

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE BRIDGE FUNDING PROGRAM SUMMER 2017

OVERVIEW:

The Bridge Funding program is designed to provide temporary (up to 12 months), partial support to full-time SOM faculty members as they continue to apply for extramural funding.

Applications will be evaluated by a faculty committee. The goal of the program is to provide short-term support to faculty members who are likely to receive extramural funding upon submission of amended applications. To be eligible, faculty members must demonstrate that their research teams are threatened with disruption due to lack of funding, that they have one or more rounds of well-scored but unfunded federal applications, and demonstrate that they will have exhausted all available discretionary or start-up funds within one year of applying for bridge funding.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. UCSF SOM full-time faculty:

- a. **Established Investigator** (more than 8 years as a UCSF faculty member) who has lost significant (>40%) extramural funding or will lose >40% extramural funding within six months to support her/his research portfolio (encompassing all research projects) and anticipates a deleterious effect (e.g. loss of research personnel or research participants). Bridge funding may be requested up to six months prior to the expected loss of funding. Established investigators must have had continuous extramural funding from peer-reviewed sources during the previous three year period. Applicants **must** include the reviews for at least one well-scored but unfunded application.

OR

- b. **New Investigator** (8 years or less as a UCSF faculty member) who must be in post-mentored career phase (i.e. not have a current K-mentored award* although one may apply within six months of end date), with one or more rounds of well-scored but unfunded applications for extramural funding and who are within one year of exhausting all discretionary or startup funds. Applicants **must** include the reviews for at least one well-scored but unfunded application. *Investigators with K02 funding are eligible to apply.

2. To be eligible to apply, faculty members must have a salaried appointment to the faculty at UCSF for more than 3 years to be eligible to apply for bridge funding.
3. Investigators who receive bridge funding awards are not eligible to reapply for bridge funding until six months after their award period has ended. For example, an investigator who received an award in Cycle 17, which ended on 7/31/16, is eligible to apply for a second award no earlier than Cycle 20 (award period: 2/1/17 – 1/31/18).

REVIEW CRITERIA:

1. The applicant has demonstrated conscientious efforts to maintain or establish extramural funding and to diversify funding streams; and
2. Support of the Department Chair, including documentation of the department's financial commitment to the applicant; and
3. Strength of the investigator's research portfolio; and
4. Priority will be given to applicants who have:
 - a. Recent grant applications that received favorable scores that are close to the funding range and with evidence of reviewers' comments that could be addressed on resubmission
 - b. Not received prior bridge funding awards

AWARDS:

1. Awards are granted for a maximum of one year; all unspent funds must be returned to the Bridge Funding Program.
 - a. The Summer 2017 award period will be from July 1, 2017 –June 30, 2018
 - b. Awardees must notify the SOM Dean's Office **within two weeks** of receiving notice of other sources of funding, if the applicant receives funding from ANY other source to support any project within his/her research portfolio (***e.g. extramural, intramural, industry, and foundation awards, startup, gifts, discretionary funds such as an endowed chair, etc.***). If the new award is larger than the balance of the bridge funding grant at the time the grant is reported, the bridge funding award will end as soon as the new funding begins. If the amount of the new award is less than the balance of the bridge funding grant, then the balance of the bridge funding award will be reduced accordingly.
2. The total amount of any bridge funding award will not exceed \$100,000.
3. Discretionary (including start-up) funds available to the applicant must be spent down to a maximum of \$40,000 before calling upon awarded Bridge funds.
4. Bridge Funding award funds **may be used for**:
 - a. Faculty salary
 - b. Supplies/project expenses
 - c. Animal care or core facility services
 - d. Salaries/benefits for research personnel
 - e. Research participant accrual or maintenance
5. Bridge Funding award funds **may not be used for**:
 - a. Travel
 - b. Budget overdrafts
 - c. Administrative costs (i.e., school and departmental surcharges)