

**BIOLOGICS PHARMA INNOVATION PROGRAMME SINGAPORE (BIOPIPS)
GRANT CALL
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Definitions

TTO: Technology Transfer Office

IEO: Innovation and Enterprise Office

Application

1. Can one LOI/proposal have 2 Co-Principal Investigators with complementary skillsets?

It is preferred that one Principal Investigator takes the lead.

2. Is endorsement by my institution necessary for proposal submission?

An email endorsement by the Director of Research (DOR) from the Principal Investigator's Host Institution is mandatory.

3. I am a postdoctoral fellow. Can I apply to be a Principal Investigator/Co-Investigator?

Please contact the BioPIPS Programme Office at biopips@bti.a-star.edu.sg at least 7 days before the closing date of the grant call. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Assessment

4. What are the criteria on which the LOIs/proposals will be evaluated?

Please refer to the Information Deck for the evaluation criteria.

5. Who are on the evaluation panel?

The identities of the reviewers are kept strictly confidential, however, the panel is made up of technical subject matter experts from the Core Members within BioPIPS, i.e. BioNTech, GSK and Sanofi.

6. Is industry collaboration required? What documentation should I submit to demonstrate industry support at the point of application?

Industry collaboration with technology solution providers is highly desirable. They will be brought on as Extended Team Members into BioPIPS with prevailing Terms and Conditions. Interest can be indicated with supporting documentation in the form of letter(s) of support from industry partner(s) ideally with clear desire for collaboration.

Collaborations

7. What level of business development support can I expect from the BioPIPS Programme Office?

The BioPIPS Programme Office works closely with the Economic Development Board, Enterprise Singapore and various IEOs and TTOs to engage potential industry partners and investors. If you have industry partner(s) ready for collaboration, please contact the BioPIPS Programme Office at biopips@bti.a-star.edu.sg for support. Symposia and other events for networking and community building opportunities will be organised as well.

8. Can funding be given to international collaborators? Are overseas universities eligible to receive funding?

BioPIPS can only fund public sector researchers in Singapore.

9. How will Intellectual Property (IP) be managed?

Please contact the BioPIPS Programme Office at biopips@bti.a-star.edu.sg for more information.

Project Management

10. How will the stage gates and go/no-go points affect my research?

Regular meetings will be organised to review progress. Projects which fall short of the stated deliverables and milestones may be subject to adjustment, revision or termination.

11. Do I need a project manager for my team?

It is highly encouraged to assign a project manager to monitor and manage the progress of the project. This project manager can be part time or full time depending on the specific needs of the project. He/she will work closely with the BioPIPS Programme Office.

Funding

12. What are indirect costs? Should this be included in the funding quantum?

Indirect costs are incurred for common or joint objectives and therefore cannot be identified readily and specifically with a particular sponsored research project. Indirect costs contribute to the ability of the institutions to support such research projects, e.g. providing research space, research administration and utilities and not through the actual performance of activities under the sponsored projects). Indirect costs will be 30% of direct costs awarded.

13. Is there a minimum funding amount?

The scope of the proposal to address the problem statement(s) should determine the minimum budget. Principal Investigators are encouraged to budget prudently according to the needs of the proposal/project.

14. Can proposals exceed the maximum funding duration?

Proposed projects should be completed within the maximum funding duration. Variations will be considered only if there are compelling reasons. Awarded projects and platforms will be considered for funding renewal if they have met or exceeded approved milestones and deliverables.

Others

15. Who can I reach out to for further clarification and enquiries?

Please direct enquiries to biopips@bti.a-star.edu.sg.