



EARLY INVESTIGATOR CATALYST AWARDS - SUPPORTING RESEARCH EFFORTS OF JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS.

The ITHS is offering Early Investigator Catalyst Award program is designed to provide “just-in-time” resources to investigators looking to complete a project or collect pilot data for a larger grant application. Investigators can receive a maximum of \$5,000 (direct costs only) toward the purchase of supplies or core services not provided by ITHS. Early Investigator Catalyst Awards are available for IRB or IACUC approved or exempt investigations in support of outstanding translational research.

KEY DATES

Submission Deadlines

October 1, 2016
January 1, 2017
April 1, 2017
July 1, 2017

FOCUS OF RFA

In your proposal, please describe

- How this work will address a critical transition anywhere along the translational path from basic laboratory research to a disseminated diagnostic or therapeutic use
- How this award would provide critical funds needed to finish a project that would otherwise be unfinished
- How this award is a timely opportunity that will help you achieve a research goal that might otherwise not be possible
- How your research has led to an exciting translational research question that could form the basis of a new grant

ELIGIBLE INVESTIGATORS

Early Stage Investigators at ITHS Partner Institutions, including the University of Washington, Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center, Seattle Children’s Research Institute, and other academic institutions affiliated with the University of Washington through the ITHS in the WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) region and who meet the NIH definition of an [Early Stage Investigator](#) are eligible to apply for this Early Investigator Catalyst Award. Post-doctoral Associates, Fellows, Research Scientists are also eligible to apply. Applications are limited to one per investigator.

All Investigators must be ITHS Members to apply. Membership is free. To become a member, please complete the [ITHS Membership Form](#).

ELIGIBLE PURCHASES

Costs may include materials, supplies and/or services. Catalyst Awards may not be used to pay for personnel salary, benefits, effort, or consultant time. Budget must include anticipated costs - funds cannot be used to reimburse individuals. Indirect costs are not allowed.

APPLICATION PROCESS

A. Application

The application must be submitted through the ITHS website:

<https://www.iths.org/investigators/funding-opportunities/iths-early-investigator-catalyst-awards/>.

Applications will follow National Institutes of Health (NIH) formatting guidelines ([see FAQ](#)) and include:

1. **Cover Page**
2. Project Title and Abstract (250 word maximum)
3. 2-page Research Plan
4. **Budget and Budget Justification**
5. **NIH formatted Biosketch for all investigators (senior/key personnel)**

B. Required Application Templates

The following forms must be used to complete the application and can be downloaded from the website:

1. Cover Page
2. Budget and budget justification
3. NIH formatted Biosketch

C. Timeline

Catalyst awards will be granted on a quarterly basis from a set amount of funding per quarter. Applications will remain open year round but submissions will close for consideration by 5 pm Pacific Daylight Time on submission deadline days. Applications will be reviewed and awardees notified within 2 weeks of the submission deadline. Awards will expire within 6 months of award notification.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do figures and references count toward the 2-page Research Plan limit?

Figures DO count toward the 2-page limit but references can be in addition to the 2-page Research Plan.

Are there any formatting requirements?

Applications will follow National Institutes of Health (NIH) formatting guidelines (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/format-attachments.htm>), including the following:

Font (size, color, type density) and Line Spacing:

- Font size: must be 11 points or larger (smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams and charts is acceptable as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%).
- Type density: must be no more than 15 characters per linear inch (including characters and spaces)
- Line spacing: must be no more than six lines per vertical inch.
- Text color: must be black (color text in figures, graphs, diagrams, charts, tables, footnotes and headings is acceptable).
- We recommended the following fonts, although other fonts (both serif and non-serif) are acceptable if they meet the above requirements:
 - Arial
 - Garamond
 - Georgia
 - Helvetica
 - Palatino Linotype
 - Times New Roman
 - Verdana

Citations:

- We do not require a specific citation format.

Paper Size and Margins:

- Use paper size no larger than standard letter paper size (8 ½" x 11").
- Provide at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages. No applicant-supplied information can appear in the margins.

University of Washington specific question: Does this award have to go through the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP)? Is an eGC1 required?

No, this is an internal grant and does not need to be routed through OSP and does not require an eGC1.

Are supplemental documents allowed?

No, supplemental documents are not allowed.

I have previously been awarded funds by the ITHS. Am I still eligible to receive this award?

Yes, previous ITHS awardees are eligible to receive additional funding.

Can the award be dispersed prior to IRB/IACUC approval to aid the application process?

No, vouchers cannot be awarded until IRB/IACUC approval is confirmed.

What types of costs will the award support?

The purpose of this award is to support investigators with the purchase of materials, supplies, and/or service costs. Costs will be paid by ITHS either directly to the vendor or can be reimbursed to the investigator's institution/department, and must be pre-approved. Items can only be reimbursed if the purchase was made after the award date.

For information regarding this pilot program, contact:

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Pilot Award Manager

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