

BIONEXUS KC
PATTON TRUST RESEARCH GRANTS
(Issue Date April 24th, 2023)
Request for Proposals - Letter of Intent

APPLICATION DEADLINES

1. The Letter of Intent is due by 5:00 pm on May 25th, 2023. *Please use the following link (<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=bionexus>) to (1) register and (2) submit a Letter of Intent.*
 2. The Full Application must be received by 5:00 pm on June 28th, 2023.
 3. Funding date for successful proposals – By or before September 12th, 2023.
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BIONEXUS KC ONLINE GRANTS PLATFORM

BioNexus KC is pleased to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Patton Trust Research Grants. New this year, all applicants will need to **register with BioNexus KC's online grant portal**. Please use the following link to (1) register and (2) submit a Letter of Intent for funding consideration. After registering, there are more instructions about the online Letter of Intent Submission.

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=bionexus>

ONLINE SIGN-UP

NEW USERS: Please click on "Create New Account" to complete the registration process and create your logon credentials. When setting up your account you will also be asked to fill in information about your organization, separate from your User Account. There may be some redundant information to be filled out on the User and Organization Pages. Include your personal information on the User Page and your department or institution's Grant Officer/Administrator information on the Organization Page. We understand that in some cases these may not be two different people.

Account creation/application video (4 min.) and written tutorials:

<https://support.foundant.com/hc/en-us/articles/4479853059991>

EXISTING USERS: Please enter your credentials and log in. If you forgot your password, please use the "Forgot your Password?" link to the left to reset your password.

NOT SURE? If you think that you or someone at your organization has already registered you in the system, do not create a new account. Please contact our Grant Administrator to receive your username.

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The Grant Administrator for BioNexus KC Grants is Daniel Kennedy [dkennedy@bionexuskc.org]. Please CC Sharon Newman [snewman@bionexuskc.org] on any emails to the Grant Administrator.

LETTER OF INTENT APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Once signed in, using the above Account Creation instructions, an **Apply** button will appear on the subsequent screen. Please follow the instructions on the application screen and submit by the assigned deadline. The online Letter of Intent application has the following requirements:

- A.** Letters of intent must provide the project title, PI's information, Co-PI's information, original signatures from collaborators/Co-PI's, a Project Summary (outline of project features and nature of the project), Specific Project Aims/Goals, and a scanned or digital **original signature** from the PI.
- B.** Submission must include the **original signatures** of all collaborating investigators, digital or scanned, or be accompanied by appropriate commitment letters bearing **original signatures (digital or scanned)**. These letters will be provided as a **single file** uploaded as an attachment/other file submission (PDF files containing documents bearing original signatures must be combined into a single file).
- C.** The submission of the Letter of Intent can optionally include a budget estimate and a supplemental document submission.
- D.** Letters of Intent will be evaluated over the three business days after the LOI submission deadline. PI's selected to submit proposals will be notified via e-mail with clear full-proposal instructions. This will involve specific proposal requirements.

The Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline is May 25th, 2023 before 5:00 p.m. Please use the following link (<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=bionexus>) to (1) register and (2) submit a Letter of Intent.

SCOPE

Patton Trust Research grant proposals must be specifically focused on the genetic basis of diseases that predominately affect children and clearly identify how the research team intends to generate critical preliminary data needed for future proposal submissions to external agencies. Proposals consistent with this theme are encouraged.

ELIGIBILITY

All full-time researchers at BioNexus KC key stakeholder institutions are eligible to submit proposals in response to this RFP. Proposals including evidence of inter-institutional collaborative research are preferred for this funding program, but not an absolute requirement. A lead stakeholder institution must be identified and the Principal Investigator must be from that institution. Additional investigators should be listed as co-principal or collaborating investigators.

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PURPOSE

This RFP serves to stimulate the development and submission of major multidisciplinary research proposals from investigators in the life sciences to government or private agencies. BioNexus KC's approach for achieving this goal is to support research development grants capable of generating critical preliminary data needed to develop competitive proposals for submission to external agencies. Proposals are invited for multidisciplinary collaborative research development grants consistent with the scope of this specific RFP. Awards are limited to \$50,000 for one year and are intended to exploit investigator and facility strengths leading to highly competitive proposals directed toward future external funding. The number of awards will be subject to available funds.

REVIEW CRITERIA

1. Proposals must document specific evidence of inter-institutional collaborative research (when present) to be considered for review.
2. Proposals must address an important and relevant question(s) related to the **SCOPE** of this RFP listed herein.
3. Proposals should describe how the proposed grant support will facilitate the development and submission of a proposal(s) seeking external funding from government and/or private agencies. The long-term expectations regarding the institutions extended research programs and potential for expanded research in related areas of research should also be articulated.
4. Merit review criteria are essentially the same as those used by Federal granting agencies such as NIH and NSF. Criteria include scientific and technical significance, innovation, approach, and likelihood of success of achieving external funding.
5. Qualifications and research experience of the Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigators and collaborating investigators are important considerations.
6. Proposals must present a realistic assessment of the scope of work proposed for the one-year period of funding.
7. Appropriateness of the proposed budget.

Upon receipt, proposals will undergo an administrative review to assure compliance with submission requirements and that appropriate institutional signatures and assurances were obtained. Proposals will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit and assigned NIH-type priority scores. Upon receipt of peer review scores, the proposals will be ranked and submitted to BioNexus KC's President who subsequently will present recommendations for funding to the Board of Directors. Final award decisions will be made based on priority scores, recommendations, and available funds.

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REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals will undergo an initial administrative review by BioNexus KC staff to assure compliance with submission requirements detailed in the RFP. Proposals will then be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by peer review and assigned NIH-type priority scores (see <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/peer.htm>).

Applicants may submit up to three names of peers whom they wish not to review their application. This is to avoid selection of someone with whom the applicant(s) does not wish to share the proposal or whom they feel will not provide an objective review. BioNexus KC will not select these persons when contacting potential reviewers to develop an appropriate peer review group.

Upon receipt of peer review scores, the proposals will be ranked and submitted to BioNexus KC's Vice President for final funding decisions. Individuals will be excluded from review and discussion of proposals in which they have a real or apparent conflict of interest. Final award decisions will be made based on priority scores, recommendations, and available funds.

BACKGROUND

BioNexus KC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity organization which serves as the coordinating body for the Kansas City region's life science research initiatives by functioning as a facilitator, matchmaker, and potential funder of collaborative research initiatives and assisting in the commercialization of resulting intellectual property. BioNexus KC supports the ten key stakeholder institutions listed below and other life sciences stakeholders in the region:

- Children's Mercy
- MRIGlobal
- Saint Luke's Hospital
- Kansas City University
- Kansas State University
- University Health
- University of Kansas
- University of Kansas Medical Center
- University of Missouri – Columbia
- University of Missouri - Kansas City

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