Faculty of Science Research Innovation and Commercialization Grant Call for Proposals

Deadline: Friday July 2nd, 2021 at 4:30pm

Overview & Submission Criteria

OVERVIEW

The Faculty of Science is investing in a funding opportunity for faculty members in the Faculty of Science wishing to take next steps toward concept development for commercialization of research. This is a call for Faculty of Science Research Innovation and Commercialization Grant proposals with a deadline of Friday July 2^{nd,} 2021 at 4:30pm. The purpose of these grants is to stimulate and encourage faculty members to initiate, explore, and develop activities constituting a significant step toward commercializing research. Examples might include, but are not limited to, requests for funding to develop a prototype, validate a concept, carry out a market assessment, conduct a proof-of-concept study, etc.

Proposals may request <u>up to \$10K maximum</u> and may be held by an individual faculty member within the Faculty of Science at University of Manitoba, or can be collaborative within departments or interdisciplinary across departments within the Faculty of Science. While the purpose of this funding is to support researchers within the Faculty of Science, collaborators external to the Faculty of Science may be involved in the project.

The Faculty of Science will provide support through a mentored concept development session consisting in project-specific feedback from relevant experts to assess and revise concepts to improve feasibility of proposed projects. <u>Attendance at a mentored concept development session is required</u> for eligibility for Faculty of Science Research Innovation and Commercialization Grant funding.

Budgets must be well justified - ask only for what the project requires. Unspent funds will be returned to the Faculty of Science at the end of the 1-year granting period. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.

You may be asked to provide additional clarification or supporting materials concerning your project following submission of your proposal and prior to award decision.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Requirements for Funding:

Submission of an NOI/ Project Intake form by Thursday April 1st, 2021 at 4:30pm is required. Attendance at a consultation on concept development prior to proposal submission is also required. If a faculty member cannot attend the concept development consultation due to teaching obligations or prior academic commitments, they must notify the Industry Liaison Officer in advance at Jolen. Galaugher @umanitoba.ca who will schedule an alternate expert consultation which must take place prior to proposal submission.

Evaluation Criteria:

The goal of this funding opportunity is to encourage new research directions aimed at innovation, commercialization, and industrial collaboration.

Criteria for selection include:

- 1. Impact and feasibility of the proposed project
- 2. Benefits of the proposed project opportunities for commercialization, industrial or other funding, student training, etc.
- 3. Project plan and appropriateness of the budget

The Dean, in consultation with the Associate Deans and, where necessary, with input from relevant Heads will evaluate submitted applications.

Proposal

All elements below are REQUIRED. Text should be single-spaced in Times New Roman regular 12 pts or any comparable font, and margins set at ¾ of an inch. Charts, figures, tables, and references may be appended.

PI and Project Information (please include:)

PI Given Name

PI Surname

Department

Position

Title of Project

Expected Project Start Date

Expected Project End Date

Collaborators

Funding amount requested

Amount of support provided from the researcher

Research Summary

Maximum 1 page. – Describe the proof-of-principle study, prototype, or other study aimed at demonstrating potential commercial feasibility of the research.

Detailed Project Plan

Maximum 2 pages. – Describe the anticipated timelines and outcomes of the project.

Project Justification

Maximum 1/2 page. – Describe the opportunity for innovation and commercialization of research.

Commercialization, Partnership, Student Training, and Other Benefits

Maximum 1/2 page. - Describe the longer-term benefits and goals of the proposed research, including opportunities for collaboration with industrial partners, future funding support, commercialization, student training or other benefits.

Budget Request and Budget Justification

Maximum 1 page - Total dollar amount requested, allocation of requested funds (use a table), and justification of budget request.

Additional Project Information (required)

- i. Have you filed an invention disclosure with the Technology Transfer Officer? Yes/No?
- ii. Do you have, or have you had, industrial collaborators on your project? Yes/No?
- iii. Which best describes the current stage of the research (please indicate)?

Concept phase

Proven concept

Prototype

In commercial development

- iv. List the field of applicability, potential marketers, customers, or industrial partners relevant to your project that you are aware of (please name).
- v. What problem does your research solve?
- vi. What is the unique value of your solution?
- vii. If applicable, are you interested in exploring a start-up or licensing? Yes/No/Not Applicable

Submission Guidelines and Post-Award Administration

Proposals will be submitted to Tanya Zacharias (tanya.zacharias@umanitoba.ca). The deadline for submission is Friday July 2nd, 2021 at 4:30 PM.

The period of the grants will run from August 1, 2021 through July 1, 2022. A 1-page written report to the Dean of Science providing a synopsis of the progress/results generated by the funding will be required at the end of the grant period. Successful applicants are encouraged to use the initial work to pursue future external funding opportunities.