

College of Public Health and Health ProfessionsOffice of Research

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PHHP Research Innovation Fund Principles & Procedures

The PHHP Office of Research welcomes submissions to the PHHP Research Innovation Fund. The Innovation Fund is designed to provide funding to PHHP faculty for pilot/feasibility studies to enhance their opportunity for obtaining extramural research funding. All faculty with primary appointments in PHHP may submit proposals. Priority will be given to early career faculty, but faculty of all ranks (Assistant, Associate, Full) are eligible. Note: Postdoctoral fellows are not eligible for this mechanism.

The pilot program is organized around three major themes:

- PHHP Research: General
- PHHP Research: Artificial Intelligence
- PHHP Research: Direct Clinical Impact

Themes:

• PHHP Research: General

The General theme represents all research topics studied by PHHP faculty with
potential for extramural funding and will be funded from the PHHP Office of Research.
This theme will be the largest mechanism and is expected to fund at least 4 proposals
per year. Submissions under this theme will be reviewed by the PHHP Associate Dean
for Research.

• PHHP Research: Artificial Intelligence

The Artificial Intelligence theme relates to AI and will be funded out of the PHHP Office of the Associate Dean for AI and Innovation. Proposals applying to this theme must include artificial intelligence as a central component of the research proposal. This theme is expected to fund at least 2 proposals per year. Submissions under this theme will be reviewed by the PHHP Associate Dean for AI and Innovation.

• PHHP Research: Direct Clinical Impact

The **Direct Clinical Impact** theme relates to research with direct impact on clinical practice and/or clinical service. This mechanism will be funded by the Office of the President of UF Health. Proposals applying to this theme must demonstrate how the research will directly impact clinical practice or service through the proposed project. This theme is expected to fund at least 2 proposals per year. Submissions under this theme will be reviewed by the PHHP Associate Dean for Research.

Scope of Funding:

Proposals will be funded at a maximum of \$25,000. Faculty are encouraged to request only the funds needed for their pilot/feasibility study to facilitate maximum access to the Innovation Fund for faculty within the college. Faculty salary support should **not** be the primary use of support and must be limited to no more than 20% of the total budget requested.

Applications:

Applications will involve a brief paragraph on the study/study goals, specific aims that will be supported by this funding, a brief budget and budget justification, NIH-style biosketches for all principal and co-investigators, and a list of grant mechanisms with planned dates for submission that will be pursued over the next 12 months.

Applications in theme 1 and 3 will be reviewed by the Associate Dean for Research. The Associate Dean for AI and Innovation will review submissions to theme 2. Proposals must be submitted to one primary theme and cannot be submitted to multiple themes at once.

Additional feedback will be requested from faculty at UF with relevant expertise and funding decisions will be decided in conference with the Dean of PHHP. Applicants will be asked to meet with the appropriate Associate Dean to field questions about the project.

Not all proposals will be funded. Proposals will be prioritized based on:

- 1) scientific rigor
- 2) potential for impact on patient and public health
- 3) potential for significant impact on a candidate's pursuit of future extramural funding
- 4) potential for impact on candidate's career trajectory.

Collaboration across PHHP departments is highly desired and collaboration with other colleges is encouraged. The goal of this mechanism is to be both mobile and responsive to the faculty's emerging research needs. We aim to make funding decisions and initiate award of funds within 4 weeks of application submission. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Once funds within the Innovation Fund are expended for the year, subsequent applications received will be considered in the following funding year. Funding cycle coincides with Fiscal Year. Faculty awarded an Innovation Fund award will be eligible to submit for a future Innovation Fund award 24 months after receipt of the initial award.

Awardees will have 12 months to expend awarded funds. Awardees will be asked to provide a progress report 6 months after award and a closeout summary at the end of the 12-month funding period.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the PHHP Office of Research.

Resources:

NIH Biosketch Samples Basic Budget Template