

**UF Health Cancer Center
2014 Application Guidelines for Bridge Grants**

Bridge Grants Program: The intent of this grant mechanism is to provide interim support for existing investigator-initiated, cancer-related, research projects that have been highly rated by national panels of peer reviewers in recent federal competitions but were not funded. Allowable federal competitions include but are not limited to those conducted by the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs, the National Science Foundation, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration. The applicant must have received a peer review summary statement indicating high scientific merit. Applications for bridge funding on proposals that were not scored will not be accepted for funding.

The deadline for receipt of applications is: October 14, 2014

Applications should be submitted to both:

- Dr. Paul Okunieff at pokunieff@ufl.edu or mail to PO Box 103633, Gainesville, FL 32610 and
- Diane Gebhardt at dgebhardt@ufl.edu

Award Amount and Duration:

1. The maximum award for these grants is \$50,000 direct cost each. No IDC is allowed.
2. The award is for a period of one year with the expectation that all the funds will be expended during that term. There is an option to request a one-time extension, depending on project performance and subject to the availability of funds.
3. It is anticipated that up to 10 proposals will be funded each year, with proposal deadlines on a semiannual basis, pending the quality of science and availability of funds.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

UFHCC's Bridge Grant Program is designed to sustain research projects falling between the end of funding by a federal agency and the beginning of a competitively renewed award or new application for the continuation of the same research. If funding is secured and begins before the end of the one year award period, UFHCC must be notified and may cease its financial support of the project. Projects funded via this mechanism must have a grant resubmission and in case of unsuccessful resubmission, repeat bridge awards can only be reapplied for under unusual circumstances. Principal Investigators must be full-time faculty members and if not already a UF Health Cancer Center member, then he/she must apply for membership before funding is released. Newly recruited faculty with start-up packages are not eligible to apply.

Each project must have been previously funded by a federal agency and must be cancer related. Researchers must have applied to the federal agency for renewal of an ongoing project or plan to continue the project via new application. They must have received notification (e.g. Summary Statement) dated within the last 12 months of the award score. Applications that were not scored are not eligible. Your proposal must include the entire review summary statement/reviewer's comments from the federal agency. Applicants must reapply for an award from the federal agency within the next two grant funding cycles.

The original project must be aligned with UFHCC's mission, and thus must be directly relevant to cancer. Funds may be used for supplies and personnel, excluding Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator salaries, and may not exceed the awarded amount. UFHCC does not pay indirect costs.

Applications from faculty at UFPTI, UF Health Gainesville, UF colleges and the UF Health Cancer Center at Orlando Health are encouraged to apply.

Clinical research, basic research and population research grants are all eligible to apply.

REQUIREMENTS FOR BRIDGE GRANT AWARDEES

Clinical trials must be registered and recorded in OnCore. Shared Core Resources provided by the UF Health Cancer Center should be utilized when appropriate.

It is expected that IRB/IACUC and other necessary approvals will be obtained within the first three months of the award. Funding will not be awarded until this requirement is met

Approved grant applications will submit a progress report, of two pages maximum, at six months and again at 30 days after the end of the funding period. The progress reports will provide a detailed accounting of milestones and progress achieved (such as protocol accruals if applicable), publications and grant applications resulting from this award, and barriers to progress and strategies to be used to overcome barriers.

The grantee will be required to present to UFHCC, annual reports for three years after term of award is completed, in report form and/or presentation form, on the publications, grant submissions and awards resulting from this award. Failure to make timely reports may impact eligibility for future UFHCC funding.

REQUIRED BRIDGE GRANT APPLICATION COMPONENTS:

The components of the application, listed below, must be combined into one PDF.

Cover Page – Include the names and departmental affiliations for all applicable UF and external personnel, the name and contact information of the contact PI, and title.

Cover Letter – Outline the importance of the project as it pertains to cancer. Identify the previous Federal Award funding the project and the date funding ended. Include how a Bridge Grant from UFHCC will help secure future funding and the strategy for obtaining funding. (Two page maximum)

Application Body – Previously reviewed federal application; include all sections and indicate any changes made due to the feedback from the reviews.

Summary Statement – Include the summary statement or letter from the federal submission with priority score/percent score and critique. (Official letter from federal agency must be dated within eight months of UFHCC Bridge Grant due date.)

Response to Critique – Provide a draft of how you plan to respond to the major criticisms in the review. (One page maximum)

REVIEW CRITERIA:

Each application will be reviewed by the Cancer Preeminence Coordinating Committee. In addition to alignment with UFHCC's mission, reviewers will evaluate applications based on the percentile score, investigator, potential impact, response to critique/concerns and the plan to secure additional funding within the next 12 month period. Results of review will be provided by November 1, 2014. At the completion of the 6 months, a final report and budget will be required. If a no cost extension is approved then a final report and budget will be required at the end of the extension.