



The PI (Faculty) Bridge Award is an internally funded program providing up to one year of additional support for any established investigator with a competitive renewal application under consideration with a lag time between the current and follow-on funding.

**PURPOSE:**

To provide interim institutional funding for faculty members who have obtained peer-reviewed external funding in the past when there is a lag time between the current funding and the continuous funding. Prior to submission of the bridge funding application, the investigator shall have submitted a competitive renewal application for external funding and obtained a summary statement of the peer review of the respective application.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

Applicants must satisfy the following criteria at the time of Bridge funding request:

1. Must be CNMC faculty member;
2. Be employed not less than 75% full-time equivalent at the Children's National Medical Center;
3. Be the PI of an independent federal grant application or other peer-reviewed equivalent grant application presently being considered for funding following peer-review for which a summary statement is available
4. The following grants are eligible R-type (except R03), P- type or U-type, in which the applicant's role is that of a PI or Director of a project within a program project or center grant.

Note: Investigators, previously awarded Bridge funding, are not eligible to apply for additional Bridge funding for the same project.

Note: Criteria 1 and 2 may be waived at the discretion of the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) but must be in full effect prior to the award of Bridge funding. Other grant mechanism not listed in criterion 4 may be considered at the discretion of CAO.

**APPLICATION DUE DATE:**

Applications are accepted by the administrative coordinator of the Centralized Funding Office four times a year by the following due dates: January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15. However, applications must be received not less than three months prior to the scheduled termination date of the applicant's current award.

**Other Deadline:**

If Biostatistical Analysis is required or you are in need of their assistance, please contact Annie Fulton at (202) 476-3856. Please note that the usual turn around time for Biostatistical Analysis is 60 days.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

The application packet should include:

- a) Cover letter describing the circumstances and reasons for the Bridge request including dates of previous external funding, dates of NIH grant submission, and dates of potential extramural funding
- b) Research Proposal (A copy of the complete NIH grant application and summary statement from peer review)
- c) One page plan of how you will respond to the review critiques
- d) Biosketch
- e) Budget

**REVIEW CRITERIA:**

Applications are reviewed and scored on the basis of:

- Potential for a continuous productive, independent research career;
- Progress made during award period;
- Relevance and quality of the candidate's research proposal;
- Rigor, creativity, and innovation of the candidate's research proposal

Bridge funding applications will be reviewed by an ad hoc committee, assembled by the CRI Scientific Director and including the Vice Chair for Academic Affairs, the Chair of the RAC Committee and other ad hoc members with specific expertise pertinent to the grant application. The committee will be chaired by the Scientific Director. The Committee will make its recommendations on funding to the CAO who has the final authority for granting bridge funding.

Normally, the committee will complete its review within three weeks (21) days of receipt of a bridge funding application.

**EARLIEST POSSIBLE FUNDING DATE:** 90 days from receipt of application

**FUNDING PROVIDED:**

Typical funding provided to appointees includes:

- Up to \$100,000.
- Where a competitive renewal application under consideration is a Program Project Grant (PPG), the bridge funding may not be used to support research activities occurring at other institutions.
- With the exception that bridge funding will not be used to support the cost of travel by investigators or the purchase of capital equipment (cost >\$5000), bridge funding may be used to support all direct cost categories requested in the competitive renewal application under consideration.

Examples of allowable expenses:

- Computer purchase (up to \$2000)
- Education expenses (these include graduate course tuition, books, and other educational materials);
- Research expenses (this includes research supplies and paying for some of the ancillary costs of clinical research – that cannot be covered by the CTSA);
- Research assistant salary;
- Other expenses (photocopying \$200, telecommunications \$420 per year, equipment)

**NOTIFICATION OF AWARD:**

Applicants will receive direct notification (written or electronic) concerning the funding status of their applications. For applications selected for funding, the Office of Grants and Contracts will coordinate the establishment of a project ID to facilitate the financial management of the award.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

Final Progress Report is required.

**SCIENTIFIC CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Vittorio Gallo, PhD, Scientific Director, CRI

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**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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