



LaunchPad

Biomedical Innovation in Diabetes

Request For Applications

Application Due: July 29, 2016 at Noon

Program:

The LaunchPad program is a translational research fund supporting collaborative research projects by teams proposing innovative solutions to the diagnosis and treatment of Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes. The program was created to leverage the robust discovery capacity at UVA by funding projects holding promise for achieving translational outcomes. The plans are for 4 to 5 awards averaging \$60,000-\$75,000 each for 12 months. The requested amount of funding must be commensurate with the project stage and goals.

The LaunchPad program is supported through a generous gift from Paul and Diane Manning.

The goal of this program is to support research projects that address unmet clinical needs and lead to improvements in care of patients with diabetes mellitus. Examples of desirable outcomes include improved diagnosis and treatment of disease through new medical devices, biomarkers or diagnostics, therapeutic targets and agents, or new clinical adoption of existing tools. Although not required, it is anticipated that most projects will result in new intellectual property, commercial partnerships, or start-up companies.

To facilitate project development and meet program objectives, each funded project will work with the Program Director and a liaison from the UVA Licensing and Ventures Group to advise on business development and commercialization components. In addition, project teams will benefit from the feedback, mentoring, and relationship-building provided by the LaunchPad Review Board.

Eligibility Criteria:

- At least one investigator from each team is required to be permanent, full-time, tenure-track faculty at professorial rank (assistant, associate, or full professor) with a primary appointment in the School of Medicine or School of Nursing. Eligible investigators may submit more than one proposal.
- Applicants are encouraged to have a clinical collaborator. Proposed research must relate directly to applications in health care, and the objectives of the project should include a long-term outcome that will benefit patients.

Evaluation of each proposal will be based on the following criteria:

Scientific Merit and Innovation

- Strength of the research plan and likelihood to achieve stated milestones with requested resources
- Innovative approach with likelihood for yielding novel findings
- Potential for follow-on funding from private or public sources
- Team members, strength of background and likelihood of novel contributions

Potential for Translational Outcomes

- Likelihood for data to affect clinical practice or stimulate clinical trials
- Experiments that will enable creation of meaningful results
- Creation of intellectual property (IP)
- Attractiveness of IP for licensing and/or start-up company formation

Submission:

Potential applicants must contact: Sharon Krueger, LaunchPad Program Director sak8e@virginia.edu to discuss the proposal idea.

Final proposal submissions are due by Noon on Friday July 29th via email to Sharon Krueger.

Confirmation that final proposal submission was received will be provided via email.

The LaunchPad Review Board will review the final proposal submissions in July/August and select projects for a mid-September for oral presentations. Funding will start by October 1st, 2016

Applications should be submitted as a single PDF and may not exceed **six** pages, excluding a cover page, a budget page, and two-page CVs and current funding from the co-investigators. References, tables and figures are included in the five-page limit.

Key elements of the proposal include:

Cover Page:

- Must contain the project title, names of the investigator(s), amount requested, a 300-word limit summary of the novelty and significance of the proposed work, and the approval and signature of the department chair(s).

Aims and Research Plan: 5 pages limit including tables and figures

Clinical problem and impact of proposed research:

- This section should describe in specific terms the clinical issues that are being addressed by the proposed research. The impact of positive outcomes from the research on clinical care, treatment, diagnosis or envisioned product of Diabetes should be considered.
- Specific Aims and the research plan for achieving each aim – include the experiments to be performed to achieve each aim; provide supporting preliminary data or progress-to-date as appropriate.
- Quarterly milestones for expected completion of research plan
- Intellectual property status, commercialization strategy and plan. Proposal should present its plan for creating the value to enable the creation of IP. Researchers are encouraged to speak with Sharon and the UVA Licensing & Ventures Group prior to submission for assistance in completing this section.
- Plan for follow-on funding after LaunchPad award expires.
- Include IRB and/or ACUC status for project

Budget information:

Budgets should include project personnel, supplies, minor equipment items, prototyping expenses, imaging time and travel directly associated with the research activity. Format to present budget information is flexible.

Two page CVs of Co-PIs: including a list of current funding and pending proposals for each co-investigator

Duration:

Grants will be awarded for a one-year period. Awardees from previous funding cycles are eligible to apply and competitive renewal applications should include a comparison of milestone achieved vs. those planned in the original submission.

Budgets:

Eligible budget items include salary support for project personnel, supplies, minor equipment items, prototyping expenses, imaging time and travel directly associated with the research activity. Funds cannot be requested or used for F&A costs, administrative support or tuition. Grant budgets should not exceed \$60,000- \$75,000 in direct costs for a one-year period. Funding is expected to begin in October 2016.

Reporting:

Award recipients are required to submit short quarterly reports and a final report. All funded projects will give a short mid-year oral presentation to the Review Board.