



Montana INBRE Request for Proposals
Issue Date: October 31, 2017
Deadline: January 7, 2018 (by 11:59 PM)
Letter of Intent: December 1, 2017
Grant Year: May 1, 2018 - April 30, 2019

Overview

Montana INBRE is soliciting proposals for **Pilot Projects** and **Major Research Projects** in the areas of environmental health, public health, infectious diseases, rural and/or Native American health disparities, and food security/sovereignty. Within these general areas, proposals must address at least one of Montana INBRE III's research priority areas: 1) social and behavioral aspects of rural and/or Native American health, 2) infectious disease, environmental health, or access to healthy food, and 3) interdisciplinary research focused on any of these research areas. Projects can be developed within a single discipline (e.g., social sciences), but collaborative projects between biomedical and social and behavioral health investigators also can be developed and are encouraged. As in all Montana INBRE-funded projects, the involvement of students in research is important and strongly encouraged, and projects should have a high likelihood of leading to independent funding. Funding will be awarded for one grant year with the possibility for competitive renewal in the subsequent year, pending the success of Montana INBRE's renewal application to NIH (submitted March 2018 for the period 2019 – 2024). Additionally, investigators are strongly encouraged to work with Montana INBRE's Community Engagement (Dr. Ann Bertagnolli, abertagnolli@montana.edu) and Biostatistics Cores (Dr. Lillian Lin, Director, lillian.lin@montana.edu) in the preparation of their proposals.

Eligibility. Faculty in the biomedical, social/behavioral, economic, agricultural, and engineering sciences. Most successful applicants will not have independently funded programs, but established investigators wanting to develop a change of direction initiating research in Montana INBRE III research priority areas will be considered. Interdisciplinary research proposals directed by multiple Project Leaders can consist of established investigators, but applications having at least one non-established investigator will be given special consideration. ***All previously funded Montana INBRE III investigators whose research projects have been funded for 1 or more years must submit, in addition to the proposal requirements listed below, a Specific Aims page for an extramural grant proposal. Investigators whose projects currently are pilot planning grants must submit a pilot research proposal with a Specific Aims page to Montana INBRE for the coming year.***

Applications will be accepted in four categories: Pilot Research Projects, Major Research Projects, Continuation Projects, and Resubmission Projects. ***It is recommended that potential applicants discuss with either Dr. Ann Bertagnolli or Dr. Brian Bothner the appropriate project type for which they should apply.*** (Contact information is provided below.)

Pilot Research Project: Funded at \$10,000 - \$50,000 direct costs per year, pilot projects are designed for Project Leaders (PLs) who do not currently have significant preliminary data or established community partnerships. However, having preliminary data and/or established community partnerships in place at the time of the application would be considered an advantage. These projects can be competitively renewed for a second year, pending the success of Montana INBRE's renewal application to NIH, and require that the PL submit a Major Research Project grant proposal by the end of the Pilot Project grant period. The Major Research Project could be an application for a Montana INBRE III Major Research Project or an application to another funding agency.

Major Research Project: Funded at \$50,000 - \$100,000 direct costs per year, major research projects are designed for PLs who currently have preliminary data (but insufficient to be competitive for

external grant application) and established relationships with communities if doing community engagement research. These projects can be competitively renewed annually, pending the success of Montana INBRE's renewal application to NIH, for up to 3 years and require that PLs submit a formal grant application to NIH or another funding agency by year 3 of funding. Interdisciplinary major research projects are strongly encouraged, such as those involving collaborations among social/behavioral/cultural and biomedical faculty. Interdisciplinary projects can have multiple PLs, and budgets of multiple PL projects can exceed the \$100,000 direct costs per year. Applicants of multiple PL projects are advised to confer with Dr. Brian Bothner, Montana INBRE PI, (bbothner@montana.edu) before submitting.

Continuation Project: Funded at a variable total for direct costs, dependent on the project. The Continuation Project targets those investigators who have been funded by Montana INBRE III over the past 2 or more years. Researchers who have accumulated substantial preliminary data sufficient for a grant proposal may apply for this mechanism, which is designed to facilitate research publications and extramural grant proposals but *not to accumulate more data*. The total direct costs generally will be lower than the total direct costs for the Pilot or Major Research Projects (\$20 - \$30K).

Resubmission Project: Funded at a variable total for direct costs, dependent on the project. This option is for INBRE investigators who have submitted a proposal for external funding but were not funded. These projects will fund the generation of new data required by the proposal review to make the proposal competitive for funding upon resubmission. These projects can be submitted at any time during the year and *require discussion with Dr. Ann Bertagnolli and Dr. Brian Bothner before applying*.

Proposal Requirements

Applications should include the following sections using [PHS 398 forms](#) in MS Word (not PDF) format. Please use 11-point font in Arial, Times New Roman, or Palatino Linotype in the preparation of your proposal. See [instructions](#) for filling out these forms (pp.24-39).

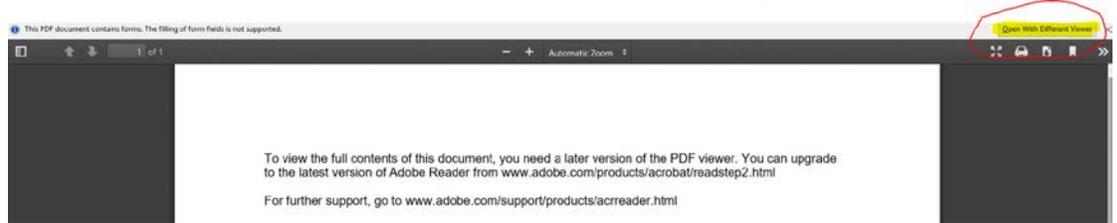
- [Face Page](#)
- [Form Page 2](#) (Project Summary, Relevance, Performance Site(s), Senior/Key Personnel, Other Significant Contributions, and Human Embryonic Stem Cells)

Use the [Continuation Form Page](#) for the following sections, which can be numbered consecutively.

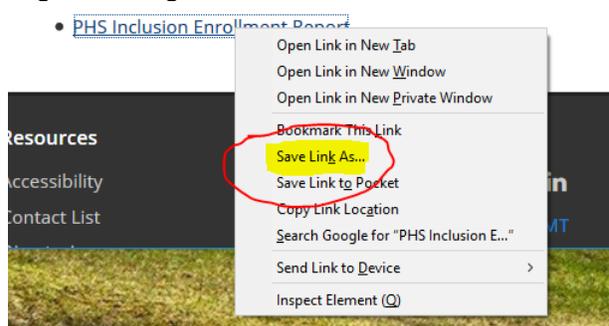
- **Specific Aims page** (1-page limit)
- **Research Strategy** (Significance, Innovation, Approach) (5-page maximum)
- **References** (if applicable) (no page limit)
- **Project Timeline** (clarifying the goals, objectives, and work to be accomplished by April 30, 2019) (1-page limit)
- **Potential Outcomes** (student/faculty involvement, curricular changes/additions, faculty research, etc.) (1-page limit)
- **Human Subject Documentation** (if conducting human subjects research). This section must provide the information listed below. See [Part II Supplemental Instructions](#) for Preparing the Protection of Human Subjects Section for additional explanation and instructions. (no page limit)
 - **Protection of Human Subjects**, [Sections 4.1 – 4.4](#)
 - **Inclusion of Women and Minorities**, [Section 4.2](#)
 - **Inclusion of Children**, [Section 4.4](#).
 - [CITI human subjects training certification](#) for Project Leader and other key personnel on the project (including students)

- **PHS Inclusion Enrollment Report** Use the PDF form “[PHS-Inclusion-Enrollment-Report](#).” Additional instructions for the form are online at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-d/general/g.500-phs-inclusion-enrollment-report.htm>. If your web browser won't open this form, try:

- Selecting “Open with Different Viewer” in browser upper right corner



- Right clicking the link and select “Save Link As...”



- Email [Bill Stadwiser](#) requesting an Email attachment

- IRB approval letter (or IRB exemption letter) *must be available for successful proposals* by **March 15, 2018**. Successful proposals will be announced in February 2018.
- **Vertebrate Animal Documentation** (if conducting animal model research). This section must provide the information requested in [Section 5.5.10](#) (no page limit). IACUC approval letter *must be available* for successful proposals by **March 15, 2018**. Successful proposals will be announced in February 2018.
- **One-year budget and justification** (use [Form Page 4](#) for budget and [Continuation Format Page](#) for justification)
- **Completed/updated biosketch** for Project Leader, Key Personnel, and Other Significant Contributors (does not include students). The PL **MUST have an eRA Commons User Name and completed account** (see [Section 4.6](#) for instructions on completing the biosketch and to download the non-fellowship [Biographical Sketch Format Page](#))

Deadline and Submission Requirements

Although a Letter of Intent is not required, is not binding, and does not enter into the review of a subsequent application, the information that it contains allows Montana INBRE staff to estimate the potential review workload and plan the review. The letter should include

- a descriptive title of the proposed research
- name, address and telephone number of the Project Leader
- name(s) of other key personnel
- participating institutions in the research.

The Letter of Intent should be emailed to Dr. Ann Bertagnolli (abertagnolli@montana.edu) by **December 1, 2017**.

An electronic version of the complete proposal *in word format (not pdf)* should be submitted **no later than 11:59 PM on January 7, 2018** to Dr. Ann Bertagnolli (abertagnolli@montana.edu). Please feel free to contact her (994-5214) or Dr. Brian Bothner, Montana INBRE PI, (994-5270, bbothner@montana.edu) at any time if you have questions about the proposal format and/or instructions or would like to discuss potential project ideas.

Proposal Review

Proposals will be reviewed by up to three experts in relevant disciplines from across and external to the Montana INBRE network soon after the submission deadline. Review criteria include significance, innovation, approach, and investigator. Additionally, reviewers will be asked to comment on “potential to lead to outside funding” and “involvement of undergraduate students in research.” The NIH 1-9 scale will be used. Reviewers’ scores and comments will be considered by the Montana INBRE Council (comprised of core directors, the PI and Program Coordinator), which will then prioritize successful applications and forward them to the Montana INBRE External Advisory Committee, who will make the final prioritization of proposals. The final list of successful applicants and the information required for each project (narrative, budget, human subjects and/or vertebrate animal approval) will be forwarded to the National Institutes of Health-National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIH-NIGMS) for final approval, after which applicants will be informed of the funding decision regarding their projects. Awards are contingent upon the availability of NIH funding and are expected to be announced by early spring 2018. Funding for successful Montana INBRE applications must be expended by April 30, 2019. **No carryover will be allowed.** New and renewal proposals will be solicited from investigators pending the success of Montana INBRE’s renewal application toward the end of the grant year and will be awarded through a competitive process.