

# Request for Applications: Microbiome Innovation and Pilot Grants

Letter of Intent Due Date: September 30, 2015

Full Applications will be considered only after Invitation

**The Center for Microbiome Informatics and Therapeutics** was established to spur development of novel therapeutics for diseases associated with an altered microbiome. The Center encourages **interdisciplinary translational research, especially collaborative projects that bridge the gap from the bench to the bedside**. Project areas of interest include but are not limited to:

- Toolkits for engineering the human microbiome
- Understanding rules for assembly and/or maintenance of microbial communities
- Host-microbe interactions
- Screening for candidate therapeutic microbes, and/or small molecules
- Systems biology models to interpret results of in situ tissue analysis
- Toolkits for non-invasive, systems level measurements
- Human intervention studies

## Funding Goals

Funds have been made available to support **3 Pilot** and **3 Innovation Studies** that advance the current mission of the Center. Special consideration will be given to translational projects requiring collaboration between scientific and clinical Principal Investigators

- **3 Innovation Grants of up to \$125,000 each** for 1 year in direct costs (plus overhead at 25% TDC) to support collaborative projects that accelerate translation of basic research to clinical applications

- **3 Pilot Grants of up to \$50,000 each** for 1 year in direct costs (plus overhead at 25% TDC) to support feasibility studies

**The Center is committed to building an interactive research community**, and encouraging communication between research groups. Awardees are expected to engage with this community by actively participating in events including:

- Work-in-Progress Meetings monthly, presenting your research on a rotating schedule
- Center-sponsored Seminar Series and Symposia

## Eligibility

Applications will be considered from **Principal Investigators from Research Institutes in MA, CT, VT, NH, or RI**

**Instructors** from an eligible Institute may apply, by including a letter of support from their respective Department Chair. Please note that such awards will be issued to the Department and not the individual

## Application process

1. Letter of Intent due by **September 30, 2015**

To be considered, the following requirements must be met:

- Describe proposed research project in less than 1,000 words including a concise (maximum length 150 words) statement outlining project objectives and deliverables
  - Total word count does not include references
  - List the contact details of the Principal Investigator(s)
  - List all participating institutions
  - Letter should be accompanied by an NIH-format biosketch for the Principal Investigator(s)
  - Submit electronically to [vjm@mit.edu](mailto:vjm@mit.edu)
2. After review, if selected, **an invitation to submit a full proposal, will be sent to the Principal Investigator by email October 30, 2015**. This invitation will include detailed submission requirements for the full application.
  3. Full Applications will be due by **November 15, 2015**

## Key Dates

Letter of Intent Submission Deadline: **September 30, 2015**

Invitations for Full Application will be sent: October 30, 2015

Earliest Anticipated Funding Start Date: **January 1, 2016**

## Submission Information

Letter of Intent, and, upon invitation, Full Applications, should be submitted electronically to Vicki Mountain at [vjm@mit.edu](mailto:vjm@mit.edu)