



Mayo Clinic and
Arizona State University
Alliance for Health Care

Collaborative Research Seed Grant Program 2023

The Mayo Clinic and Arizona State University Alliance for Health Care Collaborative Research Seed Grant Program has four significant dates for the 2023 cycle.

1. Letter of Intent is due **March 9, 2023, by 5:00 pm (AZ)**
2. Full proposals are due **April 27, 2023, by 5:00 pm (AZ)**
3. Award notifications will be sent at the beginning of July 2023.
4. Awards will be activated in mid-July 2023.

Purpose: The Mayo Clinic and Arizona State University Alliance for Health Care is offering a Seed Grant Program to encourage new collaborative research projects between Mayo Clinic in Arizona and Arizona State University (ASU). Consideration will be given to all projects, especially those related to the strategic priorities of the Alliance, including:

- **Transform the workforce:** Disrupting medical, health science, and professional education for the future of healthcare and lifelong learner
- **Optimize health and the human body:** Enhancing human performance across the lifespan through collaborative research, the exploration of innovative treatments and cures
- **Connected healthcare delivery:** Streamlining healthcare through novel capabilities, leveraging digital health tools to reach patients where they are
- **Biomedical innovation:** Co-creating and co-developing new medical devices and start-up companies toward the modernization of healthcare

The projects selected for funding will be those that involve an active, hands-on role of both Mayo Clinic and ASU investigators. The projects should be well-designed pilot studies with clear milestones that ultimately meet the following expectation: within 18 months of being awarded a Seed Grant, a competitive, collaborative proposal will be submitted to an extramural funding agency.

Research projects may be laboratory or clinic-based. Highest priority will be given to new projects with the greatest likelihood of enhancing future collaboration between Mayo Clinic and ASU. The site of the work may be at either Mayo Clinic or ASU, or both.

Awards: Individual projects are eligible for funding up to but not greater than \$80,000 for total project costs. Projects are 12 months in duration.

Eligibility:

- ASU tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-track faculty (Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, Professors, Instructors, Lecturers, Research Assistant Professors, Research Associate Professors, and Research Professors) are eligible.
- Mayo Clinic personnel, this opportunity is open to consultant, senior associate consultant, and associate consultant faculty, as well as staff within Mayo Clinic Department of Nursing.
- Applicants must apply based on their primary affiliation. E.g., a joint appointee with an 80% Mayo Clinic and 20% ASU appointment will be considered a Mayo investigator for this opportunity
- Each proposal must identify a single principal investigator (PI) representing each organization.
- Only one application per PI will be accepted.
- PIs who have been awarded seed grant funds from this program since 2020 are ineligible.
- If you have questions about your eligibility, please contact the individuals listed at the end of this RFA.

Unallowable Cost Items:

- Institutional indirect rates
- Principal Investigator compensation
- Capital equipment
- Travel for scientific meetings

Application Requirements:

Letter of Intent (Required): ASU PI's (or their ASU representative) must submit a letter of intent (LOI) through the online [InfoReady competition site](#). The LOI should include an abstract of the proposed study and address its significance and alignment with the strategic areas listed above. The letter is limited to 500 words. Include the names of all Mayo Clinic and ASU team members, as well as the biosketches of the Mayo Clinic and ASU PIs.

The letter of intent is **due by March 9, 2023**. Upon submitting the LOI, you will be asked to certify that all PIs are aware of the proposed collaborative project. A study section composed of representatives from Mayo Clinic and ASU will review and rank submitted abstracts with regard to their significance and alignment with the strategic areas of interest. Email invitations for full proposal submission will be sent to the Mayo Clinic and ASU PI by **April 2023**.

Full Proposals: The ASU principal investigator (or their ASU representative) should submit a PDF of the proposal through the online InfoReady competition site. A custom submission link will be provided after the notification of interest is confirmed. The **deadline is April 27, 2023**. The full proposal should not exceed six (6) pages (single-spaced, 12-point font, 0.5" margins all around). For the proposal, please submit a single PDF comprised of the following items:

1. The one-page Cover Page should include:
 - Title
 - List of investigators and their respective institutional affiliation
 - One paragraph abstract summarizing the study
2. The remaining five pages should contain the **Project Description** using the following headings:
 - Hypotheses and Specific Aims
 - Significance
 - Methods (including clear and specific contributions by each investigator)
 - Statistical Methods, if applicable
 - Interpretation of Possible Study Results (both positive and negative)
 - Data Milestones
 - Future Proposed Extramural Funding Source (agency or foundation and program), Expected Budget, and Submission Date
3. **Biosketches** for all the ASU and Mayo Clinic Principal Investigators and team members, including relevant publications/scholarly contributions during the last three years, plus a list of current awards and pending proposals using the [NIH biosketch format](#).
4. **Ancillary support items** (details outlined below)

Additional materials/appendices (not included in the six pages described above):

- References
- Proposals that involve animals must include the following IACUC information:
 1. **Species:** List the species and numbers of animals to be used.
 2. **Procedures:** Briefly describe each of the procedures to be performed on live animals.

3. **USDA Category of Pain or Distress:** List the highest USDA Category of Pain and Distress (C, D, or E).
 4. **IACUC approval:** Provide current or pending protocol number and institution.
*** If IACUC approval is needed, the process will flow through the site conducting the animal research.
- Proposals that involve humans must include the following IRB information:
 1. **Human Subjects Involvement, Characteristics, and Design:** Describe the proposed involvement of human subjects in the project outlined in the Research Strategy section.
 2. **Potential Risks:** Describe the potential risks to subjects (physical, psychological, financial, legal, or other), and assess their likelihood and seriousness to the human subjects.
 3. **Protections Against Risk:** Describe planned procedures for protecting against or minimizing potential risks, including risks to the privacy of individuals or confidentiality of data, and assess their likely effectiveness.
 4. **Current or pending protocol number and institution, if applicable.**
** If awarded, the account will not be set up until IRB approval is obtained.
***Please note that Mayo Clinic will be the IRB of record, will provide IRB approval, and must be notified well in advance of the award setup.

Budget: The project budget will be created in partnership with OSPA (Mayo Clinic) and ORSPA (ASU) following award announcements. Budgets are not necessary at the pre-award/application stage.

Evaluation: A study section, with members from Mayo Clinic and ASU, will evaluate the proposals. The study section will prioritize proposals by focusing on several key elements, including scientific interest and innovation, the validity of the proposed methodology, **evidence of a truly collaborative effort with meaningful contributions from all investigators**, and the likelihood that the protocol, if successful, will lead to a competitive external grant application or otherwise significantly enhance future Alliance collaborations.

Reporting Requirements:

- A progress report is required 12 months following the award and should provide an overview of project progress against proposed milestones, as well as highlight progress toward the pursuit of external funding (ASU will provide a template).
- **One no-cost extension can be exercised at the end of 12 months only with a completed progress report on file — the one-time, no-cost extension is limited to a maximum of six months.**
- A final written report, including one copy of the research proposal submitted to the external funding source, must be submitted to the program office within 6 months of project completion.

Investigator Questions:

For scientific questions or assistance in identifying a potential collaborator, please contact:

Arizona State University
Neal Woodbury, Ph.D.
Chief Science & Technology Officer,
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Knowledge Enterprise
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Mayo Clinic in Arizona
Rafael Fonseca, M.D.
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For all other questions regarding the Seed Grant Program, please contact:

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