Big Idea II

Dean's Societal Impact Research Innovation Challenge Seed Grant

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE) is committed to improving the community in new ways. We seek to support innovative strategies that increase healthy living opportunities for children, adults, and families in cities, states, and nations around the world. The Dean’s “Big Idea II” Research Innovation Challenge Grant supports EHE faculty to achieve results not attainable by the funding available through smaller grant initiatives. This year, interdisciplinary projects that present bold solutions to society's critical problems, including research focused on reversing health and social justice inequities in our society, are sought. Up to $500,000 over 2 years has been committed in support this effort.

Applicants must address a well-defined social, educational or health problem or disparity with the goal to identify solutions through fostering innovation. This work needs to look at big problems and offer big solutions that aim to have a meaningful impact on people's lives. As this program encourages a collaborative, multidisciplinary team approach, faculty PIs are asked to engage at least one EHE faculty member as Co-PI as well as one community partner. Faculty are encouraged to include one diversity post-doctoral researcher. The faculty Co-PI should be in a different field of study within the college, either within or cross-departments.

This initiative seeks bold ideas with the potential for high impact on classrooms, children/families, health and well-being and communities. The grant program supports the collection of pilot data so that research teams will be well-positioned for submitting applications for external funding by the completion of the study. This investment is aligned with the EHE Strategic Plan to promote original research and to build a stronger scholarly-based community within the College and with external stakeholders.

FUNDING

Five proposals will be funded at up to $100,000 each. Projects will start January 1, 2023 and end no later than December 31, 2024. Requested funds should be equally distributed across the two years. Number of awards are subject to change.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

• Each proposal must have an identified Principal Investigator (PI) who is tenure-track or tenured EHE faculty. The full administrative and fiscal responsibility and management of the project resides with the Principal Investigator named in the award.

• Project teams must reflect at least two faculty and/or research scientists from at least two EHE departments, programs or centers. Interdisciplinarity among members of the project team is highly desirable.

• Project teams must include at least one external community partner who is engaged in the project design and implementation.

• Projects must be focused on launching new initiatives or accelerating and scaling existing projects.

• Projects must seek to advance equity and social justice.

• Projects must include plans to engage diversity postdocs AND graduate students.

• The proposal should support one of the five pillars of EHE: Early Childhood Education; Urban/Rural Education; Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM); International/Globalization; and Health and Economic Vitality.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Applications are due Friday, October 7, 2022, by 5pm in the form of one single PDF file containing of the required sections in the order described below. The PDF will be submitted electronically at go.osu.edu/BigIdea2023.

APPLICATION FORMAT

Proposals should be single-spaced, 12-point font, with 0.5-inch margins on all sides.

1. Cover Page (1 page)
   • Title of Project
   • Principal Investigator (PI), Co-Principal Investigator(s)
• Community Partner(s)
• Diversity Post-Doctoral Researcher
• Department and program area, titles and contact information of PI and Co-PI(s)

2. Specific Aims (1 page) – Objectives and significance of the project

3. Approach (5 pages) – Justification for the study, innovation, study design, and analysis plan. Describe how the study has the potential to be transformative.

4. References/Citations (no page limit)

5. Community Partner (1 page) – Describe the community partner(s) and their role/activities in the project.

6. Professional Development (1 page) – Identify the professional development goals of the PI and Co-PI(s) as well as the activities that will occur over the life of the project to meet those goals. For example, identify the a) grant writing and research dissemination professional development activities and b) team-based, multidisciplinary professional development activities in preparation for an external application.

7. Project Timeline (1 page) – Timetable for planning and implementation.

8. Sustainability Plan (1 page) – Describe the potential sources of external funding to sustain this line of research past the current funding.

9. Budget (no page limit) – Detailed yearly budget, including operating and personnel costs.
   • Budget may cover academic year salary for members of the project team, including course buy-out (20% FTE), and up to 1.0 summer month as well as funding for a graduate student or hourly wages for undergraduate student, research materials, participant payment, consultants, data acquisition, etc. All supported personnel (other than potential consulting for the community partner) must be from EHE.
   • For assistance in completing the budget, or to know what costs are allowable at OSU, please work with Michael Moses (moses.42@osu.edu) or Shawna Davis (davis.6338@osu.edu), EHE Grants Development Specialists.

10. Budget Justification (2 pages) – The budget justification provides a more detailed breakdown of proposed spending in each category as well as a justification supporting the numbers provided in each budget category.

11. Biographical Sketches (3 pages each) – The biographical sketches are used to assess how well qualified the team is to conduct the proposed activities. Biographical Sketches are required for PI, coPIs, and other senior personnel. Include information such as professional preparation, appointments, publications, and synergistic activities.

12. Letter of Commitment from Community Partner (no page limit) – Each community partner must provide a letter of commitment that describes what the partner will contribute to the proposed project.

**REVIEW PROCESS**

The EHE Office of Research, Innovation and Collaboration (ORIC) Seed Grant Review Committee will be composed of 6 faculty members in EHE (two from each department). Committee members will have an established record of external research funding as well as service on proposal review committees and/or editorial boards of high impact journals. In the event of a conflict of interest, said faculty member will be recused from review of that proposal.

The review will occur in two rounds – an independent scoring of all proposals and a presentation from the highest scoring proposals. Final funding decisions will be made by the Dean and/or Associate Dean for Research.

Proposals will be reviewed for:
   • How well the project meets the goals of the “Big Idea II” Seed Grant Program, including the composition of the team of investigators and community partner(s),
   • Scientific or scholarly merit (e.g., significance, approach, transformative potential), and
   • Likelihood of sustainability and opportunity for future external funding.

Applicants should not expect detailed written critiques of their proposal; however, a brief summary of strengths and limitations will be provided to all applicants.

**QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions about this call, please reach out to Natasha Slesnick (slesnick.5@osu.edu), EHE Associate Dean for Research or Kim Lightle (lightle.16@osu.edu), ORIC Director of Research.