

UNIVER



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Formed/Forming Team Grants are designed to enhance research collaborations among PIs that have had modest levels of previous collaboration. Participating PIs, for example, may not have systematically worked together on a single proposal or have only recently identified team members. PIs must have a record of extramurally-funded research as a PI or Co-PI. Teams receiving these grants are expected to prepare and submit extramural grant applications to a funding program specified in their proposal. Applicants should request seed grant funding proportional to that available from the extramural program from which they will eventually seek support.<sup>2</sup> The purpose of this grant type is to establish a collaborative research team that is actively generating knowledge/preliminary data critical to developing or enhancing a nationally competitive extramural funding proposal.

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Team Strengthening Grants are designed to build upon existing research collaborations among PIs with a proven record of extramural funding; the addition of new members to fill expertise gaps is encouraged. Teams receiving these grants will be expected to prepare applications to an existing program project or multi-investigator funding opportunity (award types of ~\$400,000 per year and above). The purpose of this grant type is to strengthen existing research collaborations in order to establish a foundation from which the team will better compete for significant extramural research funding



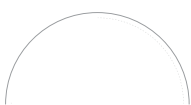
provide a billable service to the project. Collaborations are to be driven by mutual interest and disciplinary expertise needs.

: A retreat to facilitate multi-campus collaborations will be held on Friday November 9, 2018 at the Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center in Lincoln. Potential PIs/team leaders wishing to be eligible for funding must attend unless special dispensation is granted; identified team members (PIs/Co-PIs), former and current Collaboration Initiative grantees, and others looking to participate on planning or seed grants are strongly encouraged to attend. Registrants also will be expected to informally discuss their potential fundable research concepts with other retreat attendees within a small group and be receptive to engaging other collaborators;



Three-page maximum (not including CVs, but including all references, tables, and figures), with the following elements:

- < Describe the research area, questions to be addressed, and likely source(s) of extramural funding
- < Describe how researchers involved in the planning effort intend to a) interact with potential funding agencies and program leaders to verify that their researchable questions are aligned with specific funding programs that would be sources of extramural support; b) hone research question(s) so that their significance, innovation and societal impact(s) are clear; and c) identify gaps in researcher expertise and further build/identify collaborations within and between faculty at University of



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For those applications that meet stated RFA submission criteria, at least two external reviews will be solicited. Seed grant reviewers will be asked to rate applications (using a 40-point scale) to determine the potential for the team to receive extramural funding for the stated research question(s). Applications will be scored for: a) Research Significance, Innovation and Impact (10 pts.); b) Alignment of research question to an existing extramural funding program (8 pts.); c) Evidence the completed work plan would make subsequent extramural grant proposal(s) more competitive (8 pts.); d) Realistic and achievable work plan and timetable (6 pts.); e) Budget and facilities adequate to support work plan (4 pts.); and f) Meaningful collaborations/roles defined for PI/Co-PIs (4 pts.). Reviewers also will be asked to provide an evaluative summary.<sup>7</sup> Final funding decisions will be made by the Vice Provost and the Executive Vice President and Provost. Funding announcements are expected to be made prior to June 2019.

: PIs will be required to submit a brief project initiation report three months after the award start date; while the grant remains active, programmatic progress and detailed financial reports will be due 30 days after each award anniversary. A final report will be due 90 days after the award's termination date. As the purpose of this program is to enhance the University of Nebraska's research capacity and competitiveness, submission of significant high-quality extramural research grants is a condition of all awards. Satisfactory progress and adherence to award conditions will be required for access to current and future award funds from the University of Nebraska. All reports will be shared with applicable campus/institution research offices. This program is administered by the University of Nebraska's Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Reviewers provide written comments and group applications into four categories (Exemplary: Definitely fund, Very Good: Strongly consider for funding, Needs Improvement: Fund only if resources allow, and Inadequate: Do not fund).

<sup>8</sup> RFA and award management questions should be directed to Vice Provost Dr. David Jackson ([djackson@nebraska.edu](mailto:djackson@nebraska.edu)).

