



Overview and Dates

Funding Opportunity Purpose	Through the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, we seek to develop the career and research of departmental faculty in a spirit that fosters collaboration, team science, innovative discovery, and sustainability.
Cycle	Spring 2022
Posted Date	March 1, 2022
Open Date (Earliest Submission Date)	March 7, 2022
Application Due Date	April 25, 2022 (5 pm CST)
Scientific Merit Review	May 2022
Earliest Start Date	June 2022
Expiration Date	May 2023

**Dates may vary as a result of unanticipated delays. Should the date fall on a weekend or holiday, the date will be moved to the following business day.*

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose

The primary goal of the REINVENT program is to foster career development and research programs of faculty in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine. Integrating clinical and basic and translational research faculty is quintessential to meeting this goal, as it will enable the most impactful science to be accomplished in the department.

Special Considerations: All areas of research are encouraged, including clinical, education, quality, and operations research. Special consideration will be given to those projects that bring together teams that include clinical and basic/translational research faculty or M.D. and Ph.D. investigators. Proposals structured so that senior investigators can mentor junior faculty will also be given special consideration.

Background

The Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine has historically supported faculty research. A renewed focus on mentorship, sustainability, and interdisciplinary teamwork is key to continued success in this area. Introduction of the REINVENT program seeks to address these crucial aspects and better promote the career development and research programs of departmental faculty. In addition to encouraging collaboration between departmental clinical and research faculty and enhancing mentorship and collaboration, the program is intended to invoke an innovative spirit. We intend to bring the best science to the table and encourage thinking about research funding, productivity, accountability, and sustainability through extramural funding.

Section II. Award Information

Funds and Time Available, and Anticipated Number of Awards	The Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine has committed a maximum of \$300,000 annually with two application cycles per year. The program expects to fund three proposals per cycle (six proposals per year). The number of awards is contingent upon a sufficient number of meritorious applications.
Award Budget	Applicants may request up to \$50,000 in direct costs.
Award Project Period	The maximum project period is 12 months.

Section III. Eligibility Information

Eligible Individuals (Program Director/Principal Investigator)

This program is primarily intended to support investigators with a **full-time faculty appointment**. The PI's primary appointment must be in the University of Alabama at Birmingham Marnix E. Heersink School of Medicine's Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine. Faculty members outside the department may be identified as Co-PIs, but cannot be the PI. Staff are not eligible to serve as the PI. Postdoctoral fellows may be eligible if a faculty appointment is on the horizon, with a start date on or before the listed award date. (As part of the application, the investigator should include a letter from the department chair reflecting such.) Established investigators are discouraged to serve as the PI for proposals on behalf of postdoctoral fellows. All projects should directly represent the ideas of the listed PI. Postdoctoral fellows may be part of the scientific team, but it is presently not advisable that they be positioned as Co-PI of the project. Basic scientists can be the PI for a proposal as long as the Co-PI is a clinician.

Section IV. Application and Submission Information

Instructions for Application Submission

Applications will be submitted through REDCap. A link to the submission form can be found on the department's website. **Chrome is the preferred browser for the REDCap submission form.** Please note that instructions for completing the form and returning to it at a later date (before submission) are contained within the form's instructions section.

The submission form requests the following information:

Principal Investigator(s)

Please be prepared to provide the following information for project PI(s) in the submission form: first name, last name, degrees, institution, school, department, division, rank, phone number, email, gender, race, ethnicity, and diversity status. For more information about diversity status, please see "[Revised: Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity.](#)"

Project Details

Enter the following information in the submission form:

- Project title
- A Yes/No answer to the following questions:
 - Will the project involve human subjects research? If yes, does your study meet the [NIH's definition of a clinical trial](#)?
 - Will the project involve animal models research?
 - Will the project involve FDA-regulated research?
- Indication as to whether or not the project will meet any special considerations for this funding mechanism (See Section I. Funding Opportunity Description.)

Proposal

Upload your proposal as a [single PDF](#).

Formatting requirements: **Font:** Arial 11 point (smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams, and charts is acceptable as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100 percent). **Line spacing:** Single-line spacing **Margins:** Provide at least one-half-inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages. No applicant-supplied information can appear in the margins. **Text color:** Must be black (color text in figures, graphs, charts, tables, footnotes, and headings is acceptable). **Pages:** Pages must be 8.5 by 11 inches and must include page numbers.

Proposals must include the following information (*in the order listed below*):

Title Page: Include names of key individuals, with divisional and departmental affiliation, and contact information for PIs and Co-PIs. Please briefly explain (two to three sentences) how the PI(s) meet the eligibility criteria for this funding mechanism. (See Section III. Eligibility Information.) Include the area(s) where the research will be conducted. Provide an executive summary (30 lines or less).

Statement on REINVENT Mission Alignment: Please briefly explain (up to 20 lines) how your project aligns with the vision and/or mission of the REINVENT program. (See Section I. Funding Opportunity Description.)

Research Strategy (*five pages maximum, references are not included in the page limit*)

The Research Strategy section should be organized as follows:

- **Specific Aims:** Clearly state the overall hypotheses and goals of the application.
- **Background and, if Available, Preliminary Data:** Explain the importance of the proposed studies within the context of the current state of knowledge in the field and provide justification for the current hypotheses and proposed approach.
- **Research Approach:** Address the importance of the approach, expected results, and limitations. Standard methods may be referenced in lieu of full explanation. Justify sample size and the statistical analyses to be utilized.
- **Timeline:** Provide a brief description or diagram of when the proposed studies will be performed and completed. Please be sure to describe the time needed to attain regulatory approvals, create any data collection or management tools, recruit subjects and complete interventions, execute experiments according to the specific aims, and any other milestone specific to your project.

Budget and Justification (*one page maximum*)

- Allowable expenses may include salary for a research assistant/technician, consultant costs, cores, equipment, supplies, inpatient care, outpatient care, and other costs (e.g. publication).
- If funds are requested to support personnel, please provide additional details. For new hires, explain the type of personnel and how the individual will be recruited; for existing personnel, identify them and the source(s) of their current salary support.
- Two full-time equivalents (FTEs) of academic time will be distributed between six awarded proposals annually. Therefore, PI and Co-PI salary may not be included in the budget.
- Alterations, renovations, and travel expenses are not permitted under this mechanism.
- This program does not require budgeting indirect (i.e. overhead, F&A) costs.
- Applicants are encouraged to utilize resources already available within the department including equipment and expertise in the different laboratories and programs.
- A total budget number, or the total funding being requested from this program, must be included in this section.

Environment (*one page maximum*): Include availability of equipment, supplies, and research personnel necessary to conduct the proposed project, apart from items included in the requested budget.

Biosketch(es): Submit biosketches only for PI(s) and Co-PI(s). Please conform to the [NIH Biosketch requirements](#), except that "Other Support" should be excluded. No page limit applies to biosketches.

Letter(s) of Support: Non-departmental faculty listed as key participants are required to submit a letter of support. No page limit applies to letter(s) of support.

References Cited: Provide a bibliography of all references cited. Each reference must include the names of all authors, the article and journal title, book title, volume number, page numbers, and year of publication. No page limit applies to references cited.

Applicants are discouraged from adding a cover letter to the single PDF file; they will not be reviewed.

Section V. Application Review Information

Review Criteria

Applications will be assessed on the aspects below:

- **Mission Alignment:** The primary goal of the REINVENT program is to foster career development and research programs of faculty in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine. Building programmatic research bridges between clinical faculty and research faculty is quintessential to meeting this goal, as it will enable the most impactful science to be accomplished by the department.
- **Special Considerations:** Special consideration will be given to those projects that bring together teams that include both clinical and basic/translational research faculty or M.D. and Ph.D. investigators. Proposals structured so that senior investigators can mentor junior faculty will also be given special consideration.
- **PI Qualifications:** Principal investigators are expected to be eligible and have the necessary skills and qualifications required to lead the proposed project. This capacity is often reflected in their career development to date and their track record of peer-reviewed publications.
- **Assessment of Investigator and the Research Team:** Are the PI, collaborator(s), and other researchers well-suited to the project? If early stage investigators or new investigators, do they have appropriate experience and training? If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? Given the experience of the research team, is this feasible for the proposed time frame?
- **Assessment of Approach:** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? What is the important innovation behind the research strategy? What is the potential for making transformative discoveries?
- **Budget:** Is the budget appropriate for the proposed work?
- **Human Subjects and/or Animal Protection:** Are there any potential human subjects and/or animal protection concerns?
- **Scientific Competitiveness:** Is it likely that successful completion of this project will provide preliminary data that will result in meaningful deliverables such as presentations, publications, and subsequent external funding?
- **Format and Content:** Non-compliance with instructions may result in a proposal not being reviewed.
- **Overall Impact:** Upon completion of the sections above, applications receive a score (1 to 9) to indicate the rating of the overall scientific merit of this pilot proposal, taking into account all review criteria. The score should represent a global view; an application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact, and the score does not need to be a mathematical reflection of the sections above.

Reviews

Each proposal will receive three reviews from within the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine. Scores will be submitted to the REINVENT Grant Review Committee. The committee will integrate the evaluations from multiple review groups and make recommendations to the department chair, who will make the final decisions regarding funding. Scores and concise narrative reviews of grant applications will be provided to each applicant independent of the funding decision, including suggestions for how to enhance the proposal. If unsuccessful, investigators can revise and resubmit their proposals during the next funding cycle. Revised applications should include a detailed response to issues generated in the review (one page maximum) and should indicate changes in the application using colored font.

Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Please refer to Overview and Dates for review and earliest start date. Section II. Award Information summarizes funds available and anticipated number of awards.

Section VI. Award Administration Information

Award Notices

Meritorious applications selected for support will be announced to the department at the beginning of each funding cycle. Awardees will also receive formal notice in the form of a Notice of Grant Award (NOGA). Any application awarded in response to this RFA will be subject to terms and conditions listed in the NOGA.

Proposal titles and a brief description of their project may be used for dissemination via the departmental website and email communication. The source of this information may be the proposal or requested of the investigator.

Any costs incurred before receipt of the NOGA are at the recipient's risk. Any application awarded in response to this RFA will be subject to terms and conditions listed in the NOGA. Requests to modify/extend the project period (i.e. No Cost Extensions (NCEs)) must be formally submitted to the REINVENT Grant Review Committee.

Regulatory Approvals

All lines of investigation supported by the REINVENT program require appropriate regulatory approvals (IRB, IACUC, as applicable). These approvals must be in place in advance of human subjects and/or animal work and remain in good standing throughout study implementation.

Reporting

A progress report (one page maximum) and a 10-minute chalk talk will be due at the end of a six-month period. If problems were encountered in the experimental plan, please be prepared to explain how the barrier(s) are being addressed. The Grant Review Committee will make recommendations regarding continued funding to the department director, who will be responsible for all final funding decisions.

Upon completion of the award, the investigators will provide a final report (two pages maximum) summarizing the project's results and milestones during the funding period. This report is due no later than six months after the completion of the funding.

In addition to completing progress reports, it is highly encouraged that all who receive REINVENT funds participate in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine's Research Day by submitting an abstract or poster.

Payment

Unless stated otherwise in the NOGA, awards will be paid in two installments, with the second installment dependent on demonstrating satisfactory progress.