INDIANA CTSI
Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

Improving Health Through Research

Indiana CTSI (IUSM) Core Equipment Grant Program

Request for Applications

Competition limited to the Indiana CTSI Designated Cores

based at the IU School of Medicine

ELECTRONIC RECEIPT DATE

Monday, March 31, 2025

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

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Indiana CTSI is seeking proposals from **Indiana CTSI designated IU School of Medicine Cores** requesting support for the purchase of equipment that will enhance the research environment and contribute to the research mission of the School and the Indiana CTSI.

Up to $100,000 will be available for distribution through this solicitation. Proposals requesting equipment that costs between $5,000 - $100,000 will be accepted. Proposals for equipment costing more than $100,000 will be entertained if matching funds to cover the balance are identified.

Competitive applications will be those that:
1. Bring new technology and services to Indiana 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 Indiana CTSI investigators. Proposals for funds to subsidize ongoing operations will not be allowed.
3. Contribute to the strategic research mission of the institution
4. Leverage existing Core, departmental or other funds such as the IU REF
5. Demonstrate a broad potential user base

Eligibility:

1. Only Cores based within the IU School of Medicine are eligible.
2. Only Indiana CTSI Designated Cores are eligible.

Matching Funds:
- Proposals for equipment costing more than $100,000 will be entertained if matching funds are identified to cover the balance.
- Due to a limited amount of funding each year, preference will be given to those projects that leverage funding from other sources such as the IU REF / have identified a source of matching funds. For questions on sources of matching funds contact Todd Skaar (tskaar@iu.edu)

Application Procedure:

Applications **must** include the Face Sheet (available at CTSI Core Equipment Link) and a proposal that addresses items 1-11 below. The proposal is limited to 5 pages excluding the vendor quote(s), letters of support, and previous usage summary.

Submit proposals using the **Start a Submission** link found here: CTSI Core Equipment Link

1. Description of the proposed equipment, software and new services proposed.
2. If this is a repeat request, include a paragraph describing the differences between the applications
3. Needs assessment demonstrating how currently unmet investigator needs will be addressed. Requests that enhance the success of Indiana CTSI investigators

extramurally supported research and promote the mission of the IU School of Medicine and the Indiana CTSI will be given the highest priority.

4. If the equipment, software or service already exists within an existing Indiana CTSI core, the purchase must be justified.
5. A detailed budget that includes total costs, start-up costs, maintenance costs and any matching funds from the Core, department or center. Joint purchasing proposals are encouraged.
6. Justification for start-up funds if a portion of the amount requested includes short-term support for technician or supplies used in start-up. Funds that subsidize ongoing operations are not allowed.
7. Long-term business operating plan, including estimated annual cost of operation (supplies, technician costs, and service contracts), pricing and predicted volume.
8. If available, provide price comparisons of sending the work out to a commercial or academic institution.
9. Letters of support (not to exceed 10) from potential Indiana 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 Indiana CTSI institutions (IU, Purdue or University of Notre Dame). Letters that support the predicted volume will enhance the application. This is not included in the page limit.
10. At least 1 vendor quote must be provided. This is not included in the page limit.
11. If the Core has received previous funding from this mechanism, please include a brief summary of how many grant applications were submitted / funded using equipment from previous awards. This information could be gathered from PIs who submitted previous support letters. This is not included in the page limit.

Review Criteria:

Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

1. **Overall Impact/Benefit on the Research Community:** Reviewers will briefly summarize anticipated impact of the new equipment or service on the IUSM and the CTSI research community, its potential impact on NIH-funded research, and the overall need of the service.

2. **Enhancement of Research***:* Will research at the IUSM and within 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 IUSM investigator needs?

4. **Financial Plan and Sustainability***:* Are purchase and start-up costs appropriate? Have other financial resources been leveraged? Has the Core demonstrated pricing that is competitive? Is the potential volume enough to sustain the service given ongoing technician and maintenance costs? Does the application identify a

source of matching funds or leverage departmental funding that demonstrates an investment in the equipment?

<u>Post Award Requirements :</u>

1. Within 30 days of the delivery of your equipment, a brief update will be due in the CTSI Office.   This update should include vendor information, the purchase order number, and final purchase total and should be sent to the Indiana CTSI at judrisco@iu.edu.
2. Since the Indiana CTSI is responsible for demonstrating to NCATS that the internal awards are benefitting our research community, we will ask you to provide annual reports for up to five years regarding the use of your equipment. This should include user information and a list of publications and external award submissions that have benefitted from the purchase of this equipment. The data will also be used to support future funding requests.
3. When advertising availability of this equipment, the following acknowledgement statement should be included: "*This equipment purchase was supported in part, with support from the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, funded in part by Grant Number* UM1TR004402 *from the National Institutes of Health, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, Clinical and Translational Sciences Award.*"