Chronic Brain Injury Program

Request for Pilot Award Proposals

The Chronic Brain Injury (CBI) Pilot Award Program supports innovation and interdisciplinary collaborations to foster outstanding basic, clinical, and translational research on chronic brain injury topics. CBI will provide up to 5 awards of $25,000.00 each to teams of investigators developing both cross-college collaborations and pilot data in pursuit of impactful, federally-funded research projects, programs, and publications. Successful applications will provide evidence for the strong probability of success in securing extramural funding, increased publication quality, and increased national reputation.

Requirements for Eligibility

Projects: Applications must propose new projects that address chronic brain injury challenges in CBI’s key research areas: Translational Neurotrauma; Treatment & Prevention, and Data & Detection. In this round, applications that address one or more of the following themes will be given additional consideration.

- **Regeneration**: identifying, characterizing, or applying mechanisms of neural repair and regeneration, including stem cell studies,

- **Vulnerability**: examining clinical and/or societal effects that contribute to systemic health disparities in brain injury care or outcomes

- **Data & AI**: applying experimental data science approaches to improve description or evaluation of outcomes, identification of risks, or recovery trajectories

Applicants: Applications must feature at least two co-Principal Investigators, representing:

- A cross-disciplinary collaboration featuring at least two Ohio State colleges OR
- A translational collaboration between basic and clinical scientists OR
- A transdisciplinary collaboration involving an external industry or community partner.

All Ohio State faculty are eligible to apply. Nationwide Children’s Hospital faculty are considered as representing a college separate from the Ohio State College of Medicine. Department Chairs and Center/Institute Directors are not eligible to apply as principal investigators.

Matching Funds: Applicants must provide matching funds of at least $25,000.00 from internal or external sources. Matching funds may be cash, in-kind contributions, or a mix of both. If using grant funds from other projects to support matching funds, the application must specifically state how the proposal represents a new and distinct project.

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1, 2021</td>
<td>Request for Proposals Release</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5, 2021 @ 11:59PM</td>
<td>Letters of Intent Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 3, 2021 @ 11:59PM</td>
<td>Applications Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 15, 2021</td>
<td>Awards Announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1, 2021</td>
<td>Earliest Project Start Date</td>
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Application Instructions

STEP 1: Letter of Intent
Teams must submit a letter of intent (LOI) form (https://go.osu.edu/cbipilotloi) that clearly describes the project, estimated budget, research strategy (see below), and team qualifications. Please note that salaries and travel for tenure-track faculty may not be supported by these funds. LOIs will be reviewed within one week after the deadline by the CBI program team to ensure that project proposals meet all requirements and fit the scope of this program. LOIs may be returned within one week with suggestions for revision and resubmission. LOIs must be approved prior to full proposal submission. Questions can be directed to Kedar Hiremath (hiremath.7@osu.edu).

STEP 2: Full Application
After LOI approval, teams must submit a full proposal in PDF form to cbi@osu.edu. Application forms are available at https://discovery.osu.edu/cbi-funding-resources. Applications must include:

- A completed application form including cover page and detailed budget
- A proposal narrative, limited to five pages excluding references, that clearly describes each component of the project research strategy:
  - Project Aims: *What will this project accomplish?*
  - Significance: *What challenge or need will this project address?*
  - Rationale: *How will this project address the challenge or need?*
  - Innovation: *What new ideas or approaches does this project engender?*
  - Methodology: *What specific procedures and techniques will be used to accomplish the project?*
  - Interdisciplinary Approach: *What role does each project team member play? How does this project meaningfully incorporate multiple disciplines?*
  - Next Steps: *How will this project lead to collaborative extramural proposals within two years of funding start? What current or expected grant announcements will the project team pursue?*

Review
Completed applications will be reviewed using a truncated NIH-style review process. Each application will be peer-reviewed and scored by at least two reviewers selected from the CBI faculty affiliate base. The CBI program team will use reviewers’ scores and comments to rank and select up to five projects for funding. Scores and reviewer comments will be shared with each applicant team.

Requirements for Funded Projects
Award funds are limited to one-time support for the project with a maximum value of $25,000. Projects will be funded for one calendar year, and no-cost extensions will not be allowed. Exceptions will be granted with approval by the Program Manager.

By accepting a CBI Pilot Award, the applicants agree that:

- CBI support will be acknowledged in any materials, presentations or publications arising from this work.
- Required progress (2) and final (1) reports will be submitted by deadlines indicated in the notice of award.
- CBI must be listed on Ohio State ePA-005 forms (at 0% award and 0% expenditure credit) for any extramural proposals arising from this work.
- Extramural funding applications advancing this work AND manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication in scholarly journals arising from this work will be submitted no later than two years from funding start.
- Project teams must present their project within one year of project end at a CBI-sponsored event.