



IMAGINE, INNOVATE, AND IMPACT (I³) EMORY SOM/ATLANTA VA RESEARCH AWARDS RFP

I³ EMORY SOM/ATLANTA VETERAN AFFAIRS (VA) MEDICAL CENTER RESEARCH AWARDS: The Interim Dean of the Emory School of Medicine (SOM) and the Assistant Dean for VA Research at the Atlanta VA Medical Center are soliciting proposals that will enhance collaboration among existing VA and Emory scientists. These collaborative awards are intended to spark synergistic interactions among investigators, at least one from Emory SOM and Atlanta VA each. The awards will be administered through the Emory SOM Imagine, Innovate, and Impact (I³) awards program.

- **I³ Emory SOM/Atlanta VA Research Awards:** Proposals to spur interdisciplinary research are solicited. The I³ Emory SOM/Atlanta VA Research Awards will provide seed money to fundamental biological and translational investigators for obtaining sufficient data to ultimately develop external collaborative funding applications, and to investigators who may not otherwise engage in multi- and interdisciplinary research with each other. The goal is to take programs to the level at which extramural funding may be pursued. These awards should support projects that expand the Emory investigator's program to the VA, the VA investigator's program to Emory, or define a new collaborative project. **The awards require interdisciplinary team collaboration, with at least one collaborator from the Emory SOM and one collaborator from the Atlanta VA.**

Funding Availability – Award amounts are as follows:

- **I³ EMORY SOM/ATLANTA VA RESEARCH AWARDS:** Awards will be made in \$5,000 increments, up to a total of \$25,000 in total direct costs. Budgets should be rounded-off to the nearest \$5,000 increment.
- The total number of awards to be made is variable based on merit and funds requested; a maximum of \$125,000 will be awarded in this round.

Eligibility – **I³ EMORY SOM/ATLANTA VA RESEARCH AWARDS:**

- At least one Emory SOM Faculty PI and one Atlanta VA Faculty PI
- Emory SOM faculty PI must have a primary appointment in the Emory SOM at the rank of Assistant Professor or above at an FTE of 0.5 or higher
- Atlanta VA faculty PI must be appointed at the rank of Instructor or higher.
- Cannot be duplicative of current funding at the time of award
- Faculty may participate in more than one proposal but may serve as PI on a single proposal only.
- Collaborations outside of the SOM and Atlanta VA are encouraged but not required. If the proposal includes a non-Emory/non-Atlanta VA entity, that third entity must agree to fund its share of the budget if awarded.
- No sub-contracts are permitted

Timeline

3/9/23 – RFP released

6/5/23 – Proposals due by 5:00 pm

7/24/23 – Applicant award notification

8/1/23 – Project start date

7/31/24 – Project end date (Up to 1-year No Cost Extension (NCE) may be granted with strong justification. Funds not expended by 36 months will be returned to SOM.)

Application Information

Applicants should submit the following materials using [InfoReady](#) no later than 5:00 p.m. (no exceptions) on Monday, June 5th.

The online application must be completed in one sitting, so it is recommended that applicants gather the information/documents below before beginning the application.

- Title of the proposal/innovation
- Category: I³ Emory SOM/Atlanta VA Research
- Length of project: 1 year or 2 years
- Does your project involve investigators from more than Emory and Atlanta VA? (Yes or No)
- Emory SOM PI name, credentials, title, and department/division
- Atlanta VA PI name, credentials, title, and department/division
- If applicable, Co-PI(s) name, credentials, title, and department/division
- Co-Investigators' names, credentials, titles, and departments/divisions
- Summary/Abstract (500 words maximum)
- Attachments (*see below*)

Attachments – Each of the following items should be uploaded as a single PDF document following this naming convention: PI last name.first name.I³EmorySOMVA23.pdf

- Example: Hill.Beth.I³EmorySOMVA23.pdf

The single PDF must include, in this order:

- **Title page** with name of individuals designated as PIs and list of co-PI(s); must include signatures of the PIs and the Chairs of the PIs departments (to indicate approval of the proposal). Signature from the co-PI's Department Chair is optional. Note that proposals will not be accepted after the deadline due to a delay in obtaining signatures. (*maximum of 1 page*)
- **Specific Aims** (*maximum 1 page*)
- **Preliminary data** are suggested, to illustrate the project is feasible (*maximum 2 pages*)
- **Research Strategy:** Must be formatted by Specific Aim and include sections for Significance, Innovation, and Approach (*maximum 3 pages*)
- **Brief explanation of how the innovation will meet each of the I³ criteria:** 1) magnitude of impact if project were to succeed (i.e. potential to lead to the creation of a center or program project grant at Emory or Atlanta VA); 2) benefits of, and need for collaboration; 3)time to impact (preference given to projects with well-defined time plans and with early and clear go-no-go points); 4) creativity and novelty of the idea/approach; 5) PI qualifications and team readiness; 6) feasibility of carrying out the proposed project; 7) chances of a successful outcome; 8) potential to generate extramural funding (include aims of the planned extramural grant; a timeline for submission; and the agencies from which funding will be sought) (*3 pages*)
- A **timeline** noting specific aims to be used in reporting (*maximum of 1 page*)

- **References** (*maximum 2 pages*)
- **Letters of support are not permitted**
- **Budget** ([using this template](#)) in this breakdown:
 - Dollar amount requested (rounded off to the nearest \$25,000; max of \$50,000)
 - Breakdown of budget (personnel and supplies) with dollar amounts for each
 - Faculty salary support is limited to 10% of the total budget. Salary support for administrative support is not appropriate. Funds may be requested for salaries and fringe for study staff, students, post-doctoral fellows, and other study-related personnel.
 - Travel expenses and equipment are allowable with this funding mechanism.
 - Computers, general-purpose equipment, office supplies, etc. may not be charged to this project.
 - Tuition is not allowed on I³ Awards; however graduate student stipends are allowed.
 - Indirect costs are not allowed on the I³ Awards
 - No subcontracts are allowed on the I³ Awards.
- **Budget Justification** (*maximum of 1 page*)
- **Biosketches:** Include (new) NIH-style biosketches for key personnel. Please use this [template](#). Combine all biosketches into the single overall PDF. Biosketch instructions [here](#).

Application formatting:

- Use paper size no larger than 8 ½" x 11"
- Provide at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages
- Font size must be 11 points or larger (smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams, and charts is acceptable as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%)
- Text color must be black (color text in figures, graphs, diagrams, charts, tables, footnotes, and headings is acceptable)
- The following fonts are acceptable: Arial and Calibri

Review and Award Process-The following Review Criteria will be used to score proposals:

- Magnitude of impact if project were to succeed (i.e. potential to lead to the creation of a center or program project grant at Emory or Atlanta VA)
- Benefits of, and need for collaboration
- Time to impact (preference given to projects with well-defined time plans and with early and clear go-no-go points)
- Creativity and novelty of the idea/approach
- PI qualifications and team readiness
- Feasibility of carrying out the proposed project
- Chances of a successful outcome
- Potential to generate extramural funding (include aims of the planned extramural grant; a timeline for submission; and the agencies from which funding will be sought)

Progress Reports

Return on Investment (publications, patents, presentations, grant awards, etc.) will be tracked. Awardees are required to submit two scientific progress reports per year.

Awardees are required to submit brief annual progress reports for 3 years following completion of the funded award to state progress on the following metrics: publications, external grant funding, and/or further projects stemming from the award, and replication of project at Emory or elsewhere

Financial Reports

The Emory SOM PI's department is responsible for financial management of I³ awards. The PI and the PI's Department (not SOM) are responsible for reconciling project accounts as non-sponsored funds.

Citation Requirements

Awardees are required to cite institutional support of the Emory SOM and the Georgia CTSA NIH award number (**UL1-TR002378**) on all products (publications, patents, presentations) resulting from this award.

For content questions related to the I³ Award programs, please contact:

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For technical questions related to the application portal, please contact:

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