

BiIG Collaborations

Building Innovative Interdisciplinary Groups and Collaborations

2023

Interdisciplinary Innovation Team Development Awards

Request for Applications

Ohio State's Office of Knowledge Enterprise (OKE) wants to help you form interdisciplinary research collaborations that are poised for future funding success! Our BiIG Collaborations program includes the Interdisciplinary Innovation Team Development Award to support emerging teams with seed funding for team development activities and provide access to team science and research development resources. Research focus areas for the 2023 awards are **Biotechnology** and **STEM Education & Workforce Development**.

Fast Facts

Who?

Teams of 3+ Ohio State faculty from 2+ departments or centers with distinct disciplines (see eligibility below)

What?

Up to \$5,000 for team development activities, with added OKE team development support and strategic research development guidance.

When?

Application due: Nov 18th, 2022

Award duration: Jan 1st, 2023 – Dec 31st, 2023

Questions?

Contact Kellie Gross, gross.735@osu.edu



Program Description

The OKE **Building Innovative Interdisciplinary Groups and Collaborations (BIIG Collaborations)** program helps you develop and nurture interdisciplinary teams that are well positioned to tackle complex societal challenges. BIIG Collaborations is focused on helping faculty across the university overcome research silos and conquer barriers to interdisciplinary research by facilitating connections around emergent thematic areas and fostering team development through a team science approach. Our goal is to provide Ohio State faculty with the resources and support they need to establish and cultivate collaborations across disciplines, engage in exploring innovative research questions that can only be examined when diverse talents are brought together, and **Think BIIG**.

The Interdisciplinary Innovation Team Development Award is a BIIG Collaborations initiative that supports you in exploring exciting ideas for interdisciplinary collaboration, form high-functioning teams, and prepares your team to launch novel research agendas positioned for future extramural funding. This one-year award is designed to enable your team to:

1. Develop team cohesion and a shared vision
2. Define a research question or program relevant to an emergent topic
3. Increase awareness of the external federal funding landscape and funder priorities in your defined area of research
4. Compete for internal funding through Ohio State programs, such as the President's Research Excellence (PRE) Accelerator award, to continue research development, or prepare for extramural federal funding opportunities.

Awarded teams will receive up to \$5,000 to fund team formation activities and will be provided with research and team development support and resources from OKE, including:

- A toolkit of interdisciplinary team formation resources
- 3 team development workshops led by a team science expert
- An individual team consultation with a team science expert
- Consultations with OKE Research Development Specialists on funding strategies and competitiveness

The 2023 funding cycle supports newly-forming interdisciplinary teams in the high-priority research areas of **Biotechnology** and **STEM Education & Workforce Development**. We are interested in your BIIG Ideas to build an interdisciplinary collaboration that brings together Ohio State's talents and expertise to provide impactful solutions in these critical areas:

Biotechnology is considered a critical and emerging technology by the federal government and has been identified as a priority research area across federal agencies. Biotechnology is poised to make significant impacts in affecting change to many societal challenges, including improving health outcomes against diseases and cancer, reducing fossil-fuel dependencies, combatting climate change, remediating contaminated environments, and alleviating global food insecurity.

For questions related to biotechnology research, please contact Research Development Specialist Stephanie Buehler (buehler.102@osu.edu).

STEM Education & Workforce Development ranks among the top research and programmatic priorities of the current federal administration, and includes the interrelated goals of developing STEM literacy, addressing access and educational disparities, and ensuring a well-prepared 21st century workforce Together, increased investments in these cross-cutting areas will help to realize a vision in which the United States is a global leader in STEM literacy, innovation, and employment.

For questions related to STEM Education & Workforce Development research and programs, please contact Research Development Specialist Kimberly Pratt (pratt.363@osu.edu).



Eligibility

Teams must consist of a minimum of 3 Ohio State faculty members representing at least 2 different departments/centers with distinct disciplines. The lead PI must be an Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor tenure track faculty, equivalent-rank research faculty, or clinical-track faculty member engaged in research. Co-Investigators can be Ohio State faculty, research staff, or post-docs. Researchers can apply as part of more than one team but may only serve as lead PI on one application. For the 2023 award, applications must fall into the research priority areas of **Biotechnology** and **STEM Education & Workforce Development**.

Funding

Interdisciplinary Innovation Team Development Awards will provide up to \$5,000 per team for a 12-month performance period. We estimate that up to five teams will be selected for each priority research area (i.e., five Biotechnology teams and five STEM Education & Workforce Development teams).

Awards may fund: Team planning meetings, workshops, targeted conference presentations, interactions with funding agency program officers to gauge support for the proposed project(s), or other team development activities as specified in team proposal. While travel costs clearly aligned with team formation may be included, these requests will be scrutinized and generally may not exceed half the requested budget.

Awards may not fund: Faculty salary support, F&A costs, equipment purchases, or work that is already supported by university or federal funds.

Key dates

- RFA opens: October 13th, 2022
- Application deadline: November 18th, 2022
- Awards announced: December 15th, 2022
- Award start date: January 1st, 2023

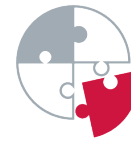
Application components and submission

Title page (1 page):

- Project title
- Emergent research area addressed (i.e., Biotechnology or STEM Education & Workforce Development)
- Names of PI and team members (include title, college and unit affiliation, area of expertise)

Project narrative (2 pages):

- Describe the research area within the selected emergent research topic that your team will explore and its significance.
- Specify how the proposed topic is related to Biotechnology or STEM Education & Workforce Development.
- Describe the need for an interdisciplinary solution to the selected research area.
- Describe the potential societal and/or scientific impact of the team's research focus.
- Briefly describe the experience and expertise of the proposed team members as it relates to the selected research area.
- Describe all planned activities and how they will support team development and position the team for additional internal funding (e.g., PRE) or extramural research funding
- Provide a timeline of planned activities, including milestones



- References may be included and do not count towards the page limit

Budget and budget justification (1 page)

Applications should be submitted no later than 11:59 pm on Monday, November 21st. An application template can be downloaded on our website (erik.osu.edu/biig-awards). Applications should be submitted as a single pdf file via the Office of Research application portal (orapps.osu.edu/fundops/opportunities).

Evaluation process and criteria

Applications will be evaluated by a panel of OKE staff. Scores will be based on the extent to which proposals meet the following criteria:

1. Research area: Has scientific merit and significance; is innovative; demonstrates need for further study; warrants an interdisciplinary team approach
2. Planned activities: Are tailored to the team's unique needs for team formation; build team vision, understanding, and commitment; strengthen team understanding of external funding opportunities and funder priorities; can be accomplished in the one-year project period
3. Team: Is comprised of interdisciplinary researchers with distinct areas of expertise; researcher backgrounds are sufficiently diverse to generate innovative approaches within the proposed research area; all team members are adequately integrated into the planned team formation activities
4. Budget: Is justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed activities

Program requirements

Over the 12-month award, teams are required to participate in team assessments and a total of 8 – 10 hours of programming led by the OKE Talent & Team Development Office. Within 30 days after the project end date, teams are required to submit a budget expenditure report and a 2-page final report, describing the team vision, research questions, team roles and responsibilities, potential funding opportunities, and planned next steps. A final report template and additional details will be provided.

For questions, please contact OKE Talent and Team Development Specialist, Kellie Gross
(gross.735@osu.edu)