



VANDERBILT – INCYTE RESEARCH ALLIANCE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Invited Full Grant Applications Due: February 19, 2018

Award Date: March 01, 2018

The Vanderbilt–Incyte Research Alliance is built on a shared mission that science drives success. Incyte's world-class drug discovery expertise, investment in sound and precise science, and rigorous pursuit of excellence in research and development drive efforts to identify new molecules with the potential to improve the lives of patients and make a difference in health care. These efforts have led to the discovery and clinical development of a broad range of targeted and immuno-therapies, more details of which can be found at: <https://www.incyte.com/what-we-do/discover.aspx>

Qualified faculty from Vanderbilt University Medical Center or Vanderbilt University are encouraged to apply for research funds made available through the **Vanderbilt-Incyte Research Alliance Program Grant**.

The goal of these funds is to support faculty in the areas of applied and translational research specifically in the following areas:

- Identification and validation of novel, tumor-cell intrinsic therapeutic intervention points
- Characterization of the role(s) for epigenetic modification in cell growth, proliferation, drug resistance and/or survival
- Characterization of the role(s) for tumor cell-intrinsic, inflammatory signaling in cancer growth, proliferation, drug resistance and/or survival
- Novel molecular methods (e.g. imaging, gene expression, etc.) to improve patient selection and stratification for clinical trials

DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

Multiple grants will be awarded for projects beginning March 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018. Project proposals may be extended, however, 2018 funding allocations will be approximately \$100,000 (direct costs) per project. Continued funding beyond year one will be judged by the **Vanderbilt–Incyte Research Alliance Joint Steering Committee** (JSC) prior to the 2019 award application period based on demonstrable progress of the proposed year one objectives. Full grant applications will require a clearly defined project scope, specific aims and budget to be considered for review.

ELIGIBILITY

Awards are restricted to faculty of Vanderbilt University Medical Center or Vanderbilt University. Recipients of the award must be, at the time of the application, citizens or noncitizen nationals of the United States or lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence. Permanent residents must submit with the application notarized evidence indicating they have a Resident Alien Card or "Green Card" (I-551) or have been approved for the issuance of such card. Investigators that do not meet these requirements should not submit a LOI.

REVIEW PROCESS

The review process will occur in two steps. The first step involves a review of the submitted Letter of Intent (LOI) where projects will be chosen to submit a full grant application based on their eligibility and applicability to the goals stated in the RFA. If selected to submit a full application, the second step will involve the

submission of a full application, as well as a more detailed review of the full grant application by the **Vanderbilt–Incyte Research Alliance JSC**. Grants will be awarded based on innovation, scientific merit and potential to translate into clinically meaningful discoveries.

GENERAL FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must use the Vanderbilt – Incyte Research Alliance form pages provided
- The application should be easily readable. Avoid jargon and spell out all abbreviations. The reviewers' perception may be negatively affected by a poorly written or organized application
- Use standard NIH approved fonts (e.g. Arial or Times New Roman) and no less than 11-12 point type.
- The margins of your text should be no less than 0.5" on all sides
- Observe page limits as listed in section instructions
- Please use single-spaced text throughout the application
- Include the Principle Investigator's name and degree(s) in the header of all application pages (with the exception of the NIH biosketch)
- FULL APPLICATION ONLY: All pages must be consecutively numbered in the upper right hand corner (do not use page designations such as "3A" or "3B")

LETTER OF INTENT INSTRUCTIONS

Interested applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) by **January 29, 2018** using the form pages provided. LOIs submitted without using the form pages provided will not be considered.

Required Sections

- **NIH Biosketch (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>)**
- **Letter of Intent (1 page only)**
 - Name and degree(s) of the PI
 - Descriptive project title
 - A summary of the proposed project including a concise scientific summary, specific aims, the relevance/impact of the project related to the focal areas
 - Budget estimate
 - Signature and contact information of Principal Investigator

The ability of the principal investigator to clearly define and explain the proposed research in this LOI is an important part of the initial review process.

Submission

Electronically submit a single PDF containing all LOI documentation through the **VICC Pilot Project Application Portal** by midnight on Monday, January 29, 2018. Please select Incyte Pilot Program from the drop-down when identifying funding opportunity. A link to the VICC Pilot Project Application Portal can also be found at the top right hand corner of the VICC Funding Opportunities web page (<http://www.vicc.org/research/funding/>). Letters of Intent not in compliance with format guidelines will be returned for compliance and, if uncorrected by the deadline, not reviewed.

If you have any questions, please contact:

M. Allison Bowen
Program Manager
Research Administration
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center
margaret.a.bowen.1@vanderbilt.edu

FULL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants invited to submit a full grant application, due Monday, February 19, 2018, will be required to submit the following components for review:

Face Page

Please use the face page found in the Full Application Forms document.

Abstract

Provide a brief, up to 1 page abstract summarizing the research proposal. Please use the form found in the Full Application Forms document

Project Narrative

In this section, provide a detailed description of the research proposed. The application should represent a realistic set of goals for projects of one to three years in duration, recognizing that for multi-year proposals, continued funding will be contingent upon demonstrable progress of the prior year objectives.

The information should be organized under the following headings:

- Specific Aims
- Background and Rationale
- Research Design and Methods
- Significance/Impact
- References

The project narrative should not exceed the following page limits listed below by grant type:

- *Preclinical and Correlative Science Pilot Awards* – please limit the project narrative to no more than five (5) pages, excluding references
- *Innovative Translational Scientist Award* – please limit the project narrative to no more than five (5) pages, excluding references

Budget/Budget Justification

Using the NIH PHS 398 detailed budget for initial budget period form page, which can be found at the following link (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>), please provide your proposed budget.

In addition, include a budget justification for the project period. Please make sure your requested budget falls within the limits of the grant mechanism for which you are applying.

Expenditures **allowed** include:

- Salary for the principal investigator
- Salary for technical assistance
- Equipment purchase or rental (less than \$5,000)
- Research supplies
- Animal purchase and maintenance costs
- Domestic travel (when necessary to carry out the proposed research)
- Registration fees at related scientific meetings
- Special fees (core laboratory/shared resource fees, computer time, pathology, photography, etc.)

Expenditures **not allowed** include:

- Salary for secretarial/administrative personnel
- Office supplies, equipment, or furniture (office or laboratory)
- Purchasing and binding of periodicals and books
- Dues and membership fees
- Entertainment-related expenses
- Recruiting and relocating expenses

- Rental of office or laboratory space
- Per diem charges for hospital beds
- Non-medical or personal services to patients

Key Personnel

Provide a biographical sketch for each key personnel listed on the grant using the NIH Biographical Sketch form (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>). The biographical sketch should not exceed 5 pages maximum per key personnel.

Human Subjects/Vertebrate Animals

Please attach <=1 separate page stating whether or not your proposed research will involve human subjects or vertebrate animals and the status of VUMC committee approval. In the event of funding, detailed human subject, vertebrate animal, and a data/resource sharing plan will be required if appropriate.

Submission Material Checklist

	Face Page
	Abstract (<1 page)
	Narrative (Up to 5 pages, excluding references)
	Budget (PHS398 form page)
	Budget Justification
	Key Personnel (NIH Biographical sketch)
	Human Subjects/Vertebrate Animals (if applicable)

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

Electronically submit a single PDF containing all documentation through the **VICC Pilot Project Application Portal** by midnight on February 19, 2018. Please select Incyte Pilot Program from the drop-down when identifying funding opportunity. A link to the VICC Pilot Project Application Portal can also be found at the top right hand corner of the VICC Funding Opportunities web page (<http://www.vicc.org/research/funding/>). Applications not in compliance with format guidelines will be returned for compliance and, if uncorrected by the deadline, not reviewed.

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