

## A Call for Investigator-Initiated Seed Grants in Healthcare Innovation Focus: Dealing with Pandemics

**Deadlines: April 1, 2023 Letter of Intent; May 15, 2023 Full Proposal**

### **I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION**

The Emory-Georgia Tech Healthcare Innovation Program (HIP), in partnership with the Emory Synergy Award Program, Georgia Clinical & Translational Science Alliance (Georgia CTSA), Emory Healthcare Innovation Hub, Emory Health Services Research (HSR) Center, Winship Cancer Institute (Winship), Emory+Children's Pediatrics Institute, and Georgia Institute of Technology, is pleased to announce the twentieth round of research seed grants in Healthcare Innovation. Seed grants will fund multi-investigator & multi-disciplinary teams examining healthcare services and clinical effectiveness involving adult and/or pediatric patients.

Awards will support innovative approaches that are consistent with the [goals](#) of HIP and address issues of healthcare quality, costs, and/or access, which include (but are not limited to): coordination of public health and healthcare systems in prevention, diagnosis and treatment; provider-patient safety; clinical preparedness and communication; health policy and disparities. Proposals that include issues dealing with pandemics are encouraged.

#### **PRELIMINARY STUDY GRANTS:**

**Purpose:** To enable investigators to generate preliminary data that facilitates a subsequent submission of health services research grants for external funding.

**Applications:** Should include the questions to be addressed, methods to be used, data sources, and how the study results will lead to subsequent external sponsorship or a clinical effectiveness study.

**Funding:** \$25,000 for no more than one year.

#### **COMPLETE PROJECT GRANTS:**

**Purpose:** To enable investigators to answer specific questions addressing healthcare quality, cost, access, or clinical effectiveness at Emory Healthcare, Children's, Grady, and/or Winship.

**Applications:** Should include the questions to be addressed, methods to be used, data sources, and how the study will answer the questions being addressed.

**Funding:** \$25,000/year for no more than two years.

### **II. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION**

A major goal of this program is to stimulate collaboration across disciplines and organizational units. Faculty from any Georgia CTSA partner institution may apply. However, the PI must be from Emory or Georgia Tech. Each proposal must include:

A minimum of two faculty investigators from different academic units (e.g., schools or departments) at Emory, Georgia Tech, Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM), GSU, or UGA; and:

At least one medical or nursing staff member at Emory Healthcare, Children's, Grady, and/or the Atlanta VAMC. The hospital staff member may be represented by one of the university faculty.

### III. LETTER OF INTENT

Interested applicants must submit a letter of intent via the [online LOI form](#) no later than 6:00 pm on April 1, 2023, that includes:

- a. Descriptive title and short summary (less than 250 words) of proposed research
- b. Name, e-mail, institutional affiliation, role, and academic rank of each investigator(s)
- c. Name(s), e-mail, and institutional affiliation of other key personnel
- d. Estimate of proposed total budget (no details needed at this time, just total value)

LOIs will be screened, and applicants selected to submit final applications will be notified by April 15, 2023. Contact [Maryam.carn@emory.edu](mailto:Maryam.carn@emory.edu) with any questions.

### IV. APPLICATION & SUBMISSION INFORMATION

**A. Content & Form of Application Submission** – The [online application](#) must be completed in one sitting, so it is recommended that applicants gather the information/documents below before beginning the application. *Attachment – Each of the following items should be uploaded as a single PDF document.* The required components of the application are listed below:

Component	Format and Notes
TITLE PAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title of proposal</li> <li>• PI name, degree(s), title(s) and institution</li> <li>• Research teams' names, degrees, titles and institutions</li> </ul>
PROJECT SUMMARY	Complete the fillable <a href="#">document</a> , save, and include with application.
PROJECT NARRATIVE - research plan (5-page limit), figures, and references.	The Research Plan should include the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A brief introduction outlining the general issues to be examined;</li> <li>• The questions to be addressed by the proposed research with specific aims;</li> <li>• A brief description of proposed study methodology including data sources;</li> <li>• The anticipated results of the study and the significance of the project.</li> </ul>
BUDGET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projected budget using this <a href="#">template</a>. A separate budget page should be submitted for each institution that will incur costs on behalf of this project.</li> <li>• Budget Justification</li> </ul>
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - Biosketches, IRB/IACUC approvals (if applicable), CITI Certs, Letters of Support, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include NIH-style biosketches for all key personnel. Please use <a href="#">this template</a>. Biosketch instructions <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>• IRB or IACUC Approval Letter OR select "pending" from the drop-down menu on the online form. <b><i>IRB or IACUC protocols must be submitted prior to submission of this pilot award application.</i></b></li> </ul>

**B. Dates and Times** – All applications must be submitted by 6:00 pm on May 15, 2023.

**C. Note Regarding Offices of Sponsored Programs** – This funding mechanism uses internal funding. Office of Sponsored Programs review is not required unless the award will result in a subcontract.

#### **D. Funding Restrictions**

Funds may be used for data collection and analysis, research lab supplies, and student, postdoc, technical support that are directly related to the conduct of the research. Salary support for university faculty, hospital medical/nursing staff, or administrative support is not appropriate. All personnel hired under this award must be hired thru Emory or Georgia Tech.

All federal and university rules and regulations regarding the administration of grants apply to these funds. Costs subject to Cost Accounting Principles (CAS) approval, such as general-purpose equipment, office supplies and the like, may not be charged to this award.

Budget should include direct costs only. If indirect costs are applicable, they will be added to the award.

Pilot funding will be rescinded from applicants whose relevant certifications have not been provided to Georgia CTSA within the first 6 months of the project. Exceptions may be granted.

Up to a 6-month no-cost extension may be granted by written request with justification accompanied by a brief report of progress.

Funding for the awards is provided by each participating institution. The application budget should clearly identify which entity will incur each item of cost. Failure to do so could result in expenses not being reimbursed.

#### **V. REVIEW CRITERIA**

The major criteria for evaluation by the review committee will be the creativity, inventiveness and quality of the research plan. The following criteria will also be included in the review committee's assessment:

- Scientific Approach
- Significance
- Innovation
- Translational Potential
- Investigators/Collaboration (the extent of inter-disciplinary and inter-organizational collaboration)
- Requisite skills and experience of investigators
- Budget (cost effectiveness and availability of any additional support/matching funds)
- Potential for successful completion
- The potential for subsequent extramural funding
- Consistent with the [goals](#) and priorities of the Healthcare Innovation Program

## **VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION**

- A. Award Notices** - Award notices will be issued from the Health Innovation Program and will include information on who to contact to access award funds.
  
- B. Reporting** - All awardees are required to submit a progress report for their projects to their respective funding institutions and Georgia CTSA. The progress report deadline is one year past the award period end date. Failure to submit a timely progress report may result in exclusion from future award opportunities and support. In addition, funders reserve the right to contact all awardees periodically in the future to continue tracking progress and outcomes of the resulting awards.
  
- C. Publicity** – Information about grants awarded under this program will be posted on the HIP and sponsors websites. Applicants must agree to credit the funding sponsor in any publications, grant applications and/or invention disclosures that result from awards. Citation information will be provided in the Notice of Award.

## **VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & QUESTIONS**

Requests for additional information and questions may be directed to:

Maryam Carn  
Associate Director  
Emory-Georgia Tech  
Healthcare Innovation Program  
[Maryam.carn@emory.edu](mailto:Maryam.carn@emory.edu)  
404-727-9473