



Mayo Clinic and
Arizona State University
Alliance for Health Care

Collaborative Research Seed Grant Program 2021

The Mayo Clinic and Arizona State University Alliance for Health Care Collaborative Research Seed Grant Program has four significant dates for the 2021 cycle.

1. Letter of Intent is due **February 8th, 2021 by 5:00 pm MST.**
2. Full proposals are due **March 29th, 2021, by 5:00 pm MST.**
3. Award notifications will be sent early-May 2021.
4. Awards will be activated by July 1st, 2021.

Purpose: The Mayo Clinic and Arizona State University Alliance for Health Care is offering a Seed Grant Program to encourage new collaborative research projects between Mayo Clinic in Arizona and Arizona State University (ASU). Consideration will be given to all projects, especially those in research areas of strategic importance to the Alliance: Cancer; Neuroscience; Infectious Diseases; Metabolic Disease/Obesity; Sports Medicine and Human Performance; and Aging. Additionally, proposals related to health disparities research, and proposals that involve both Mayo Clinic Department of Nursing and ASU Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation are encouraged to apply.

The projects selected for funding will be those that involve an active, hands-on role of both Mayo Clinic and ASU investigators. The projects should be well-designed pilot studies with clear milestones that ultimately meet the following expectation: within 18 months of being awarded a Seed Grant, a competitive, collaborative proposal will be submitted to an extramural funding agency.

Research projects may be laboratory or clinic-based. Highest priority will be given to new projects with the greatest likelihood of enhancing future collaboration between Mayo Clinic and ASU. The site of the work may be at either Mayo Clinic or ASU, or both.

Awards: Individual projects are eligible for funding up to but not greater than \$100,000 for total project costs. Projects are 12 months in duration. It is estimated that this Mayo and ASU Seed RFA will grant four awards.

Eligibility:

- ASU tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure track faculty (Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, Professors, Instructors, Lecturers, Research Assistant Professors, Research Associate Professors, and Research Professors) are eligible
- Mayo Clinic personnel must be based in Arizona, the opportunity is open to consultant, senior associate consultant, and associate consultant faculty as well as staff within Mayo Clinic Department of Nursing are eligible.
- Applicants must apply based on their primary affiliation e.g. a joint appointee with an 80% Mayo Clinic and 20% ASU appointment will be considered a Mayo investigator for this opportunity
- Each proposal must identify a single principal investigator (PI) representing each organization.
- Only one application per PI will be accepted.
- PIs who have been awarded seed grant funds from this program since 2018 are ineligible.
- If you have questions about your eligibility please contact the individuals listed at the end of this RFA.

Unallowable Cost Items:

- Institutional indirect rates
- **Principal Investigator compensation**
- Capital equipment
- Travel for scientific meetings

Application Requirements:

Letter of Intent (Required): ASU PI's (or their ASU representative) must submit a letter of intent (LOI) through the [InfoReady competition site](#). The LOI should address the following: an abstract of the proposed study, its significance, and alignment with the strategic areas listed above. The abstract is limited to 500 words. Include the names of all Mayo Clinic and ASU team members, as well as the biosketches of the Mayo Clinic and ASU PIs.

The letter of intent is due by **February 8th, by 5pm MST**. Upon submission of the LOI, you will be asked to certify that all PI's are aware of the proposed collaborative project. A study section composed of representatives from Mayo Clinic and ASU will review and rank submitted abstracts with regard to their significance and alignment with the strategic areas of interest. Email invitations for full proposal submission will be sent to the Mayo Clinic and ASU PI by **March 1st, 2021**.

Full Proposals: The ASU principal investigator (or their ASU representative) should submit a PDF of the proposal through the online [InfoReady competition site](#). A custom submissions link will be provided after the notification of interest is confirmed. The **deadline is March 29th, 2021, by 5:00 pm MST**. The full proposal should not exceed six (6) pages (single-spaced, 12-point font, 0.5" margins all around). For the proposal, please submit a single PDF comprised of the following items:

1. The one page Cover Page should include:
 - Title
 - List of investigators and their respective institutional affiliation
 - One paragraph abstract summarizing the study
2. The remaining five pages should contain the **Project Description** using the following headings:
 - Hypotheses and Specific Aims
 - Significance
 - Methods (including clear and specific contributions by each investigator)
 - Statistical Methods, if applicable
 - Interpretation of Possible Study Results (both positive and negative)
 - Data Milestones
 - Future Proposed Extramural Funding Source (agency or foundation and program), Expected Budget, and Submission Date
3. **Biosketches** (Biosketches for all the ASU and Mayo Clinic Principal Investigators and team members; include relevant publications/scholarly contributions during the last three years plus a list of current awards and pending proposals using the [NIH biosketch format](#).)
4. **Ancillary support items** (details outlined below)

Additional materials/appendices (not included in the six pages described above):

- References
- Proposals that involve animals must include the following IACUC information:
 1. **Species:** List the species and numbers of animals to be used.
 2. **Procedures:** Briefly describe each of the procedures to be performed on live animals.
 3. **USDA Category of Pain or Distress:** List the highest USDA Category of Pain and Distress (C, D, or E).
 4. **IACUC approval:** Provide current or pending protocol number and institution.
*** If IACUC approval is needed, the process will flow through the site conducting the animal research.
- Proposals that involve humans must include the following IRB information:
 1. **Human Subjects Involvement, Characteristics, and Design:** Describe the proposed involvement of human subjects in the project outlined in the Research Strategy section.
 2. **Potential Risks:** Describe the potential risks to subjects (physical, psychological, financial, legal, or other), and assess their likelihood and seriousness to the human subjects.

3. **Protections Against Risk:** Describe planned procedures for protecting against or minimizing potential risks, including risks to the privacy of individuals or confidentiality of data, and assess their likely effectiveness.
4. **Current or pending protocol number and institution if applicable.**
 - ** If awarded, the account will not be set up until IRB approval is obtained.
 - ***Please note that Mayo Clinic will be the IRB of record, will provide IRB approval and must be notified well in advance of the award set up.

Budget: Project budget will be created in partnership with OSPA (Mayo Clinic) and ORSPA (ASU) following award announcements. Budgets are not necessary at the pre-award/application stage.

Evaluation: A study section, with members from Mayo Clinic and ASU, will evaluate the proposals. The study section will prioritize proposals by focusing on several key elements, including scientific interest and innovation, validity of the proposed methodology, **evidence of a true collaborative effort with meaningful contributions from all investigators**, and the likelihood that the protocol, if successful, will lead to a competitive external grant application or otherwise significantly enhance future Alliance collaborations.

Reporting Requirements:

- A progress report is required 12 months following award and should provide an overview of project progress against proposed milestones, as well as highlight progress toward the pursuit of external funding (ASU will provide a template).
- **One no-cost extension can be exercised at the end of 12 months only with a completed progress report on file — the one-time no-cost extension is limited to a maximum of six months.**
- A final written report, including one copy of the research proposal submitted to the external funding source, must be submitted to the program office within 6 months of project completion.

Investigator Questions:

For scientific questions or assistance in identifying a potential collaborator, please contact:

Arizona State University
Neal Woodbury, Ph.D.
Vice President of Research, Knowledge
Enterprise
Chief Science and Technology Officer
NWoodbury@asu.edu

Mayo Clinic in Arizona
Hugo Vargas, M.D.
Medical Director
Office of Clinical Research
Vargas.Hugo@mayo.edu

For all other questions regarding the Seed Grant Program, please contact:

Arizona State University
Hayley Bohall, Research Opportunity Manager
Research Development
(480) 727-3954
Hayley.Bohall@asu.edu
ResearchDevelopment@asu.edu

Mayo Clinic in Arizona
Amy Woof, Clinical Operations
Program Manager
(480) 342- 6493
Woof.Amy@mayo.edu