



Improving Health Through Research

Request for Applications

Indiana CTSI (Bloomington) Research Equipment Fund

ANNUAL ELECTRONIC RECEIPT DATES: Monday August 1, 2022

**First Working Day in February
First Working Day in August**

Please note that you will be submitting through the Indiana CTSI's grants management software WebCAMP.

*You should allow enough time to be familiar with the system.
The WebCAMP user's guide is also available under the funding announcement here:*

<https://indianactsi.org/translational-research-development/open-funding-opportunities/>

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Indiana CTSI (Bloomington) Research Equipment Program supports purchase of commercially available research equipment to be used by groups of investigators, working together or separately, on innovative projects to enhance externally funded research and the mission of the Indiana CTSI. An applicant must be an IU Bloomington faculty member but applicants may include interested researchers at CTSI partner institutions.

Up to \$200,000 will awarded annually for distribution through this solicitation (~\$100,000 per round x 2 rounds/year including the required 50% match from participating units).

Competitive applications will be those that:

1. Bring new technology and services to CTSI investigators. This may be in the form of equipment or software that contributes to bench or in-silico research.
2. Expand existing services to meet the needs of CTSI investigators on the Bloomington campus.
3. Contribute to the strategic research mission of the institution to increase translational biomedical research by creating an environment that facilitates the conduct of such research.
4. Leverage departmental or other funds
5. Demonstrate a broad potential user base
6. Instruments that will be housed on the Bloomington campus are preferred

RESTRICTIONS

Requests for the following are not suitable for this RFA:

- Proposals for funds to subsidize ongoing operations
- Projects requesting consumable supplies or FTE support
- Activities focused on the development of instructional equipment for academic programs
- Proposals from commercial, industrial, and other for-profit entities
- Purely instructional equipment
- Instruments used for clinical (billable) care
- Institutional administrative management systems, clinical management systems
- Software, unless it is integral to the operation of the requested equipment
- General purpose equipment or an assortment of instruments to furnish a research facility and equipment for routine sustaining infrastructure (such as standard machine shop equipment, standard computer networks, autoclaves, hoods, and equipment to upgrade standard animal facilities).

ELIGIBILITY

Applications are accepted from all tenure track faculty members at IU Bloomington; research scientists, Center directors, and Medical Sciences faculty at IU Bloomington. Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with faculty members at additional CTSI partner institutions where applicable.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application forms are available here: [CTSI IUB REF Link](#)

Applications are due the first working day in February and the first working day in August.

The application should be uploaded using the **Start a Submission** link here: [CTSI IUB REF Link](#)

APPLICATION SEQUENCE

1. The application face page
2. Description of the proposed equipment, software or new services proposed (5 page limit excluding references). Description should include:
 - a paragraph describing the differences between the applications if this is a repeat request,
 - A needs assessment demonstrating how currently unmet investigator needs will be addressed. Requests that enhance the success of CTSI investigators in obtaining extramurally supported research and promote the mission of the Indiana CTSI will be given the highest priority.
 - Justification for the purchase, especially if the equipment, software or service already exists within an existing CTSI core.
 - Long-term business operating plan, including care of the equipment, estimated annual cost of operation (supplies, technician costs, and service contracts), pricing, predicted volume, and how this service/equipment will be made available to others
3. A detailed budget that includes total costs, start-up costs, maintenance costs and the source of matching funds.
4. At least 1 vendor quote must be provided. If available, provide price comparisons of sending the work out to a commercial or academic institution.
5. Letters of support (not to exceed 10) from potential CTSI investigators that will use the service. In each letter of support, please include the investigator's source of funding that will be used for the requested services. Users may be at any of the CTSI institutions (IU, Purdue or Notre Dame). Letters that support the predicted volume will enhance the application.
6. Letter of support from the appropriate chair or division head that endorses the proposal and acknowledges the financial commitment.

REVIEW PROCESS

A Review Committee will be convened and will be charged with making final funding recommendations. The recommendations will be presented to the Indiana CTSI Executive Committee for final approval.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- 1. Overall Impact/Benefit on the Research Community:**
 - Did the application adequately demonstrate the impact of the new equipment or service on the CTSI research community, its potential impact on NIH-funded research, and the overall need of the service?
- 2. Enhancement of Research Activities and Infrastructure:**

- Will research at the Indiana CTSI be enhanced by making the service available?
- Will the service increase external funding and/or intellectual property?

3. Justification of Need:

- Is the need for the instrument/service clearly and adequately justified?
- Is there inadequate excess capacity for like instruments/services at other participating CTSI institutions or are there reasons that services at other CTSI institutions would not fulfill the investigator needs?
- Did the application demonstrate an adequate portfolio of committed and potential users?

4. Financial Plan and Sustainability:

- Are purchase and start-up costs appropriate?
- Have other financial resources been leveraged?
- Has the application included pricing that is competitive?
- Has an appropriate business plan been included which indicates the potential volume is enough to sustain the service given ongoing technician and maintenance costs?
- Does the business plan include how the equipment will be made available to others?

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS

1. Awardees will submit a brief update within 30 days of the delivery of the equipment and should include vendor information, the purchase order number, and final purchase total.
2. Awardees are required to acknowledge receipt of Indiana CTSI support in any presentation or publication of work as follows:

This [(publication was made possible) (project was supported)] by the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, funded in part by grant # UL1 TR002529 from the National Institutes of Health, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, Clinical and Translational Sciences Award. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health."

3. By accepting this award, grant recipients agree to have their names and project title publicly posted on the Indiana CTSI website.
4. Awardees will submit an online annual progress report for five years following their award, delineating the number of services provided, to whom and for which project; resulting publications, presentations, conferences and exhibits; and grant submissions enabled / obtained via use of the specific equipment purchased.