
- Total amount of budget proposed (maximum of \$20,000, rounded off to nearest \$1,000)
- Period proposed (for Venture = 1 year)
- Summary/Abstract (500 words maximum)
- Single PDF Attachment (see below for format)

Attachment – Each of the following items should be uploaded as a single PDF document following this naming convention: PI last name.first name.I3Venture2019.pdf

- Example: Hill.Beth.I3Venture2019.pdf
- If a PI is on more than one grant, use Doe.John1 and Doe.John2 to identify each grant
- Please include a header that appears on every page with the file name and page numbers with total pages
 - Example: Hill.Beth.I3Venture2019 Page 1 of 15

The single PDF must include, in this order and in these sections (sections should not be combined as they will be scored separately):

- Title page (*up to 1 page*) with:
 - Name of individual designated as PI, credentials, title, and department/division
 - If applicable, Co-PI name, credentials, title, and department/division
 - Co-Investigators' names, credentials, titles, and departments/divisions
 - Invention disclosure reference number (if filed; not required)
 - Must include signature of the PI, and the Chair of the PI's department must indicate approval of the proposal through signature on the title page
- Milestones/Aims (*up to 1 page*)
- Preliminary data are suggested to illustrate the project is feasible (*up to 2 pages*)
- Research Strategy: Must be formatted by Milestones/Aims and include sections for Significance, Innovation, Approach, and Commercial Impact (IP generation, market demand - What application would this technology serve or what problem would it solve? How would this improve on how it's being done today? How does it compare to competitive technologies? Who would use it?) (*up to 2 pages*)
- References (*up to 2 pages*)
- Description of creativity and novelty of the idea/approach; likelihood of significant progress in shaping, de-risking or scaling up a potential drug or technology in less than one year; likelihood of (and plan for) leading to future/follow-on external funding support; magnitude of potential impact if project were to

succeed in the long-term (i.e. potential for significant vs. incremental impact through delivering a drug or technology to the public); and PI qualifications and team readiness (*up to 2 pages*)

- A timeline noting specific milestones to be used in reporting (*up to 1 page*)
- Budget ([using this template](#)) in this breakdown:
 - Dollar amount requested (rounded to the nearest \$1,000, up to a maximum of \$20,000)
 - Period requested (Venture = 1 year)
 - Breakdown of budget (personnel and supplies) with dollar amounts for each
 - Faculty salary support is limited to 10% of the total budget. Salary support for administrative support is not appropriate. Funds may be requested for salaries for study staff, students, post-doctoral fellows, and other study-related personnel.
 - Travel expenses and equipment are allowable with this funding mechanism.
 - Computers, general-purpose equipment, office supplies, etc. may not be charged to this project.
 - Indirect costs are not allowed on the I³ Awards
 - A separate budget page should be submitted for each non-SOM entity that will incur costs on behalf of this project, including a statement of commitment from each non-SOM entity to fund its share if the award is made.
- Budget Justification (*up to 1 page per institution*)
- IRB or IACUC Approval Letter (if approved) OR the status of the IRB/IACUC review (if applicable).
- Biosketches: Include (new) NIH-style biosketches for key personnel. Please use this [template](#). Combine all biosketches into the single overall PDF. Biosketch instructions [here](#)

Application formatting:

- Use paper size no larger than 8 ½" x 11"
- Provide at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages
- Font size must be 11 points or larger (smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams, and charts is acceptable as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%)
- Text color must be black (color text in figures, graphs, diagrams, charts, tables, footnotes, and headings is acceptable)
- The following fonts are acceptable: Arial and Calibri

Review and Award Process

The following Review Criteria will be used to score proposals:

- Primary criteria:
 - Creativity and novelty of the idea/approach
 - Long-term commercialization potential (IP generation, market demand)
 - Likelihood of significant progress in shaping, de-risking or scaling up a technology within one year (feasibility)
 - Likelihood of leading to future/follow-on external funding support
 - Magnitude of potential impact if project were to succeed in the long-term (i.e. potential for significant vs. incremental impact through delivering a technology to the public)
 - PI qualifications and team readiness

Progress Reports

Return on Investment (publications, disclosures/patents, presentations, etc.) will be tracked. Awardees are required to submit semi-annual scientific reports demonstrating progress against aims on their submitted timeline - due at 6 and 12 months (and 18 and 24 months in an NCE).

Awardees are required to submit brief annual progress reports for 5 years following completion of the funded award to state progress on the following metrics: publications, external grant funding, and/or further projects and follow-on funding stemming from the award, and replication of project at Emory or elsewhere.

Financial Reports

SOM will provide quarterly financial reports to the PI. The PI and the PI's Department (not SOM) are responsible for reconciling project accounts as non-sponsored funds.

Citation Requirements

Awardees are required to cite institutional support of the Emory SOM and the Georgia CTSA NIH award number (**UL1-TR002378**) on all products (publications, patents, presentations) resulting from this award.

For content questions related to the I³ Award programs, please contact:

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For technical questions related to the application portal, please contact:

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