



Multidisciplinary Research Grant (MRG)

MRG Program Guidelines

Proposals must be submitted via the North Carolina Biotechnology Center online application by **NOON** on the deadline date.

- ⊗ *Proposals sent by fax, e-mail or hard copy will not be accepted.*

Program Requirements

Purpose

To encourage collaboration between scientists within North Carolina from at least three distinct fields of study working together for advancement of the state of the art in biotechnology. This grant is intended to support development of preliminary data for federal grant applications.

Each scientist must directly contribute approximately equal percent effort to the project, i.e. contributions should be equal in regards to their significance.

Note: If your proposal has clear potential for commercial benefit or strengthens the infrastructure for future research, it will be more competitive.

- ⊗ *These grants do not provide funds for out-of-state collaborators.*
- ⊗ *These grants do not support the extension of an already established collaboration. You will not be eligible for an MRG if:*
 - your research team has published together more than once, or
 - your research team has had a federal grant together in the last five years for this or any other project.
- ⊗ *These grants do not support research projects that have already received federal funding.*

Funding and Matching Requirements

Up to \$250,000 total for a maximum of two years.

- 10% minimum matching requirement. Matching funds may include salaries for support personnel (e.g. technicians, graduate students, etc.) and materials and supplies.
- 25% minimum capital costs matching requirement for equipment costing \$40,000 or more.
- All award funds are disbursed directly to the university or nonprofit research institute of the principal investigator.
- ⊗ *Faculty salaries may not be used as matching funds.*
- ⊗ *Biotechnology Center grants do not support indirect costs.*

Who May Apply

For FY 2010, the applicant pool will be limited to resubmissions plus no more than one new submission from institutions that do not have eligible resubmissions or have chosen not to resubmit proposal(s) from FY 2009.

A primary applicant/principal investigator from a North Carolina academic or nonprofit research institute. (Other scientists in the collaboration may be from North Carolina industry.)

- For grants awarded to academic institutions, the principal investigator must hold a full-time tenure-track or tenured faculty appointment. **Visiting/limited-term appointments are not eligible to apply for or participate as a Co-PI on this grant.**
- For grants awarded to nonprofit institutions, the principal investigator must hold a full-time permanent appointment.

Preliminary Consultation

A preliminary consultation with Science and Technology Development Staff is strongly encouraged. To find out if a project you plan to submit qualifies for this grant—or to obtain additional information—contact the Core Programs Director at 919-549-8842 or send an e-mail to virginia_deluca@ncbiotech.org. Please contact us at least **two weeks prior** to the deadline if you would like to request a consultation.

Review Process

The review process has three parts:

- Examination by Biotechnology Center staff to make sure the proposed project relates to biotechnology and meets basic requirements for the grant.
- Peer review by out-of-state reviewers.
- Final review and award by the designated committee of the Biotechnology Center's Board of Directors.

Evaluation Criteria

- Significant impact on the development of biotechnology.
- Stimulation of new biotechnology related research collaborations.
- Innovative project/program objectives.
- Logical and technically feasible project/program plan.
- Thorough knowledge of current state of the field.
- Reasonable probability of success taking into account staff qualifications, the availability of space and equipment, the projected timetable, etc.
- Significant collaborative input from all participants.
- Potential for commercial or economic return to North Carolina as a result of this project.
- Justification of need for Biotechnology Center support.
- Budget sufficient but not inflated.
- ⊗ *The North Carolina Biotechnology Center does NOT fund clinical trials. Generally, if you are testing a new therapeutic, diagnostic, or device for safety and efficacy in patients, it will be considered a clinical trial.*

Post-award Reporting

Brief post-award reports are required. More information on reporting requirements will be provided on request or if a grant is awarded.

Information Release

It is the policy of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center to announce awards through press releases and other publications. These communications typically include the Project Title and Public Information Summary that are provided by the applicant on the proposal Cover Sheet. No information is released on declined proposals.

Confidentiality

The Biotechnology Center will endeavor to maintain the confidentiality of all applicants' information. However, the applicant is responsible for not disclosing any information that should not be reviewed outside of the Biotechnology Center.

Science and Technology Development Program

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See our grant application Web page at
www.ncbiotech.org/grants