

**Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
School of Medicine Research Enhancement Fund
BRIDGE GRANT APPLICATION**

General Information

The purpose of bridge grant support is to allow faculty members to maintain research activities during a temporary break in extramural support. Applications will be viewed in terms of their scientific merit and the probability of securing extramural funding from National agencies. Bridge grant support receives the highest priority among eligible REF applications.

Several groups within the School of Medicine have their own bridge grant programs. The purpose of the SOM program is not to supplant these programs, but to provide funding for faculty who do not have these mechanisms available to them. Members affiliated with these units are expected to submit grant proposals first through these programs, rather than through the School of Medicine. Under no circumstances can a faculty member receive bridge grant funding for the same project from multiple sources. Established investigators with adequate current funding are not eligible for these awards.

Application Format (limit of 10 pages for sections 3-5)

1. *Title Page.*
 - a. Title of the research project
 - b. Applicant information (name, degree, academic rank, campus address, e-mail address, and telephone number)
 - c. A statement that the grant has been submitted for continued funding to a National agency, including the Institute and Grant number
 - d. Signature of applicant
 - e. Signature of departmental Head, with dates.
2. *Summary Statement* from the most recent review by NIH, NSF, or other national agency review panel if available (Only national agency review panels will be considered; local or state affiliates will not.) This section should also include responses to the review comments. The purpose of the Bridge Grant mechanism is to provide support while a revised grant application is prepared for submission. In unusual cases, the applicant may submit an REF application to facilitate the development of a closely-related, new proposal instead of a revised grant application.
3. *Specific Aims.* Give a succinct statement of research aims to be accomplished during the interim period requested.
4. *A brief history* of the research area and a statement concerning its relationship to other current research in your laboratory.
5. *Methods*
6. *Plans for Obtaining Extramural Support.* Describe your plans to obtain renewal support for this sponsored program. Have applications been submitted to alternate agencies?

7. *Current Research Support.* List all current research support by agency number, title, and total direct costs awarded.
8. *NIH-type biographical sketch.*
9. *Proposed Budget and Justification.* Support for the applicant's research program should be a shared responsibility between the faculty member, his or her department, and the School of Medicine. Therefore, to the extent possible, applicants should submit evidence of departmental financial support for the applicant's research program. REF funds are not intended, nor are the financial resources available, to totally replace extramural support which has been temporarily lost. Applicants should exercise appropriate restraint in their budget proposals. REF support is limited to personnel and supplies. Support for normal operations of central resources, faculty salaries, indirect costs, construction, library, cost overruns, broad institutional planning activities, and administrative travel will be excluded from consideration. (Travel can only be considered as an integral part of data gathering.) The total period of support cannot exceed two years, and the total award cannot exceed \$150,000 over the two year period.

Receipt of the second year of funding will require the submission of a 1-2 page non-competing renewal that provides evidence of productivity on the project. This renewal application must include evidence of productivity, particularly a list of grants submitted, new summary statements, and a list of manuscripts published, in press, or submitted over the prior grant period. Unfunded extensions of up to six months will be provided upon request to the Evaluation Committee. However, no expenditure of award funds can occur past a period including the award period and the allowed no-cost extension.

The signed original application (by both applicant and department head), and an electronic version of the proposal should be submitted to the Chair of the REF Grant Evaluation Committee (pwinsa@lsuhsc.edu).

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE, INCLUDING ALL NINE COMPONENTS LISTED ABOVE, WITH ALL REQUIRED SIGNATURES AND DOCUMENTS ON THE ORIGINAL AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION. APPLICATIONS MUST BE WITHDRAWN IMMEDIATELY UPON NOTIFICATION OF FUNDING BY AN EXTRAMURAL AGENCY.