Limited Submission Funding Opportunity

The Hartwell Foundation Individual Biomedical Research Award

http://thehartwellfoundation.com/Individual_Biomedical_Research_Awards.shtml

The Hartwell Foundation seeks to inspire innovation and achievement by offering individual researchers an opportunity to realize their professional goals. Through a unique and selective funding process, The Hartwell Foundation provides financial support to stimulate discovery in early-stage, transformative biomedical research with the potential to benefit children of the United States. It seeks to fund innovative and cutting-edge applied research that has not yet qualified for funding from traditional outside sources. Proposals must not be an incremental extension of existing research being conducted by either the applicant or others.

The Foundation will select ten of the most outstanding candidates to receive a Hartwell Individual Biomedical Research Award, which will be funded in April of 2016. In selecting awardees, The Hartwell Foundation takes into account the transformative nature of the innovation, the extent to which a strategic or translational approach might accelerate the clinical application of research results to benefit children, the extent of collaboration in the proposed research, the institutional commitment to provide encouragement and technical support to the investigator, and the extent to which funding the Nominee will make a difference.

Funding is provided to individual researchers for three years at $100,000 direct cost per year. In addition, for each funded Nominee, the participating institution will receive a Hartwell Fellowship to fund one postdoctoral candidate who exemplifies the values of the Foundation. The postdoctoral candidate should not be from the awardee’s lab.

Northwestern University has been invited to nominate a candidate from faculty and research staff from appropriate areas of basic and applied life sciences, including engineering focused on biomedical applications.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- Candidates must be U.S. citizens or hold permanent residence
- Candidates must maintain a full-time appointment
- Candidates must have institutionally committed office and laboratory space adequate to perform the proposed research
- Eligible institutions may not nominate the same individual in two consecutive annual competitions

**LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION**
The Hartwell Foundation has invited Northwestern University to nominate two candidates.

**KEY DATES**
- Internal Letter of Intent Due: May 12, 2015 (by midnight)
- Internal Proposal Due (by invitation): May 27, 2015 (by midnight)
- Notification: June 22, 2015
- Sponsor Proposal Due: September 15, 2015
- Sponsor will notify Nominees selected for interview: October 4, 2015

**SUBMITTING A MANDATORY LETTER OF INTENT**

Faculty members interested in this funding opportunity are required to submit a letter of intent (LOI). An LOI is required but not binding.

1. Click **here** to access the LOI form.
2. Name the LOI as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-Hartwell-2015”, replacing “LastName” with your last name and “First Initial” with your first initial.
3. Click on the Vault ticket: [https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6498435_1-t_7sUjhzm](https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6498435_1-t_7sUjhzm)
4. Click the Upload button.
5. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
6. Click the OK button.

Note: You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.

**SUBMITTING AN INTERNAL PROPOSAL**

If interest exceeds the number of submissions the university is allowed, invitations to submit internal proposals will be sent to all faculty who submitted an LOI. Proposals should be prepared with 0.5-inch margins, 11-point font size and are required to contain the following components:

1. **Cover Page** (1 page, max) with descriptive title and names of PI and key collaborators, including their roles.
2. **Non-technical Description of Research** (1 page, max) that must be suitable for a lay audience. It should state the magnitude of the problem, the unmet need that would be compelling to the foundation, and the proposed innovation. It should also address why the research is early-stage, innovative, and cutting-edge; and how the research will potentially benefit children of the United States. In addition, explain how funding from The Hartwell Foundation will advance the professional goals of the Nominee.
3. **Technical Description** (three pages, max):
   a. Introduction – concise, technical overview of the proposed research; identify the unmet need that is addressed by the proposed innovation; indicate in the text one or more reference citations that provide a current general review of the state-of-the-art.
   b. Context – competitive analysis of the proposed innovation with appropriate literature references
      i. Contrast the proposed research with current academic and industry efforts in the same or similar areas.
ii. Describe presumed advantages of the proposed approach compared to limitations of approaches being pursued by others

c. Aims – provide adequate technical detail for the following:

   i. Rationale – be explicit about the hypotheses and assumptions; explain why the approach chosen is compelling and likely to succeed

   ii. Approach – identify the priorities, objectives and outputs; acknowledge impending technical issues; offer an appreciation of risk vs. gain

d. Research Strategy – connection between the Aims and methodology should be evident; the research design should be scaled to integrate personnel and technology and sufficient to produce success within the available budget and funding period

e. Backup Strategy – offer a strategy for any technical or feasibility limitation that might be potentially encountered in the research, including possible contingencies related to collaborations.

f. Research Outcomes - define succinctly what will constitute project success and explain how clinical translation of research results will benefit children in the U.S.

4. NIH biosketch (5 pages, max): including all the NIH required components AND all funding sources including start-up funds and current and pending support.

   a. If there is no research support for a particular category (i.e., past, current, or pending), indicate, “None”.

   b. For each past, current, and pending research support, include the following components:

      i. Award number, dates, and amount

      ii. Role, sponsor, title, and goals

      iii. Description of any potential scientific overlap with the current proposal or indicate “no overlap”.

5. Recommendation letter from your Department Chair/Division Chief. If your Department Chair /Chief is a key personnel on a proposal for this competition, please provide a letter from your Research Dean.

Prepare your proposal as a SINGLE PDF FILE. It should be named "LastName-FirstInitial-Hartwell-2015," replacing "LastName" with your last name and "FirstInitial" with your first initial.

**UPLOADING THE INTERNAL PROPOSAL**

1. Click on the Vault ticket provided in the email inviting you to submit the internal proposal.

2. Click the Upload button.

3. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.

4. Click the OK button. You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo k cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.
Note: Vault access will expire after the deadline, as such late submission is not possible. Also, the Vault system does not allow you to overwrite an upload. If you need to upload a revised proposal BEFORE the deadline, contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu.

**COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES**
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely (yehiely@northwestern.edu), Director of ORD, for more information.

**CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Fruma Yehiely, Associate Vice President for Research, Director of ORD, 847-491-1074, yehiely@northwestern.edu
Limited Submissions web site: [http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/](http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/)