



Frequently Asked Questions:

Do you have samples of previously funded projects that you can share?

You can find descriptions of previously funded projects on the seed grants webpage: www.flinn.org/seedgrants.

Can a faculty member at the same university be a participant on more than one submission?

Yes, a faculty member can participate in more than one submission.

What is the format for the Translational Research Grant application? (The number of pages, questions to be addressed, etc.)

There is a section for general contact/Principal Investigator information; a section for a lay summary of your project; a presentation deck (ppt) upload with required elements (described on application and a template is provided); and an upload for your letter of support (template provided).

When you register on the application site, you are able to go through the entire application to see all of the questions without filling in any boxes.

https://flinnfoundation-r3dtp.smapply.io/prog/2023_seed_grants_to_promote_translational_research/

Are the reviewers under Non-Disclosure Agreements?

Yes, each reviewer signs an NDA/Confidentiality agreement.

Who owns the Intellectual Property coming out of a Flinn Foundation grant?

You or the institution owns the IP before/during/after the Flinn Foundation grant. The Foundation does not take any ownership or equity in the project.

Can you start an application and not submit it if you simply want to see what the format is?

Yes, the only applications that will be considered for the grants are those completed and submitted by the deadline (February 3 at 5:00 PM).

Is it okay to have some overlap with other funding (active or pending) from NIH/NSF?

The Flinn grant is in addition to any funding you have already/or will receive from other sources. Care must be taken to clearly distinguish what specific activities / budget items are being paid for with the Flinn funds.

How are potential reviewer conflicts addressed?

The reviewers self-select a conflict button when reviewing applications. A note is sent to the application administrator letting her know of the conflict. However, the reviewers will be geographically diverse, and will most likely not have any previous knowledge of the submitted proposals.

Can you please explain the relative importance of commercialization potential as a percentage of total evaluation?

This program is seeking projects that are addressing well defined clinical needs in the areas of precision medicine, diagnostics, devices, therapeutics, and health-care delivery processes. Projects that someday, say within 4 - 7 years, have real opportunities to positively impact patients.

As such having a clear line of sight on how your team plans to make this happen is important. This is not necessarily a detailed business plan but demonstrating to the reviewers and building it into your project plan, the steps that will need to be taken and what will be done to get your innovation there is important.

From a Foundation perspective, we are seeking projects that will be impactful. If your innovation has the potential to grow in a viable commercial venture that is excellent, however the Foundation is also interested in open-

source projects who build in plans for effective dissemination and adoption of their innovation.

Should the research be from different institutions?

The focus is on the team and having a group of collaborators with the right blend of skills to move your project forward. In general, because these types of projects are complex and seek solutions for clinical issues, it is not unusual for projects to be presented that have both academic research and clinical partners working together. In addition to having access to regulatory /business / tech transfer / engineering advisors etc.

Does it have to be a potential commercial product? Or can we do clinical studies of another nature – say, develop a rehabilitation protocol with an existing device?

The innovation does need to be a product or platform - generally, one that has an associated IP strategy.

In the event there is not a VP of Research, what are the other options for the letter of support?

The letter of support from the VP of Research/their designee. Or a person of equivalent standing in an organization who has authority to commit the institutions support of the applicant and award administration.

Are you looking for projects from academic institutions or from start-up companies? If a start-up, who signs the required letter of support - the CEO or COO?

This grants program is targeting academic research and medical institutions and not commercial entities. However, a research team can have commercial partners and/or have already started a company. It is best that the letter of support come from the VP of Research or their designee. It should not come from principals of the company.

Can the grant go towards salaries other than the PI? (e.g., Assistants, technologists)?

Grant funds cannot be used for PI and Co-PI salaries; however, it can be used for support staff i.e., lab assistant time for time spent on the project etc.