



Call for Proposals 2020

Biomedical Engineering Seed Grants

Application Deadline: June 26, 2020

Introduction

Ecole Polytechnique has recently developed a campus-wide interdepartmental Biomedical Engineering research, teaching, and innovation program. As part of this endeavor, we were awarded in 2018 a five-year grant from the *Fondation Bettencourt Schueller* to initiate a **Biomedical Engineering Seed Grant Program**. This program, now in its second year, provides seed funding for novel biomedical engineering research projects focused on the development of new **collaborations between faculty members and medical doctors**. The present call is open to faculty members from *Institut Polytechnique de Paris* and *Université Paris-Saclay*. These seed grants are expected to allow the awardees to generate the necessary preliminary results needed to apply for follow-up funding from other national and/or international sources or to obtain proof-of-principle results for launching technology transfer activities.

The Biomedical Engineering Seed Grant Program will issue one call for applications per year. The present call is expected to lead to the funding of 3 seed grants.

Award Size and Duration

Each successful seed grant will have a duration of 2 years and a budget of €70,000 per year for a total amount of €140,000. The funds are expected to be used primarily for funding postdoctoral fellows or research engineers. The purchase of small equipment and consumables related to the proposed research is also permitted. Year 2 funding will be contingent on the demonstration of satisfactory progress in Year 1 as well as the presentation of the project at the annual Biomedical Engineering Research Symposium 2020 (November 2020).

Application Procedure

Each project must have a **single principal investigator (PI)** from either *Institut Polytechnique de Paris* or *Université Paris Saclay* and a **medical doctor as a co-investigator (co-I)**. The collaborating medical doctor may be based anywhere in France. Additional project partners, including members of the private/innovation sector, are allowed. The PI will be responsible for the overall conduct of the project, and the award will be made to the research laboratory with which he/she is affiliated.

The application, written in English, consists of the following:

- A cover page that provides the title of the project, the names and affiliations of the project investigators, and up to five keywords. The title page should also indicate if this is a new project or a resubmission of a project that was submitted last year. **(1 page)**
- A research project that describes the scientific scope, defines a set of specific aims that can be accomplished over a period of two years, and details the proposed methodology. The novelty of the proposed research needs to be clearly described. If the project is a resubmission from last year, a statement of the changes made to the project in response to the feedback from the reviewers should be included. **(maximum 4 pages)**
- Bibliography **(maximum 2 pages)**
- Description of the envisioned societal impact of the project **(maximum 1 page)**
- Project timeline and perspectives for follow-up funding and/or technology transfer activities **(maximum 1 page)**
- Plans for public dissemination and/or outreach activities **(maximum 1 page)**
- Biographical sketches including latest publications and technology transfer activities of the project partners (and the postdoctoral fellow(s)/research engineer(s) who will work on the project if known at the time of application) as well as information about their teams and available resources **(maximum 2 pages per biographical sketch)**
- Ethics/animal welfare committee approval (or concrete plans for submitting applications for approval) for projects involving animal studies
- Project budget including detailed justification of all anticipated expenditures (maximum of €70,000 per year for a maximum total of €140,000 over the two-year period)
- A statement attesting that the proposed project is not funded simultaneously by another source.

Application Submission Procedure and Timeline

Applications should be submitted electronically as a single PDF file sent to the following email address: bme-seedgrants@ladhyx.polytechnique.fr. Applications must be submitted by **11:59 p.m. CEST (Central European Summer Time), Friday June 26, 2020**. Late applications will not be accepted and will be returned to the applicant. Projects that do not comply with the instructions may be penalized. Funding decisions are expected in November 2020. All projects are expected to start no later than January 2021.

Evaluation Procedure and Selection Criteria

Project evaluations and award decisions will be made by an international scientific council external to *Institut Polytechnique de Paris* and *Université Paris-Saclay*. Project selection will be based primarily on the scientific excellence of the proposed project and the project investigators as evaluated by the scientific council. High-risk, high-reward projects are particularly encouraged. The possibility of technology transfer activities that hold promise for improving patient lives will be viewed especially favorably.

For further information, please contact Silvia Corsini: silvia.corsini@polytechnique.edu