

Entrepreneurial Funding Announcement

Background: The **President's Translational and Entrepreneurial Research Fund (PTEF)** is sponsored by the Office of the President in partnership with the Office of the Vice President for Research and the Office of Technology Commercialization at the Health Science Center to provide early stage seed funds for applied research. The PTEF is intended to provide funding for projects that have a high probability of being commercialized but are unlikely to do so without gap funding. Proposals are sought from investigators interested in developing their ideas into biomedical products (therapeutics, biologics, devices, software, etc.). Interested parties should contact [OTC](#) with any inquiries.

Areas of Interest: Funds may be utilized for projects related to:

- Proof of concept studies leading to a provisional patent application
- Prototype development and research -- materials and labor costs
- Commercial feasibility (PK/PD)
- Software development -- specific scope of project required
- R&D -- equipment, materials, lab time, personnel etc. (all must be specific and required for milestone accomplishment)
- Other specific costs associated with the milestones laid out in the funding request.

Funding: Funds are awarded to HSC investigators for direct project costs for short-term milestones of 2 to 3 months. However, monies may remain with the investigator for a period of one year after awarded. The amount of the award will be determined by the financial resources necessary to achieve the desired milestone. Typically this amount will be in the range of \$5,000-25,000.

Eligibility Criteria: Proposals are welcomed from all investigators with primary employment appointments with the Health Science Center. The investigator must be committed to commercialization of their project, working in a team approach and establishing a long term relationship with OTC to realize this goal.

Application Process Overview:

Step 1. Disclose and Assign the Technology. Disclose the technology to OTC with rights assigned to the UT Board of Regents as soon as possible to give OTC staff sufficient time to evaluate the disclosure and assess IP rights before consideration of funding.

Step 2. Secure a Technology & Management Report (TMR) on the technology from OTC staff. All HSC inventions will receive this report. However, new or existing disclosures which lack a TMR will be considered.

Step 3. Complete the PTEF application, available upon request by emailing TaShavia Beverly-Prince (BeverlyPrinc@uthscsa.edu). The application is in PowerPoint and formatted as a "pitch deck", commonly used for brief investor presentations. A one page NIH modular-type budget with brief justification should be included in the PTEF PowerPoint application.

Step 4. Technology Pitch at the PTEF Review Session. The submitted application will serve as the pitch presentation and the applicant will pitch their proposal to a panel of invited experts. The PTEF Review Session is scheduled for **November 16, 2016** in the STRF Board Room.

Submission/Deadline: Please submit completed PTEF Applications via email to TaShavia Beverly-Prince (BeverlyPrinc@uthscsa.edu) on or before 5PM on **October 14, 2016**. Those selected for the PTEF Review Session will be notified by October 18th, 2016.

Evaluation Process and Notification: Proposals will be judged on the value proposition for the use of the funds in terms of validating the technology, gauging the commercial opportunity and moving the technology to a defined next stage of development. Specifically,

- Clarity of the objective/milestone;
- Excellence (as demonstrated by an innovative, well-conceived, high quality and feasible project); and
- Market assessment/validation of the technology.

There will be an initial review of proposals using the above criteria. Applicants selected to advance in the review process will be invited to present at the PTEF Review Session scheduled for November 16, 2016 in the STRF board room. The reviewers will include invited biomedical experts, OTC and VPR staff members, senior executives and venture capitalists, Projects will be assessed and ranked by market opportunity, as well as, the likelihood that funding will influence the probability of commercial success.

Award decisions will be announced on or before November 23, 2016.