



University of  
Massachusetts  
Medical School

Baystate



Health



University of  
Massachusetts  
Amherst

TO: UMMS-Worcester, UMass Amherst, and UMMS-Baystate Faculty  
FROM: UMMS-Baystate-UMass Amherst Research Steering Committee  
RE: Small Conference Grants (SCG)

**Introduction:** We are pleased to announce a funding call for small conference grants. This funding opportunity is designed to leverage the convening capacity of the UMCCTS to create new, multidisciplinary teams to address a pressing health need. For the purposes of this award, a conference is defined as a symposium, think tank, workshop, or otherwise organized and formal meeting.

**Purpose:** The SCG are intended to spur inter-campus and inter-disciplinary collaboration, thereby strengthening the University's research portfolio in clinical and translational research. Through use of funds to convene outstanding faculty members, this fund facilitates the development of intercampus faculty-to-faculty networks, thereby leveraging the considerable expertise and resources that exist on the individual campuses. The SCG should result in the delineation of a well-defined research collaborative research program and plan for submission of at least one extramural grant application.

**Review Process:** The UMMS-Baystate-UMass Amherst Steering Committee will review and select applications for funding. Funding decisions are based upon the scientific merits, innovation, and potential impact of the proposals. Research that advances our understanding of biological systems, prevents or improves the control of disease, enhance health, or trains the next generation of clinical and translational researchers will be considered responsive. Projects must demonstrate that they will be leveraged to attract and secure outside funding from federal, state, industry, foundation, or other sources.

**Eligibility:** Proposed meetings must include faculty members from all campuses.

**Allowable Use of Funds:** Project awards (up to \$3,000) can be requested. Allowable costs include rental of necessary equipment; travel and parking; supplies needed for conduct of the conference (only if received for use during the budget period); conference services; publication costs; funds to help defray registration costs for some select attendees (for example, women, racial/ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, other individuals who have been traditionally underrepresented in science, graduate students); speakers' fees; meals/food/beverages (in accordance with UMass policies).

**Application Process:** Describe in two (2) pages or less the objectives, specific program, and logistical arrangements for the conference; describe the format, including the

principal topics to be covered, problems to be addressed, and developments or contributions the conference might stimulate. Explain how the conference and subsequent activities will advance our understanding of biological systems, prevent or improve the control of disease, enhance health, or develop new models for training the next generation of clinical and translational researchers. Provide a detailed justification for the conference, including the scientific need, timeliness, and usefulness of the conference to the scientific community. Describe the intended outcome and deliverables from the conference. Estimate the expected size and composition of the audience, as well as the method of selection. Describe plans for publicizing the conference to all interested participants.

List the agenda and speakers (not included in the 2 page limit).

Include a budget and budget justification (not included in the 2 page limit).

Please email your application as an attachment (PDF) to:

Nate Hafer, PhD, UMCCTS Director of Operations at [nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu](mailto:nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu)

Deadline: October 22, 2018