IMCI

Institute for Modeling Collaboration and Innovation

https://imci.uidaho.edu/

IMCI Pilot Grant Program

10/22/2020

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The Institute for Modeling Collaboration and Innovation

Our goal is to make modeling central to research at the University of Idaho by providing access to our modeling 'brain core,' developing initiatives in targeted areas of modeling, and establishing interdisciplinary teams to address real-world problems

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Components of IMCI

Modeling Core: a 'brain core' populated by talented and collaborative postdocs who provide modeling services to the community

Working Groups: ephemeral, goal-oriented teams of faculty, research staff, postdocs, graduate and undergraduate students who gather regularly to collaborate on interdisciplinary problems *DON'T CALL IT A MEETING!*

Core Initiatives: Working Groups organized around an area of modeling of broad interest to the community (currently Machine Learning and Geospatial Modeling

Admin Team / Staff / IAC / EAC

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Research Funding

Major funding sources:

COBRE grant from NIH (funded through 2025)
EPSCoR Track II grant from NSF (funded through 2021)
Investigator Initiated Grants (NIH, NSF, DARPA, DOE, Id DHW)
F&A return to the Institute

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Research Funding

Funding opportunities:

COBRE Research Projects (3, rotating)
IMCI Modeling Access Grants
IMCI Pilot Grants

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How else can you participate in IMCI?

- Get on our list-serv by sending a request to imci@uidaho.edu
- Attend seminar and Brown Bag Lunch: Thursdays, 12:30
- Apply for a Modeling Access Grant (more to come)
- Get help with a grant proposal
  - Email Holly to confirm fit with IMCI hwichman@uidaho.edu
  - Get it on Michele Mattoon's board ASAP mmattoon@uidaho.edu
- Set up a Working Group
  - https://imci.uidaho.edu/research/working-groups/
  - OR contact lstucki@uidaho.edu

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Goals of the IMCI Pilot Grant Program

Stimulate research related to the mission of IMCI

1) to incubate research from new investigators with the potential to be funded as a Research Project;
2) to help non-tenure track research / clinical faculty to establish an independent line of research;
3) to support interdisciplinary research teams seeking to develop large collaborative proposals; and
4) to generate preliminary data needed for a targeted proposal submission

All four of these are ultimately aimed at increasing the number of externally funded research grants at the University

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Range of support

These are expected to range from $15,000 to $80,000 and will be funded for 1 to 2 years, depending on the needs of the project.

$80,000: adequate to support a full-time technician or postdoc on a very strong project

$15,000: projects that do not need to support personnel
E.g., to acquire and analyze quantitative data to parameterize models; acquire preliminary data for an investigator-initiated proposal

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Tie to Biomedical Research

The bulk of the Pilot Grant funds come from our COBRE grant from NIH

These need to support projects that could potentially be funded by NIH
https://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm

Zebra muscles	–	0 hits
Photosynthesis	–	31 hits
Coevolution	–	35 hits
Wildlife	–	50 hits
Food insecurity	–	153 hits
Phylogenetic	–	526 hits
Machine Learning	–	2889 hits

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Non-Biomedical Research

Pilot grants that do not have ties to biomedical research must be funded from F&A return. These funds are limited in both amount and our access to them.

To fund a Pilot Grant that cannot make tie to NIH-fundable research, we would need authorization from ORED to use these funds. This means that we need to develop an especially compelling case that this funding would pay dividends in the long run.

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Eligibility

Pilot Grant must have a single Project Director but may have collaborators

Project Director must be a University of Idaho faculty member
Tenure track, tenured, non-tenure track
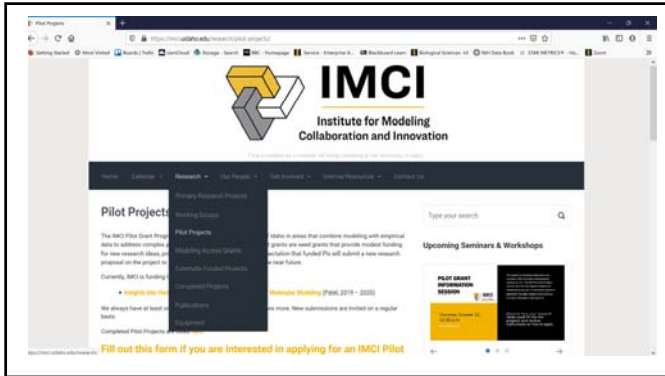*Except* IMCI Admin Team, IAC

This portal will also be used to identify faculty who will become PD on future Research Projects funded by the COBRE
Larger awards, up to 3-year, preference to early-career faculty

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https://imci.uidaho.edu/

https://imci.uidaho.edu/research/pilot-projects/

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Why are we using an inquiry form?

- Determine the fit of your proposal with our mission
- Avoid having you prepare a full proposal on NIH forms if there is a low likelihood of funding Provide feedback for a more successful proposal
- Identify other potential sources of funding / synergies
- Avoid hard deadlines
- Avoid burdening reviewers and EAC

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Your Inquiry Form

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Your Team

- Name
- Title
- Department
- Area of expertise
- Email address

- Does your research project include additional faculty participants?
  (If YES, you will enter the same information for each faculty member)

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Your Research

Your idea in less than 600 words:

1. Description
2. Goal
3. Approach

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Your Research: Description

200-word limit.

Write for a broad audience.
What is the problem you are addressing?
Why is it significant? What is the knowledge gap?

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Your Research: Goal

100-word limit.

Write for a broad audience.
What is your goal / hypothesis?

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Your Research: Approach

300-word limit.

Write for a broad audience.
What is your research approach?
This must include a strong modeling component.
If this includes an empirical component, how will you integrate the modeling and empirical work?

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Timeframe

Our goal is to give a response to inquires within 2 weeks

If you are selected to write a full Pilot Grant proposal:
o Proposal submission
o Review (1 month)
o EAC review (1 month)
o Revision / NIH forms and compliance
o NIH review (30 days)

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FAQs

What makes a proposal exceptionally strong?
In creates enthusiasm among the reviewers – both from within the same research area and from outside it.
Based on the proposal and the research team, reviews judge that there is a high likelihood of successfully carrying out the project.
If successful, the Pilot Grant will generate preliminary data for a larger external proposal.

Can non-tenure track faculty include their part of their salary in the budget?
Yes.

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FAQs

You mentioned that funds can be used to hire a postdoc or full-time technician. What about graduate students?
Yes, funds can be used to pay graduate students and undergraduates.

Can non-tenure track faculty include their part of their salary in the budget?
Yes.

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