University *of* Maryland Baltimore
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL &
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

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UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
ACCELERATED TRANSLATIONAL INCUBATOR PILOT (ATIP) GRANT PROGRAM

Deadline:	**ATIP Grant Application – Friday, November 8, 2024, 5 pm (Eastern Time)**
Eligibility:	Faculty at the level of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor from the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), or University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). UMBC and UMCP applications must include a UMB Co-PI. Research Associates, Instructors, Adjunct or visiting faculty are not eligible to apply.
	For UMCP applications or applications with UMCP partnerships, see ATIP Grant Program Guidelines, A. Eligibility (pg. 3) for additional eligibility criteria.
Budget:	Up to $50,000 in direct costs (indirect costs not allowed)
Grant period:	May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026; Awardees Announced End of January 2025
Application:	Form templates and electronic submission instructions are available at https://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/funding/atip-grant-program-foa/

ATIP GRANT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) is pleased to announce the UMB ICTR **Accelerated Translational Incubator Pilot (ATIP) Grant** competition to provide funds for projects focused on innovative, **translational research** that involve faculty from the UMB Schools of Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work, or the School of Graduate Studies; and UMBC or UMCP. Funding is provided through the UMB ICTR internal funding mechanism.

Applications and supporting documents will be accepted via the ICTR Pilot Grants application system in the UMB REDCap.

This Request for Proposals provides funding for one of two types of ATIP opportunities:

- ***ICTR Innovative Collaboration Pilot Grant***
  Aims to stimulate innovative collaborations among faculty of the UMB Schools, UMBC and/or UMCP that will involve research along the translational continuum.

- ***ICTR Artificial Intelligence/Cybersecurity/Machine Learning Pilot Grant***
  Aims to support new or existing clinical and translational research collaborations between UMB schools, UMBC, and/or UMCP faculty that will test transformative projects that improve healthcare.

The award aims to accomplish the following objectives:

- To promote innovative translational research by providing pilot grants to support projects specifically focused on the translation of laboratory and/or clinical research into new interventions that improve clinical outcomes (e.g., new diagnostics or approaches to prevention/

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treatment, or implementation of new advances within communities to improve health and reduce disparities in Baltimore and throughout the state of Maryland).

- To utilize a milestone-driven approach for proposed projects that will ensure timely generation of tangible products and outcomes within the strict funding period and the approved budget.

- To promote cross-disciplinary collaborative research (specifically across or within UMB Schools, UMBC, and UMCP).

- To support investigators in the effective attainment of translational milestones by providing guidance and access to UMB ICTR resources.

- To generate pilot data for innovative research projects that will foster or support subsequent major external funding applications.

To be considered for one of the UMB ICTR ATIP Grant Program opportunities, proposals must be received by the application deadline. Incomplete applications or applications not responsive to the proposal types and award aims noted above will not be reviewed.

For questions regarding application guidelines or eligibility, please email the ICTR Navigator at ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu. Further details are on the following pages.

ATIP GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

A. Eligibility

Any faculty member with >50% appointment at the level of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor from the UMB Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing, Law, Social Work, or the School of Graduate Studies, or UMBC, or UMCP is eligible to apply as a Lead Principal Investigator (PI) for an ICTR ATIP Pilot Grant. Research Associates, Instructors, Adjunct or visiting faculty are not eligible to apply. **UMBC or UMCP Lead Principal Investigators (PIs) must name a UMB Co-PI.**

Applications that include direct costs at UMCP: 50% of the requested UMCP budgeted expenses must be borne by the college/unit of the applying UMCP investigator. The remaining 50% will be covered by the UMCP Office of the Vice President for Research. Please provide the applicable UMCP college/unit and UMCP for Research a copy of this ATIP RFA/FOA, the full grant application to include the detailed budget, and a completed Universal Funding form (UFF). When all signatures are secured, attach to the Cover Letter and upload into the ICTR electronic REDCap application system. Please contact Eric Chapman, Associate Vice President for Research, via (echapman@umd.edu), with questions about this requirement. **Applications with UMCP costs that are missing the signed UFF will not be reviewed.**

- Multi-PI applications are allowed – limit to 1 Lead PI (the applicant) and 1 Co-PI. A Multiple PI leadership Plan describing the respective roles must be included with the application. The Lead PI will serve as the point of contact for communications.

- A Lead PI or Co-PI (if applicable) responding to 2025-2026 ATIP grant opportunity cannot serve as a Lead or Co-PI on another application in this round. In addition, the Lead PI or Co-PI (if applicable) is not eligible to respond to the 2025-2026 CEnR pilot grant opportunity.

However, the Lead PI and Co-PI (if applicable) may serve as a non-PI collaborator on other proposals if there is no scientific overlap. Research Associates/Instructors, undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows cannot be listed as Co-PIs or Co-Investigators. However, they may be listed in other roles in the proposal.

- Eligible submissions are encouraged to include collaborations among faculty from at least 2 of the UMB Schools or between faculty from a UMB School and UMBC or UMCP.

- Eligible submissions must include a timeline of one or more milestones for each Specific Aim with clear outcome endpoints. **The timeline must be realistic for completion within the funding period and with the approved budget. Regulatory submissions/approvals and preparation of manuscript/grant application should not be included in the timeline since they cannot be considered a milestone. Regulatory approval must be obtained before the project is allowed to start and funds transferred.**

- ATIP awards cannot be supplements to existing grants. However, the ICTR will consider an application that is ancillary to an existing grant if it adds new specific aims that could successfully leverage a new award or renewal. The ATIP project must have an IRB or IACUC submission independent of the parent protocol. Though the ancillary project may reference the parent protocol, it will need to have an **independent IRB or IACUC submission with a title that matches this ATIP submission**.

- Lead PIs and Co-PIs with a previously funded ICTR pilot grant award (ATIP or CEnR) may apply as a Lead PI or Co-PI if the previous project has been completed and there is no scientific overlap with this application.

- Applications resubmitting a **previous proposal that was not selected for an award must submit an accompanying cover letter** describing how the current proposal differs from the original and how the reviewers' comments are addressed.

B. *Institutional Regulatory Requirements/Approvals and Training*

- *Human Subjects Research (HSR)*

  IRB Letter of Determination/Approval or other supporting documents that may be needed for a project are not required at the time of the pilot grant application submission; however, the IRB submission time-burden may be significant, so **applicants are strongly encouraged to begin this process early.** Projects receiving a notice of award should plan to have ALL required regulatory approvals and other supporting documents prior to **May 1, 2025**.

  - **The IRB designation/approval letter must match the ATIP proposal, and the PI must match the Lead PI's name.**

  - The application team list and IRB team list **must match.**

  - Review the UMB IRB website for required training of UMB and non-UMB team members engaged in research.

  - UMBC and UMCP applicants should contact their respective IRBs for information on

other training requirements for research conducted at UMBC, UMCP, and/or UMB. If research activities are split across sites, consider the need for an IRB reliance letter.

- If the HSR project is a clinical trial, the protocol will also need to be registered in ClinicalTrials.gov. Learn more about clinical trials and registering here.

- Additionally, if your proposal requires other supporting documents, such as FDA approval, Data Use Agreements, Biosafety registrations, Clinical Engineering clearance of devices, Radiation Safety registration, etc., these must be obtained prior to initiating any research activities for which the certification/registration/approval is required. **Please consider whether new DUA approvals are required for this application. The DUA approval process can be lengthy, and it may not be feasible for this RFA given the funding timeline.**

- Depending on the project, the ICTR may request additional supporting documents.

- *__Animal Studies__*

  - Although final IACUC approval and other supporting documents* are not required at the time of the pilot grant application submission, **applicants are strongly encouraged to begin the submission process early.** Projects receiving a notice of award should plan to have ALL required regulatory approvals and other supporting documents **prior to May 1, 2025, start date**.

  - Awarded projects proposing research that involves live vertebrate animals must have the research approved by their Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The PI on the IACUC letter **must match the Lead PI's name** and the **IACUC title must match the ATIP project title**. If the project is conducted under the umbrella of another IACUC approval, the PI of that lab must submit an amendment to include the scope of work to be conducted for the ATIP project. The IACUC amendment approval letter must include the name of the ATIP project's Lead PI and the title of the ATIP project.

  - *Examples of Other Supporting Documents that may be needed: Biosafety registrations, Clinical Engineering clearance of devices, Radiation Safety registration, etc.

  - Depending on the project, the ICTR may request additional supporting documents.

C.   *Conflicts of Interest (COI)*

At the time of application, review process, before funds are awarded, and throughout the project period, it is the responsibility of the awardee and all members of the study team to report any financial or fiduciary interests that might appear to present a conflict of interest (COI). These interests must be reported to the ICTR and the Conflict-of-Interest Officer, UMB Research Integrity Office. The presence of a COI does not automatically disqualify investigators from receiving this award but will require the review and management of this conflict by the COI Officer. Failure of any member of the study team to disclose all outside interests could result in this award's termination and the disallowance of all

study costs.

UMB's COI Policy information, including examples of what constitutes an outside interest, may be found at https://www.umaryland.edu/oac/areas-of-responsibility/conflict-of-interest/

UMBC's COI Policy information may be found at https://research.umbc.edu/office-of-research-protections-and-compliance/

UMCP's COI Policy information may be found at https://research.umd.edu/coi/

D. Potential Project Topics

Projects may cover a wide range of topics, including but not limited to the representative topics below:

- ### Pre-Clinical Translation

    - Development of pre-clinical research applications
    - Development of novel treatment platforms or therapies
    - Development of novel drug targets for diseases or symptoms associated with disease or treatment.
    - Drug screening assays
    - Methods for generation of novel vaccines or peptides
    - Animal models for drug selection
    - Preclinical toxicology markers/assays
    - Surrogate marker assays, including genomic, proteomic assays, and metabolic, imaging methods.
    - Key research activities that enhance the commercial potential of UMB intellectual property

- ### Clinical Translation
    - Development of clinically relevant applications
    - Development and verification of surrogate marker assays
    - Identification of disease or symptom biomarkers
    - Clinical trial design paradigms (e.g., computer simulation)
    - Development or evaluation of diagnostic tests
    - Clinical trials including Pilot/Phase 0 or 1 trials.
    - Collection of pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics data
    - Clinical physiology and mechanisms/pathophysiology of disease
    - Use of machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) to identify patterns in data to improve healthcare delivery with minimal human intervention.
    - Develop apps and devices that improve delivery and exchange of health information.

- ### Post-Clinical Translation
    - Comparative effectiveness research studies
    - Knowledge transfer to providers or community
    - Tests of innovative implementation strategies to optimize uptake of solutions at the community level.

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For examples of funded projects, visit https://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/funding/ictr-pilot-grant-awardee-news/#d.en.710976

E.   *Funding Restrictions*

- Requests must be no more than $50,000 in direct costs. Budget requests must be realistic and **well-justified** in the budget justification.

- Routing through Kuali Research is **NOT** required.

- **Required regulatory approvals and agreements,** as well as other supporting documents, must be obtained prior to disbursement of funds. See Section B above. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to begin the submission process early. Delay in submission of regulatory documents that delay the start of the project greater than 3 months from the stated funding period might result in loss of funding.**

- Funds will be distributed in two disbursements, with the second disbursement contingent upon submission of a satisfactory progress report at 6 months and spending down the first disbursement.

- **Funding will be for May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026**

- **Allowable expenses include:**

  - Salary support for all faculty-level team members listed on the grant cannot exceed $5,000 of the **total** budget. The $5,000 allowance is inclusive of fringe benefits. Faculty-level team members on more than one application cannot exceed the $5,000 salary limit across all projects.
  - Research supplies.
  - Equipment costs should be no more than 20% of the total budget.
  - Recruitment and compensation of study participant costs.
  - We will consider payments to an outside partnering organization, where appropriate, as a "service provider" (not as a sub-award). This expense should be justified and itemized under "Other Expenses" in the budget template form. However, funding for faculty from University System of Maryland (USM) institutions must be included in the $5,000 total faculty salary funding limit as noted above.
  - Travel: ATIP funds up to $1,000 may be used for travel with strong justification establishing the essential need for the conduct of research. **ATIP funds cannot be used for travel to present results at established meetings or conferences.**
  - Official quotes from the provider of services, supplies, and/or equipment should be included. Strong justification required for external vendors over campus cores of services.
  - Publication fees related to the project. Limit $2,500 total. You may want to consider the HSHSL (Health Sciences and Human Services Library) open-access publishing fund available to junior faculty. For more information, visit https://www.hshsl.umaryland.edu/services/apc.php
  - The Budget template must detail expenses and include the Budget Justification for each expense, including salary.

- **Unallowable Expenses:**

  - **Indirect costs cannot be included** in the budget.
  - Administrative support, alterations or renovations of laboratory space, purchase of laboratory or office furniture, purchase of periodicals or books, tuition, refreshments, phone services, professional societies membership dues, and editorial services are not allowed.

F.   *Reporting Requirements*

- Lead PIs and Co-PIs (if applicable) of all funded projects must have a **milestone update at** three, six, and nine months from the May 1, 2025, start date. The three- and six-month meetings will be conducted virtually. Depending on the project's progress, the nine-month meeting may also be virtual or replaced by a request for a brief written update at the discretion of the ICTR Navigators.

- A **written report** on the progress of the milestones and budget expenditures will be required at the sixth-month time period and a final, written progress report will be due within 30 days of the end of the award period. Failure to attend milestone updates and submit progress reports in a timely manner can have significant implications for the project and may result in termination of funding.

- In addition, the ICTR will send a semi-annual request for updates on subsequent grant applications/awards, publication, and intellectual property disclosures resulting from the project. Understanding that it may take some time for a project to reach its full potential, these semi-annual updates will be requested for several years.

ROLE OF THE ICTR NAVIGATOR

ICTR Navigators will provide guidance and answer questions related to the application and review process, the scope of work suitable for funding, and post-award activities. They will assist research teams in identifying resources needed for successful completion of research projects, including the referral of researchers to appropriate services, university cores of services, and available sources of support for translational research. They will review applications to ensure compliance with submission guidelines and may contact investigators to provide additional information. Throughout the award, research navigators serve as project managers, monitoring the progress of the projects, and may provide guidance, resources, and feedback to ensure the proposed translational milestones are met.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Accessing the Electronic Application

- **UMB applicants only**: The ATIP application link can be found under the **Application Link and Required Templates** on the ICTR website *https://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/funding/atip-grant-program-foa/*. You will be prompted to enter your UMID username and password.

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- **UMBC and UMCP applicants only:** Please request an application via this *link* or paste in browser *https://rs.igs.umaryland.edu/surveys/?s=TFXHYDRCPF* (*created in REDCap*). Please provide the following information:
    o Name
    o Department/Section
    o Campus email
    o Best contact number
    o ATIP funding opportunity you wish to apply for
        ▪ ICTR Innovative Collaboration Pilot Grant, or
        ▪ ICTR Artificial Intelligence/Cybersecurity/Machine Learning Pilot Grant.
    o UMB Co-PI name
    o Very brief project description (1 or 2 sentences)

    Once your request is submitted, you will receive an ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu email with a link to the application. Please email the ICTR Navigator if you do not receive the application link within 3 business days. Please make sure to request an application in time to allow for a complete application submission. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Completing the Application

Prepare each of the following sections and submit electronically via the ATIP Application link. Information about **formatting is found in Section M** below. The electronic application is maintained in the UMB REDCap system. See the **required budget and milestones templates and Cover Letter template** under the **Application Link and Required Templates** on the ICTR website *https://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/funding/atip-grant-program-foa/*.

A. *Cover Letter (Limited to one page)*

- Title of Project. The project title must match the title of the IRB or IACUC approval letter.
- State whether application is for the ATIP Innovative Collaboration Pilot Grant or an Artificial Intelligence/Cybersecurity/Machine Learning Pilot Grant,
- Names, academic ranks, and appointments of the designated primary (Lead) PI and one Co-PI (if applicable) and any faculty member to receive financial support. Lead PI name must match the PI on the IRB letter.
- Salary support amounts requested for each faculty-level team member listed on the grant. Combined salary for all faculty-level team members cannot exceed $5,000 of total budget.
- Signature of Lead PI, Co-PI (if applicable), and any faculty member to receive financial support.
- For each of the above, include their corresponding, designated signing official for their institution (see cover letter template at UMB ICTR website, ATIP FOA, Required Templates):

    ▪ UMB: School Dean or Department Chair
    ▪ UMBC: College Chair or Associate Dean for Research
    ▪ UMCP Applications or applications with UMCP partnerships: Attach **signed** UMCP Universal Funding form (UFF) Refer to page 3, section A. Eligibility for more information.

B. ***Abstract (Limited to <u>one page</u>. See section M below for formatting)***

The abstract is **not included** in the 5-page Research Plan. The abstract **should not** contain proprietary confidential information. The abstract should include:

- A brief background of the project.
- The significance of the proposed research.
- The unique features, new collaborations, and innovation of the project.
- The methodology (action steps) to be used.
- Expected results.
- Relevance to the translational nature of the ICTR ATIP Pilot Grant Program.
- Potential for improving the health of patients, including underserved or marginalized/minoritized populations, within the next 3-5 years.

C. ***Specific aims, objectives, or hypotheses (Limited to one page. See section M below for formatting)***

D. ***Research plan (Limited to five pages. See section M below for formatting). The abstract, specific aims, and references are separate from the research plan.***

The research plan should include the following sections:

- **Brief Introduction:** This section is intended to help orient the reviewers to better understand the scientific basis for the project, why the work is being proposed as well as the suitability of the research for ATIP Pilot Grant funding. Any new collaborations or highly innovative aspects should be succinctly noted. Relevance to the translational nature of the ATIP program should also be indicated.

- **Project Milestones and Timeline**: Submissions must include a timeline of one or more milestones for each Specific Aim with clear outcome endpoints. The timeline must be realistic for completion within the funding period May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026, and with the approved final budget. This summary may be presented as a chart, a paragraph, or incorporated throughout the experimental design. Milestones should highlight specific goals to be attained relative to the specific aims and, when appropriate, hypotheses to be tested. Milestones must include both the scientific objectives of the application and the procedural issues involved in executing them in a realistic and achievable way. If new techniques, new populations, or new collaborations are utilized to reach these milestones, they should be emphasized. All grants must be organized towards the completion of project- and/or time- dependent milestones. *<u>NOTE</u>: In addition to the milestone/timeline summary presented in the research plan, you must include a **Project Milestone Timeline** document (see section G below). **Regulatory submissions should not be included in the Project Milestone Timeline.***

- **Background (including Preliminary Results, if available), and Significance**: In addition to scientific background and significance, this section may indicate how success of the pilot grant will affect subsequent research and how it enhances translation (e.g., from lab to clinic). The material on Significance should indicate relevance to the overall target of clinical translation. It should also clarify how the research will advance the field and **should also discuss the project's potential for improving the health of patients within the next 3-5 years.**

- **Research Design**: Method description should be sufficiently detailed to convince reviewers of feasibility and validity. Details should focus on the novel aspects of the project rather than published or standard techniques.

For Studies Including Human Participants, Data, and/or Samples/Specimens

Where appropriate, provide inclusion/exclusion criteria for each study group(s) and each control group(s) (if planned), and briefly outline recruitment, retention, recruitment/study site(s), consenting, and compensation plan for each.

==A power calculation and statistical plan must be included to support the study hypothesis and/or specific aims.== For human subjects' research, specify the number of subjects/controls you expect to enroll or include in your analysis, the expected effect size, the power, and the statistical methods you will use with respect to each outcome measure. You must show that your methods for sample size and data analysis are appropriate given your plans for assignment of participants and delivery of intervention. I==f using animals, a power calculation must be included to justify the number of animals that will be used.== Quantifiable goals for the completion of each milestone should be delineated.

For trials that randomize groups or deliver interventions to groups, special methods are required.

Additional information is available at the _**NIH Research Methods Resources webpage**_. If you are unsure about statistical plan provides sufficient information, please consider an ICTR Biostatistics Core consultation https://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/investigator-resources/ictr-biostatistics-core-services/

Quantifiable goals for the completion of each milestone should be delineated.

- **Statement of Collaborative Effort: Include a specific statement on how the collaboration between investigators from each school and/or community partner is necessary to further the proposal's goals.** Include processes for maintaining communication and interactions between the Schools and between UMB, UMBC, and/or UMCP.

- **Anticipated Problems and Possible Solutions**: Any anticipated experimental or interpretive problems should be addressed, with alternative approaches described when possible. The feasibility of using alternative approaches to complete the project within the constraints of the presented ICTR ATIP budget as well as the strict 12-month time limit of this grant must be assured in the application. All risks and drawbacks from using any proposed alternative approach must be addressed, especially if human subjects are involved.

- **External Funding Plan:** Identify future funding sources that will be applied for. Specifically identify NIH, NSF, DOD, or other external funding opportunities that the team will be prepared to apply for within 18 months of the award's start.

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E. *Comprehensive Budget/Detailed Budget Justification*

- Applicants must use the budget template available on the UMB ICTR website, ATIP FOA, Required Templates.

- The **school affiliation of team members must be noted on the budget template**, including the school affiliation of the to-be-determined team members.

- Cross institutional applications must specify which institution will incur each expense listed on the budget. For UMCP applications or applications with a UMCP partnership, this information will assist in completing the UMCP Universal Funding form.

- Where possible, each line item on the budget should be itemized down to smallest unit cost. For example, if an item costs $300 and you need 10, enter the unit cost and then the number of units instead of just $3000.

- A **detailed** budget **justification** is required f<mark>or each line item</mark> listed under each of the categories: Personnel/Consultant/Partners, Equipment/Supplies Costs, Travel Costs, Animal Costs, Participant Costs, Miscellaneous Costs required to complete the study. **For individuals receiving salary support, provide a brief paragraph in the budget justification about their role and qualifications.**

- Recent, official quotes for budgeted services, supplies, and equipment should be included.

- The budget **MUST** include an explanation of other funding sources that will be used to cover costs not covered by ICTR ATIP pilot grant funds.

- Recent, official quotes for budgeted services, supplies, and equipment should be included.

- ALL changes to the budget must be submitted **BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION** for review and final approval by the ICTR Leadership Council and may result in withdrawal of funding if the project did not receive the appropriate approvals.

F. *Biographical sketch information*

- A biographical sketch using the most recent NIH template version for the PI(s) and other faculty-level study team members and resumes for non-faculty team members (5-page limit each). Team members have any role in the project regardless of whether they will receive salary support, including the PI(s). All team members must be listed in the IRB application and/or IACUC submission.

- Full "Other support" pages from PI(s)

G. *Project Milestone Timeline*

- <mark>**Applicants MUST use the template provided on the**</mark> UMB ICTR website, ATIP FOA, Required Templates.

- The project timeline must include one or more milestones for each Specific Aim described

in the research plan and the time required for each activity.

- The timeline *must* be realistic for completion within the funding period and final approved budget.

- Please note that IRB/IACUC submissions/approvals or subsequent grant applications/planned publications **should not** be included in this milestones' timeline.

H.   *Reference list of up to 30 references*

I.   *Internal and External Reviewers*

You are required to submit the contact information of **two internal reviewers** and **two external reviewers**.

For your convenience, we have provided a Reviewer Information Template *as a guide to the data to be entered in the electronic application.* Take care to ensure that no conflict of interest (COI) exists between the reviewers and you, the Co-PI, and Co-Investigator(s) (if applicable), or any other person with a major professional role in your application. The peer-review system relies on the applicant's professionalism and reviewers to identify any COI that may affect the integrity of the peer-review process. Please note that faculty members at UMB, UMCP, and UMBC listed as reviewers are considered **internal** reviewers. Additionally, please do not designate external reviewers that are outside the U.S.

Examples of a reviewer COI:
- The reviewer is planning a collaboration with anyone with a major professional role on your application or another application in this round.
- Within the past three years, the reviewer has published with, has collaborated with, or has been in a mentoring relationship with any person on the application who has a major professional role.
- The application includes a letter of support or reference letter from the reviewer.
- The reviewer is an advisor for the proposal under review or for a grant held by anyone playing a major professional role on the application.
- The reviewer has an indirect financial interest: The reviewer will have received more than $10,000 (in the form of honoraria, stocks, or fees) from you over the period from one year ago through the end of the proposed project.

Not considered a COI:
- The reviewer has an indirect financial interest of less than $10,000.
- The reviewer freely donates reagents or other materials to the proposed project, and these reagents or materials would also be available to other researchers.
- The reviewer, you, and a person with a significant role on the proposed project, contribute data, reagents, specimens, etc., to the same repository or database.
- The reviewer is a member of a research network that involves a person with a significant role in the proposed project.
- The reviewer is a co-author of a non-research publication (e.g., review, commentary) or a mega multi-authored publication with a person with a significant role in the proposed project.

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Please refer to ATIP GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES, Section C, page 5, for the link to your institution's COI policy.

J.   *ATIP Key Personnel Information*

You are required to complete a brief ATIP Key Personnel Information form in the electronic application for each person on your proposal's team. For your convenience, we have provided a Key Personnel Template as a guide to the data to be entered in the electronic application. For the Lead PI and Co-PI (if applicable), you will also need to provide additional, NIH-required information on gender, race, etc. as well as the NIH eRA Commons Username and a **16-digit ORCiD author ID**. Information about the 16-digit ORCiD author ID can be found here https://guides.hshsl.umaryland.edu/impact/authorid. If you believe you have an ORCiD, but cannot recall, type your name in the search field on the ORCiD home page https://orcid.org/ or submit a request via https://support.orcid.org/hc/en-us/requests/new.

K.   *Regulatory Approvals*

Do not upload regulatory documents that are not specific to this application.

Regulatory document titles must match the title of the project. The Lead or Co-PI must be noted as the PI on the IRB/IACUC protocol. To avoid delays in the start of the project, investigators are strongly encouraged to initiate necessary approvals prior to grant submission or during the grant review period. Projects with regulatory approvals in place or underway at the time of submission will receive additional consideration.

L.   *Multiple PI Leadership Plan*

Only for multi-PI applications [limit to 1 Lead PI (the applicant) and 1 Co-PI]. A Multiple PI Leadership Plan describing the respective roles must be included with the application. The Lead PI will serve as the point of contact for communications; however, the Co-PI is expected to attend all milestones update calls with the UMB ATIP Navigator.

M.   *Formatting Guidelines*

- **Font size**: Must be 11 points or larger. Smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams, and charts is acceptable, if it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%. If you are converting to PDF, some PDF conversion software reduces font size. It is important to confirm that the final PDF document complies with the font requirements.
- **Font types:** Arial, Georgia, or Helvetica
- **Type density:** Must be no more than 15 characters per linear inch (including characters and spaces).
- **Line spacing:** Must be no more than six lines per vertical inch.
- **Text color: black**
- **Name of the applicant** (Last name, First name) should appear in the top right-hand corner of each page.
- **Page numbers** should appear on the bottom right-hand corner of each page.
- **Paper Size and Margins**
  - *Standard letter paper size (8 ½" x 11")…*

o   Provide at least one-half inch margins (½") - top, bottom, left, and right - for all pages.

ICTR PILOT GRANT REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCESS

Applications will be peer-reviewed – including a diversity advocate – using NIH scoring and will be evaluated and scored using the following seven criteria:

1. Relevance to translation: Are there plans to move the project through to the next step along the research pathway?

2. Scientific impact, novelty, and merit, including experimental design.

3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Will this application benefit traditionally underserved or marginalized/minoritized populations?

4. Feasibility of project completion within defined budget period

5. The **creation or potential for creation of collaborations** between investigators and/or community partnerships

6. Whether or not the project's PI is a **junior investigato**r and/or will promote the development of new translational researchers by **moving junior or senior investigators into a new research area**

7. The plans for submitting a grant application for external funding.

ACKNOWLEDGING UMB ICTR

All publications, abstracts, poster presentations, grant/funding applications, intellectual/technological developments and licensing resulting from research supported by the UMB ICTR ATIP Grant Program should cite the **University of Maryland, Baltimore, Institute for Clinical & Translational Research** as a contributing source of support. Please include the following citation:

"We acknowledge the support of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR) ."