



BWH McGraw Family Opioid Innovator Awards Fall 2020 Request for Applications

Brigham & Women’s Hospital will host a Shark Tank event in Oct 2020 to fund two innovative and high-risk/high- impact projects in the basic, clinical, digital and translational realms through the McGraw Family Innovator Awards (open to opioid-related research).

These awards aim to advance projects that have the potential to make an impact in one or more of the following domains – biomedical research, healthcare delivery, the generation of new companies/products/services, cost savings, care quality and provider burnout.

All applications will be evaluated and ranked for funding priority based on a strategic and scientific/innovation review. Ultimate selection will depend on input from the review committee and recommendations from the Brigham Research Institute (BRI) Executive Committee (EC). Please note that the selection process will involve review by both BWH faculty (clinicians/researchers) as well as non-BWH reviewers including donors, venture capitalists, representatives of the biopharma/device industry and other friends of the Brigham. The final selection round will be a ‘shark tank’ (live pitch session) featuring the finalists and conducted as a closed-door meeting with the review committee in attendance.

McGraw Family Innovator Awards for Opioid Research:

- **Scope:** With the generous support of the McGraw Family, the Request for will focus on **advancing innovations related to solving the opioid crisis** which has resulted in the loss of over 2000 lives a year for the past 3 years in Massachusetts alone. Novel ideas that seek to address questions and challenges related to the opioid epidemic including but not limited to research on addiction, adverse effects, alternate pain management strategies, genetic susceptibility to opioid abuse, new tools for opioid research, diagnosis/treatment, management of infectious diseases related to opioid abuse, withdrawal, personalized medicine etc. are welcome. **Special focus on COVID-19 related research and racial and ethnic disparities research is also welcome.**
- **Awards:** **Up to two non-renewable grants** will be awarded on a competitive basis with **award denominations of up to \$50,000 and \$25,000 respectively**

Timeline:

RFA Stages	Timeline
RFA announcement	Monday June, 29 th 2020
Letter of intent due	Wednesday, July 22 nd 2020
Full applications invited	Wednesday, August 12, 2020
Full applications due/Notify Partners Innovation	Friday, September 11, 2020
Finalists selected and notified/Send materials to reviewers at live pitch session and assign ‘champions’	Friday, October 9 th , 2020
Finalists prep session	Wednesday, October 14, 2020

By applying for the McGraw Family Innovator Awards, you agree to release and hold harmless BWH, the McGraw Family Foundation and its subsidiaries, affiliates, societies, advertising and promotion agencies, partners, representatives, agents, successors, assigns, employees, officers and directors from any liability, illness, injury, death, loss, litigation, claim or damage that may occur, directly or indirectly, whether caused by negligence or not, from such Applicant’s participation in the Shark Tank competition and/or his/her acceptance, possession, use, or misuse of any award or any portion thereof.

Shark Tank (Virtual Live Pitch Session)	Tuesday, October 20, 2020
Funding Start Date	Tuesday December 1, 2020

Eligibility

- Faculty members at the rank of Instructor and above are eligible, as are professional staff (clinicians, nurses etc.) Administrative staff are invited to apply with a letter of approval/support from a direct or indirect supervisor.
- Individuals may serve as the Principal Investigator (PI) of only one proposal but may be co-PIs on multiple proposals.
- Winners from the previous year are not eligible to apply as PI.
- Principal Investigator MUST be from BWH.
- Collaborations with other departments at BWH as well as other institutions are encouraged especially those that bring together new multi-disciplinary teams encompassing researchers, clinicians, engineers, entrepreneurs etc.
- Applications seeking seed funding for planned R01s, P01s or similar will be eligible as would those seeking funding to establish a core resource for which there is a demonstrated need at BWH.
- Applications for equipment will not be considered.
- Finalists MUST be available to participate in both the prep session on **October 14th** as well in the shark tank/live pitch session on **October 20th**.
- Recipient (PI of the proposal submitted) must remain with a primary appointment or a full-time employee at BWH for the duration of the award. Award will otherwise be forfeited in a pro-rated fashion.

Review criteria

- Projects must address a well-defined scientific/clinical problem or a well-defined diagnostic, therapeutic, device or digital health application. Projects must be opioid- or pain-related.
- Projects must be scientifically meritorious and/or have an innovative approach.
- Novel and/or early-stage ideas that can significantly accelerate research progress or those with high potential for intellectual property/commercialization potential, cost savings, improved patient care, reduced provider burnout etc. in the stated field will be given high funding priority.
- Projects should be focused and achievable, with a clear strategy and high potential to secure future external funding.
- The short-term and/or long-term impact (scientific, commercial, patient care, cost savings or other benefits) of the project should be clearly articulated
- Strength of team – The investigators must have the requisite skills and experience to carry out the project successfully.

Review Process

- Applications will be solicited per the timeline above. The review committee composed of BWH clinicians and researchers, Partners Innovation staff and non-BWH reviewers including donors, venture capitalists, representatives of the biopharma/device industry and other friends of the Brigham will review the letters of intent (LOI) and invite a subset of applicants to submit full applications.
- Following the review of the full applications by the review committee, finalists will be invited to the virtual (online) shark tank/live pitch session which will be the final round of the RFA.
- Following the final round, the review committee will submit their funding recommendations to the BRI Executive Committee for approval.

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Reciprocity Requirements

- All recipients will be obligated to provide a written report of activity (1 page limit) three, six and twelve months from the date on which funds are received and also meet with program Director for the BWH Program in Pain and Opioid Innovation (POPI) or members of the McGraw Family Foundation as applicable to discuss the progress of their project.
- All recipients will be required to provide an oral status update to the BRI Research Oversight Committee and the McGraw Family Foundation at the end of one year of funding.
- Grantees will notify the POPI program Director when other grants are received as a result of this funding or if papers are published, patents are filed etc. as a result of this funding.
- Grantees will acknowledge the BRI, POPI and the McGraw Family Foundation in publications, posters, grants, press releases and other professional recognition resulting from this funding support and will notify the BRI when such events are due to occur. Grantees will also acknowledge funding support from the BRI, POPI and the McGraw Family Foundation in all forums if new companies, products or services are established as a result of this funding.

Application Format

Letters of intent (**due July 22nd, 2020, 10:59 pm**) should be submitted

online <http://bwhcfd.org/Listing.aspx?courseId=512> and will include the following:

1. Applicant's Name, Department and Division, BWH and HMS professional appointments, office or laboratory address, telephone number and e-mail address.
2. Title of research project to be supported.
3. Applicants must indicate names of collaborators and the institutions they are affiliated to
4. PDF of letter of intent with a maximum of 300 words describing the project and clearly specifying the short-term and/or long-term impact (scientific, commercial, patient-care or cost savings) of the project.
5. Applicants must indicate whether any invention disclosures or patents have been filed in connection with the project submitted.

Invited full applications (**due Sept 11, 2020, 10:59pm**) should be submitted online (submission link will be provided to invited applicants) and must include the following:

1. Applicant's Name, Department and Division (if applicable), BWH and HMS professional appointments, telephone number and e-mail address.
2. Title of research project to be supported.
3. Project Proposal (5-page limit, excluding references):
 - Introduction/Background
 - Specific Aims
 - Significance
 - Project details including milestones, preliminary data (if any) and contributions of each team member. If it's a project with commercial potential, please also include a brief, well-researched competitive overview of the marketplace.
4. Future plans i.e. how will this project be funded after this award and how collaborators or IP will be secured or how piloting will be executed.
5. PDF bio-sketches of Principal Investigator, co-investigators, collaborators and other significant key personnel in NIH format.
6. Detailed budget for one year for a maximum of \$50,000 direct costs. Indirect costs (an additional 15%) will be covered by the award.
7. Copy of human or animal use protocol approval letter (if applicable), indicating that it is current.

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