

Frontiers Institute for Advancing Medical Innovation Trailblazer Award

Funding Opportunity Title	Frontiers Institute for Advancing Medical Innovation (IAMI) Trailblazer Award
Awarding Organization	Frontiers: University of Kansas Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Federal Prime Sponsor	National Institutes of Health (NIH) / National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)
Federal Award Number	UL1 TR002366
Purpose	IAMI Trailblazer Awards support four targeted areas of clinical and translational research: Experimental Therapeutic trials, Drug and Medical Device Development, Biomarker Discovery and Validation, Entrepreneurship activities consistent with IAMI's mission.
Eligibility	Applications are invited from faculty investigators from all Frontiers partner institutions: The University of Kansas Medical Center (Kansas City, Wichita and Salina campuses), the University of Kansas, the Kansas State University (Manhattan and Olathe campuses), the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, Children's Mercy Kansas City, and Saint Luke's Health System.
Process	Applicants are encouraged to consult with Frontiers leadership to ensure maximal use of Frontiers resources in developing and executing of their projects.
Funding	Maximum award: \$25,000
Project Duration	July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Key Dates	
Posted Date	October 23, 2019
Application Due Date	December 1, 2019
Notifications Applicants	January 15, 2020
IRB/IACUC Applications Due	February 15, 2020
Prior Approval materials submitted to Frontiers (pending IRB/IACUC review)	April 15, 2020
Prior Approval materials sent to NCATS	May 1, 2020
Funding Received/Project Start (pending NCATS approval)	July 1, 2020

The goal of Frontiers' funding agency, the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, is "to get more treatments to more patients more quickly". The Frontiers IAMI Trailblazer Award addresses this goal by providing funds to help investigators carry out early stage project development of novel drugs, devices, and diagnostics. The overall intent is to acquire research results that are disseminated in impactful publications, support successful extramural funding applications, and yield products to be entered into our product development pipeline.

Eligibility

Frontiers IAMI Trailblazer Awards support projects that address all diseases, and include academic disciplines such as chemistry, molecular biology, medicine, pharmacy, allied health professions, nursing, veterinary medicine, and other areas that impact clinical and translational science.

Applications are invited from faculty investigators from all Frontiers [partner institutions](#).

Applications should describe projects that will be completed within Frontiers Year 4 funding cycle (ends June 30, 2021). All funding decisions and actual start dates for Trailblazer Awards are contingent on receipt of the NCATS Notice of Award for Year 4 funding.

IAMI Trailblazer Application Areas of Eligibility:

- Experimental Therapeutics Trials
Eligible research activities include: a) clinical validation of a drug target; b) clinical pharmacology (e.g., drug metabolism, bioanalysis, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacogenomics, allometric scaling); c) clinical proof of concept of a novel therapeutic or a repurposed FDA-approved or abandoned drug. Eligible awardees must have demonstrated proof of principle in validated in vitro and/or in vivo preclinical models.
- Drug and Medical Device Development
Eligible research activity includes high throughput screening; generation and optimization of small molecule lead candidates; discovery of macromolecule therapeutics; synthesis of sufficient quantities of active pharmaceutical ingredient required for animal testing; conduct of preclinical safety, pharmacokinetic and proof of principle studies in validated animal models of disease; formulation development (including analytical chemistry support); as well as creation of prototype medical devices as well as necessary device testing.
- Biomarker Discovery and Validation
Eligible research activities include: a) biospecimen collection; b) patient registry development; c) genetic, genomic, proteomic and metabolomic analysis of patient specimens, and d) analysis of patient specimens using established and investigational methods to discover and validate biomarkers of drug activity.
- Entrepreneurship Activities Consistent with IAMI's Mission
Eligible research activities defining the investment thesis for potential product development opportunities, including unmet medical need, proposed solution, market, competitive landscape, patent position and strategy, summary of existing data, product development and regulatory planning, marketing and licensing strategy, as well as support for obtaining key opinion leader input.

Application Requirements

The application form and materials can be found [here](#). All applications must be uploaded as a single PDF.

1. **Trailblazer Application Form:** Proposals should include the following sections: background, significance, specific aims that map to one of the four eligible areas, and innovation/benefit. Applications should be ≤ 5 pages.
2. **Budget:** Applicants may request up to \$25,000; lesser amounts are acceptable and encouraged especially if the Frontiers IAMI Trailblazer Award can be used to match or leverage additional resources.

All funds must be spent by June 30, 2021; no carry-over is allowed. IRB/IACUC documentation, if relevant, is required before funds can be released. Accordingly, projects that have applicable IRB/ IACUC-approval are encouraged; projects ready to submit for approval are allowed.

Indirect/Facilities and Administration costs are not allowed for Frontiers Trailblazer Awards.

3. **NIH Biographical Sketch:** Include for all key personnel, use the current NIH format.

Required naming convention of Application packet: *PILastNameFirstInitial_IAMI*

Instructions on combining documents into a single PDF may be found [here](#).

Additional Application Guidance

Notice of Proprietary Information: Applicants are discouraged from submitting information considered proprietary unless it is deemed essential for proper evaluation of the full application. Applications containing information that constitutes trade secrets, that is financial or commercial, or that is confidential or privileged, should identify the pages that contain this information by marking those paragraphs or lines with an asterisk (*) at the beginning of the paragraph.

Awardees

Funded awardees are required to partner with the Frontiers IAMI Navigator, who will provide project management support, including the development and execution of project plans, submission of materials to Frontiers for review and approval by NCATS (if required), as well as preparation and submission of mid-term and final progress reports. They are also required to provide details of all published manuscripts, meeting abstracts, and grant applications that result from data obtained from Trailblazer awards.

Review Process

Proposals for a Frontiers IAMI Trailblazer Award will be reviewed by the IAMI and Frontiers leadership. Selection will be confirmed by the Frontiers Operations Group, a leadership group representing all the institutional partners of Frontiers.

Contact for Additional Information

All questions regarding Frontiers IAMI Trailblazer Awards should be directed to frontiers-info@kumc.edu or 913-588-6290.