



Translational Investment Fund

Open Call for Letters of Interest

LOIs due by June 27, 2022

Texas A&M University Innovation Partners (“Innovation Partners”) is calling for letters of interest from qualified researchers for the third round of funding from its Translational Investment Fund (TIF). The goal of this fund is to provide an opportunity for Texas A&M University researchers to compete for an investment of up to \$75,000 over a one-year period to fund the development of disclosed, early-stage university technologies that have the potential to address a commercial or industrial need.

Qualifying Researchers & Projects

To be eligible to submit, researchers must be currently employed with Texas A&M University and must have previously filed an invention disclosure of System-owned intellectual property that has been assigned an invention number and is managed by Innovation Partners. The disclosed invention must be the subject of the project to qualify, must have at least completed a proof-of-concept stage, and must be unlicensed at the time of submission, with demonstration by the inventor(s) of a commitment to taking steps toward commercialization.

Examples of qualifying projects include:

- Therapeutic drug lead optimization
- Creation of prototypes, or prototype development
- Completion of programming, code development, or development of user interface
- Acquisition of technology validation data, often for “endpoints” of interest to industry

This program is NOT designed to fund basic research, market analysis, or business plan creation as other mechanisms exist to support these efforts.

General Submission Timeline & Process

June 27, 2022	Letters of Interest Due
Late August 2022	Full Proposals Due (invitation only)
October 2022 – October 2023	Expected Performance Period

Researchers who are interested in competing for funding must first submit a Letter of Interest (2500-character limit) to the TIF sub-committee via the online form provided at https://u.tamu.edu/TIF_LOI. This letter should include 1) the project’s title, 2) a brief introduction of the researcher and/or the team members involved in the project, and 3) a brief summary of the project that emphasizes the unmet market need and commercialization potential of the technology.

The TIF sub-committee will review the Letters of Interest and selected projects will then be invited to submit a full proposal, not to exceed 5 pages, for evaluation by the committee. The full proposal will be expected to include 1) a technology abstract, 2) project background and IP status, 3) commercial solution and market need, 4) project plan and scope, 5) additional support sources, 6) team roles, 7) budget, and 8) optional letters of intent/support from potential commercial partners. LOIs and proposals will be evaluated primarily based on market need, research approach/proposed solution, commercial benefit, existing competition, and feasibility of scope. See full program details at tamuiip.tamu.edu.

Any questions regarding this program should be directed to Megan Brown at tif@tamu.edu.