

SLU-IDBI Seed Grant Program Request for Applications

Goal: To provide flexible seed grant funds to promote small projects likely to result in expansion of IDBI collaborations and acquisition of external funding. *These funds are intended to support specific experiments focused tightly towards improving funding chances of an external drug/biotherapeutic discovery-, development- or delivery-related grant application(s) intended to be submitted within 12 months from seed grant submission.*

Eligibility: Any IDBI senior member employed by SLU who has paid the IDBI membership fee is eligible to apply. Non-SLU employees may be co-investigators but not PIs on an IDBI seed grant. One application per PI is permitted per review cycle, and IDBI members can be PI on only one funded application at a time. Members may be a co-investigator on more than one application per cycle, and they can serve as co-investigators on more than one funded seed grant at a time.

Funding limits and term: Award amounts are flexible but should not exceed \$10,000 except in rare and very well-justified cases; most awards will be for less than this amount. Funds may be spent on supplies, professional services, equipment, technician salaries, and student stipends or hourly pay. They may not be used to support travel or faculty salary. Funds must be used within 9 months of award (12 months for projects requiring new animal or human subjects approvals). No extensions will be granted.

Submission deadlines: The last day of January, April, July, and October annually.

Review and timeline: IDBI seed grants will be reviewed by a committee comprised of the IDBI leadership team and other senior drug/biotherapeutic discovery professionals at SLU. Funding decisions will be announced within six weeks of application submission. Very brief reviews will be provided.

Format: Applications must be on the attached forms in 11 point Arial font, 0.5" margins. Appendix material is not allowed. The components are:

- Cover sheet. Use the attached form.
- Proposal. Describe the background, scientific need, and proposed research, limited to **2 pages** including figures but excluding references. There is no page limit for the references.
- Investigators. Include an NIH-style biosketch or NSF equivalent for the PI and all faculty-level co-investigators, both internal and external to SLU.
- Letters of support. Include letters of support from all faculty-level co-investigators, both internal and external to SLU.
- Budget. Use the attached form.
- Budget justification. Fully justify all expenditures. Formal quotes are needed for funding requests involving external vendors (quotes are not included in the page limit). Faculty salary recovery is not allowed. **1 page** limit.
- Funding potential. Explicitly describe how IDBI funds will advance a new collaboration and/or improve chances for external funding of a project. *Use of IDBI funds must be explicitly linked to one or more drug/biotherapeutic discovery-, development-, or delivery-related applications planned within 12 months from seed grant receipt.* The potential funder and the anticipated specific aims of the envisioned application must be listed. Specify your role on the envisioned external grant. If your role is co-PI or co-I and the PI is from an institution other than SLU, specify % effort or % funds that will come to SLU. Use the attached form. **2 page** limit.

Submission: Grants are submitted by emailing a single consolidated PDF file to the IDBI Director (currently John Tavis, john.tavis@health.slu.edu), and/or to the IDBI Director of Business Development (Jaffre Athman, jaffre.athman@slu.edu)

Reporting requirements:

- Financial reporting will be by the recipients' departmental business manager or GO Center financial representative following standard SLU procedures.
- A copy of the specific aims page and eRS number for external grants submitted that are linked to the seed grant must be provided to the review committee Chair concurrent with submission of the external grant.

Adopted November 17, 2020
Last Revised on August 31, 2021

- Seed grant recipients must inform the review committee Chair of the outcome of all successful external grants, including resubmissions, within 1 month of funding receipt. Information will be confirmed through the SLU grants tracking systems.

Repayment provision: IDBI seed grant funds must be repaid from the investigators' indirect cost funds for those seed grants resulting in external funding (new grants or competitive renewals). Repayment can be in annual installments over 2 years after receipt of external funding.