

In a partnership with the West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative (WMSTI), Grand Valley State University is pleased to announce the University Innovation Fund, a new funding opportunity for faculty, staff, and administrators engaged in research.

Purpose

The University Innovation Fund provides infrastructure and financial support for the development of projects and programs that further any one of the core research areas of the WMSTI (life/health sciences, advanced materials, homeland security, or alternative energy) and have the potential to attract significant external grants to the University. Indeed, one condition of the award is that recipients will be required to submit an external grant application within the period for which support is received. As always, interdisciplinary and collaborative efforts are especially encouraged. All full-time faculty, staff, and administrators are eligible to apply for the Innovation Fund support.

Amount of Awards

Individual awards consist of reserved space in the state-of-the-art laboratory space¹ located on the 5th floor of the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, access to laboratory and diagnostic equipment housed within WMSTI, two student work/study employees @ 10 hr/wk for the fall and winter semesters, and \$500 in grant support for up to a duration of an eighteen-month award period. Grant support may be used for supplies, small equipment purchases, consultant costs, travel directly relating to proposal development (e.g., to establish a collaboration or to meet with funding agency representatives) or other appropriate non-personnel costs.

How to Apply

Applicants are required to submit an application form and proposal narrative. A copy of the application cover form is provided with this announcement. An electronic version can be forwarded at your request. Proposal narratives should be typed or word-processed and should not exceed 4 double-spaced pages (in 12 point font). Proposals must contain the following:

- a general discussion of the goals, objectives, and special activities that you intend to accomplish within the period of the University Innovation Fund award;
- a short explanation of how your project falls within one of the core research areas of WMSTI;
- the importance of, or need for, the proposed program or project;
- a project timeline indicating key milestones in the process;
- identification of those agencies, foundations or other organizations to whom an external grant request will be made at the conclusion of the University grant; and
- a description of how the award contributes to the external grant proposal that you plan to submit.

Applications should be submitted to Rich Cook, Venture Center Director, West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative, Cook – DeVos Center for Health Sciences, 301 Michigan Avenue NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Proposals are reviewed by GVSU's Innovation Committee, composed of faculty and staff from several disciplines; and therefore MUST be written to be understood by members of this multi-disciplinary review committee.

Application Deadlines

The University's Innovation Fund operates in an eighteen month cycle.

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| Cycle Funding Period | February 1- July 31 October 1 – March 31 | Application should be submitted by January 15 ² Application should be submitted by September 15 ² |
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Final Report

If awarded, a final report (two page maximum) is required to be submitted to GVSU's Innovation Committee within 30 days after the project period end date. In this report, please list in detail the goals, objectives, and special activities identified in your proposal narrative and indicate whether or not the activities were completed and their outcomes. Second, address how these outcomes will be used to strengthen a proposal to one of the external agencies that you listed in your proposal. List additional external agencies, if any, you think are possible funding for your proposal.

¹ Ten lineal feet of laboratory bench space will be provided irrespective of any other laboratory space assigned you by GVSU.

² If proposal due date falls on a weekend, the actual due date will be the following Monday.

APPLICATION COVER

Project Director/Principal Investigator:

Name:

Department:

College:

Office Location:

Email:

Phone Number:

Project Title:

Project Period: February 1 – July 31 October 1 - March 31

Proposed future funding source(s):
To what organization(s) do you plan to submit your grant proposal?

Project Narrative:
Please provide a description of the work to be performed with the space and funding provided from the University's Innovation Fund. In your discussion, please address how this support will help you in your efforts to secure external funding for continuation of your proposed project. The narrative should not exceed four double-spaced pages (in 12 point font or larger).