INBRE GRANT MECHANISM: Seed Grant

INTRODUCTION: to provide 1-year of funding (potentially renewable) to test new research idea(s) – entirely original areas of investigation for the investigator or a substantially new extension of previous work. Proof-of-principle experimentation is one particularly relevant type of overall approach but other approaches may be responsive. Preliminary data are not required for a competitive submission.

OVERALL RATIONALE

This mechanism is designed for faculty researchers seeking new research results through new/additional experimentation. The ultimate goal is to create impactful preliminary data for new/revised grant applications to INBRE and external/non-INBRE sources, while at the same time jump-starting the collection of results leading to manuscript submissions.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

ELIGIBILITY: all faculty engaged in biomedical research except those investigators receiving funded research and pilot awards effective July 1, 2020. For those who unsuccessfully submitted an LOI or full proposal for the 2019/2020 pilot project solicitation, those critiques may be used to define a more focused and revised Seed Grant application. But the Seed Grant application must still fulfill the requirement that, in the context of the NH-INBRE, this is entirely new research of a substantially new extension of previously performed or proposed work.

APPLICATION: Due February 1, 2021

Main components (as further detailed far below): 2 pages, only, of text including preliminary data (no appendix) - though preliminary results are not required. This page limit does not include the required NIH Biosketch for applicant PI and any fundamental collaborative faculty member(s) or support letters (note that collaborative grants are allowed/encouraged but awards will be made to only the applicant PI, via an RSTG supplement, see below).

Budget: up to $20K direct cost maximum in $1K increments; no budget detail required. NO PI or other faculty salary support; no travel -- rather, award will be directed to lead institute RSTG as a supplement to be used specifically for the Seed Grant: e.g. to support additional student researchers, technicians, supplies, services for shared instrumentation, other research or presentation costs. F&A is allowable over the $20K maximum.

INBRE leadership mentoring/monitoring: close periodic follow-up of INBRE leadership with project PI, research mentors (to be determined), and RSTG PI for assessment of adequate management of funding and achievement of interim progress. INBRE LEADERSHIP IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ABOVE OVERSIGHT, RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TERMINATE SUPPORT IF PROGRESS IS INSUFFICIENT.

INITIAL PROPOSAL REVIEW/AWARD PROCESS: Review by INBRE leadership, with possible ad-hoc expert consultation; EAC approval; but no NIH approval required as there is no PI/faculty salary support. INBRE
leadership may recommend partial funding and/or a more limited scope of the work proposed, with potential commensurate decreases in the budget.

**SUBMISSION SPECIFICS** – proposal to include:

Title, Specific Aims and rationale for the work; brief background (with literature references – the citation page not counting against the 2-page total limit); key preliminary data – optional; experimental approaches, desired results and how this will position the PI for submissions of grants and/or manuscripts; NIH Biosketch for PI and any key co-investigators or collaborators; letter from the RSTG PI/SC member relevant to the PI.