UNLV Sports Innovation Initiative
Product & Services Development Grant Program
Spring 2024

Product & Service Development (“PSD”) Grants provide funding intended to support new collaborations between UNLV faculty and an industry collaborator (an “Industry Sponsor”). PSD Grants support and foster research and development of products and services further along the continuum toward commercialization and requires an industry collaborator. UNLV researchers will apply to receive matching funds, up to $50,000, dollar-for-dollar to those cash funds supplied by an Industry Collaborator. PSD Grant proposals may focus on products and services already under development by the Industry Collaborator.

Project Duration: Up to one (1) year.

Funding Level and Allowable Expenses: Direct costs up to $50,000 may be requested to match, dollar-for-dollar, cash funds supplied by an Industry Collaborator. Permitted expenses include salaries for the PI and research personnel, as well as research supplies that are allowable NIH expenses. Travel expenses are allowed for conducting fieldwork as part of the project, or to facilitate accessing experts or other resources. Capital equipment is generally not allowable.

Focus Areas & Funding Priorities Include, but are not limited to:
- Biomedical Engineering – including biomedical imaging
- Military Health & Performance
- Sports Betting
- Sports Performance & Recovery
- Sports Psychology
- Gender-Based Performance & Training
- Sports Safety – including software, devices, and sensors
- Materials – including advanced nano-materials
- Nutrition & Supplements
- Physical therapy and rehabilitation
- Healthcare – including software applications
- Esports
- Innovation Accelerator Partnerships – projects that leverage the resources of the newly opened Black Fire Innovation
- Other – other program areas may be considered based on well demonstrated commercial partnerships and ability to advance sports innovation and economic development regionally.

Eligibility: Any full-time faculty, researcher or staff member at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas is eligible to apply. PSD Grants are open to all fields of research in which the proposed project fulfills the goals and funding priorities of the program outlined herein, and which are identifiable to the Office of Economic Development (“OED”) as commercially relevant to sports innovation. Applicants are encouraged to consult with the UNLV OED about the project’s appropriateness and eligibility for this opportunity.
It is a requirement of the program that the proposed work be completed with an Industry Collaborator that provides a dollar-for-dollar “cash match” to those funds supplied under the PSD grant. Priority is given (a) to proposals focused on a product or service that can deploy within one year of the completion of the project, and (b) include Industry Collaborators that have a business presence in Nevada.

Timeline & Deadlines:

**Spring 2024 – Timeline & Deadlines**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PI Letter of Intent (&quot;LOI&quot;) Submission Deadline</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 30, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT)</td>
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<td>Extended to Tuesday, February 22, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Proposal Submission Deadline</td>
<td>Friday, March 1, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT)</td>
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<td>Extended to Friday, March 22, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT)</td>
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<td>Expected Notification of Awards</td>
<td>Friday, March 29, 2024</td>
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<td>Extended to April 19, 2024</td>
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<td>Award Period</td>
<td>Target Beginning July 1, 2024</td>
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**Milestones & Progress:** Funded projects will be required to report milestone achievement and progress quarterly, using templates provided by OED and the Governor’s Office of Economic Development.

**How to Apply:**

Submit all documentation, applications, letters, and materials related to PSD Grants via email to innovation@unlv.edu. The subject line of the email must contain the PI Name and type of grant sought. Mailed, faxed or delivered paper copies will not be accepted. The PSD Grant application process consists of three steps:

1. **Submission of a Letter of Intent ("LOI"):** Submission and approval of an LOI is required in order to submit a full proposal. LOI’s are non-binding and used for administrative and review planning purposes. For this grant cycle, LOIs may be submitted through Friday, Tuesday, January 30, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT) extended to Tuesday, February 22, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT). As part of the LOI, please address your interest in becoming an UNLV NSF I-Corp Team (https://www.greencarcongress.com/2023/11/20231120-doe.html), preference will be given to those submissions who are willing to become a team under the program.

2. **Proposal Submission:** Upon approval of the LOI, applicants need to submit the full application. Complete applications must be submitted by the deadline deadline Friday, March 1, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT) extended to Friday, March 22, 2024 (12:00 Noon PT). Applicants must adhere to the Application Instructions and guidelines. By submitting a proposal, the PI is attesting that the technology is unencumbered by prior obligations (e.g., obligations assumed under a consulting agreement).

3. **Industry Collaborator Letter of Intent to Fund:** An Industry Collaborator letter of intent must be submitted with the proposal. The amount of the company's cash contribution and a commitment to execute UNLV’s standard commercial sponsored research agreement must be included. In cases of more than one industry sponsor, each sponsor must submit a letter.
Questions about the PSD Grant Program should be directed to the UNLV Sports Innovation Initiative:

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