

Universidad Central del Caribe

Bridge Funding and Seed Money Policy



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Bridge Funding and Seed Money Policy

This policy creates a mechanism for requesting both seed money and/or "bridge" funding.

Purpose: The Fund for Faculty Research is established for the purpose of helping to enhance the research resources available to the Faculty at UCC, to improve the quality of research and increase their potential to obtain outside funding. The fund is contingent on available institutional and/or external resources.

The funds are designed to assist faculty in such activities as: a) Refining ideas; b) Creating plans and designs; c) Trying out methodologies; d) Collecting preliminary data; e) Conducting pilot or preliminary activities; f) Reworking grant proposals that received encouraging review but weren't funded.

Bridge Funding or Seed Money:

Considering the fact that UCC has limited resources, the first priority is to help those individuals who have applied for federal funding and have a good review, but need additional data in order to improve the grant. Thus, individuals or groups that have submitted a grant and received a summary statement that indicates that more work needs to be done to improve the proposal may submit a request.

Submission requirements are:

1. a copy of the previously submitted grant,
2. the summary statement from the granting agency,
3. a 3-5 page response to the criticisms of the reviews with the proposed changes the PI plans to make,
4. a budget necessary to accomplish the proposed experiments,
5. an expected time line for completion of the proposed studies and submission of the grant.
6. Submit proposal to the Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies. The Research Advisory Committee or an External Advisory Committee, depending on the expertise necessary to review the project, will review the proposal and make funding recommendations.

Pilot Studies:

Funding for small-scale feasibility studies could be offered depending on available institutional or external resources. Typically awards will be in the range of \$2,000 - \$5,000 and should be for pilot studies for new ideas with high impact potential and a good potential for obtaining extramural funding. This is not designed to fund continuation studies, to supplement ongoing projects or to provide salary support.

The proposal should be limited to five (5) single spaced pages. The following is a suggested format.

1. Specific aims - ½ p.
2. Background information - 1-1 ½ p.
3. Methods - 2-2 ½ p.
4. Significance of the research - ½ p.
5. Other support:

List any other projects, either funded or pending, including the title, budget, the funding agency and the project period. Briefly indicate the nature of the project; and if there is any overlap with the proposed research, clearly describe the overlapping areas and estimate the percentage of budgetary overlap.

Submit proposal to the Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies. The Research Advisory Committee or an External Advisory Committee, depending on the expertise necessary to review the project, will review the proposal and make funding recommendations.

Final Report: At the conclusion of the project the PI must submit a progress report to the Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies and to the Dean of Medicine. The report, usually not more than two pages, should include a summary of results (both positive and negative) and a list and copies of any papers, abstracts and grants submitted.