



Applied Research & Development Program (ARAD)

**2016
Call for Applications**

**Center for Biotechnology
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The ARAD Program

The Applied Research & Development (ARAD) Program provides matching funds on a competitive basis to support collaborations between Stony Brook University faculty and NY State corporate partners in all areas of medical biotechnology. These areas include research technologies, diagnostics, therapeutics and medical devices. The primary interest is in supporting development of technologies that will help companies hit commercially relevant milestones, and that have the potential to positively impact the New York State economy.

Summary of Program Objectives

- Facilitate collaborative relationships between NYS companies and faculty.
- Accelerate the development of commercially promising technologies.
- Work collaboratively with faculty and NYS bioscience companies to develop experimental protocols that will add value to intellectual property that has the potential to generate economic impact in New York State.
- Assist in moving these technologies down a commercial pathway by participating in the development of commercialization strategies, facilitating financing opportunities, facilitating out-licensing opportunities, and identifying potential commercial partners.

Program Guidelines

The Center for Biotechnology, through a competitive process, will cost-share (up to \$40,000, special consideration may give to high impact projects) translational research and development projects proposed in collaboration with NYS corporate partners. New York State corporate partners are required to provide a minimum \$1: \$1 match and all funds must be used to support research and development activities on the academic campus. Increased corporate match over the minimum will be considered positively in the review process. Awards cannot be used to fund research activities at the corporate sponsor's location.

For purposes of this program a NYS industry partner is a for-profit enterprise with a permanent place of business located in New York State employing a full-time workforce. The company's New York facility must either be (1) the intended recipient of the Program's assistance or (2) directly benefit from the Program's assistance. The Program's assistance must also demonstrably enhance the company's potential for growth in New York. Funds cannot be used to support work the results of which are intended to be primarily available and/or useful only to a non-New York company or companies.

In addition to funding, ARAD program benefits include:

- Assistance with market / commercial assessment of a technology opportunity
- Guidance in developing specific aims toward a commercial endpoint
- Introduction to a network of industry advisors and professional service providers
- Exploration of additional external financing opportunities
- Introduction to additional business development opportunities

Applications for funding should be developed jointly by the Stony Brook faculty member and New York company co-sponsor. Applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with the Center for Biotechnology in advance of submission. Projects selected for funding will be formalized with a research contract or evaluative testing agreement developed in cooperation with the SUNY Research Foundation. A copy of the Research Foundation's standard corporate [sponsored research contract](#) and

[evaluative testing agreement](#) are available for review although the specific details of each project will be addressed in a customized contract if the project is selected for funding.

Proposal Submission

The ARAD application and budget forms can be downloaded from the Center's web site at <http://centerforbiotechnology.org/what-we-do/technology-development/>. Approval from the Research Foundation Sponsored Programs is not required prior to submission, but will be required if the project is selected for funding. All applications require a letter of support from a senior executive of the company confirming their corporate residency in New York State and financial commitment to match-fund the project. Further details are found within the forms pages. A single PDF version of the proposal and letter of support should be submitted to Dr. Li Liu (li.liu.1@stonybrook.edu) and copy Dr. William Hanes (william.hanes@stonybrook.edu). **The deadline for receipt of applications is April 1, 2016, 5pm. No exceptions will be made.** Applications are accepted and considered on a competitive basis and are subject to the availability of funds.

Budget Guidelines

ARAD projects run from July 1st through June 15th of each year. As a general rule unexpended funds cannot be carried over from one fiscal year to the next. Funding is available for salaries of postdoctoral fellows, technicians and other non-faculty project personnel, supplies, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses. Award funds cannot be used for faculty salaries (tenure or tenure-track), building renovations, travel, meetings, entertainment, consultants, computers (unless directly related to project), or office equipment. Equipment purchases over \$5,000 must be dedicated to the project and have prior Center approval. The budget request should include the appropriate fringe benefit rate(s) as established by the Research Foundation of SUNY [Office of Sponsored Programs](#). If graduate students will be working on the project please include tuition reimbursement as required by the Stony Brook University Graduate School. All New York State corporate-sponsored research projects conducted in partnership with the Center for Biotechnology qualify for a reduced indirect cost rate of 15%, a savings of ~40% over the University's published corporate rate. Indirect cost should be included on both the company and Center budgets, but are calculated differently; the Center budget should include 15% of personnel costs as indirect costs while the company budget should include 15% of total direct costs as indirect costs.

Proposal Evaluation

Applications must support research that has significant potential for economic impact in NYS. Project evaluation is based upon quality of the science, commercial potential, regulatory pathway, intellectual property position, commitment of the sponsor, and level of economic impact in NYS. The importance of the project to the corporate sponsor, and the potential to generate economic impact in terms of expanded corporate or federal funding for the project, new private investment in the company as a result of the project, new job creation, corporate savings, increased corporate revenues, etc., are primary factors in the review process. Generation of new intellectual property is also viewed favorably, but is not required. Intellectual property and licensing is administered through the Stony Brook University [Office of Technology Licensing and Industry Research](#) and is subject to SUNY policies.

Proposals will be evaluated by the Center staff and an external Advisory Panel. Advisory panel members are selected from the academic, business, and investment

communities. All members sign a confidentiality agreement to protect confidential information provided in the application.

Award Implementation and Administration

Award announcements will be made on or before May 2, 2016. Projects are scheduled to begin July 1, 2016 and must be completed by June 15th, 2017. Unexpended funds cannot be carried forward from one project year to the next. Projects selected for funding must obtain approval at the departmental and sponsored programs level. They will then be forwarded to the appropriate contract administrator in the Office of Sponsored Programs to begin implementation of a research contract with the corporate sponsor. To accelerate project implementation corporate sponsors should review the standard research agreement in advance of the proposal submission to familiarize themselves with the basic terms. The research contract will be modified to address specific circumstances of the project as necessary. PIs should have the necessary animal research or human subject applications prepared or approved as quickly as possible to facilitate a July 1 start date. Delays in project start dates can jeopardize funding if not fully anticipated. Therefore, it is critical that PIs and corporate sponsors work closely with the Center to address any outstanding issues that could impede the start and successful completion of the project.

Reporting Requirements

The PI and corporate co-sponsor must submit a non-proprietary 6-month progress report (one page maximum) by Jan 15th, 2017 and a one page final progress report by July 15th, 2017. The report should address both technical and commercial progress and should be sent electronically to Dr. Li Liu (li.liu.1@stonybrook.edu) and copied to Dr. William Hanes (William.hanes@stonybrook.edu). As required by NYSTAR, the Center's funding agency, company sponsors will be required to report on the economic impact of the project on an annual basis. Economic impact in terms of additional funds leveraged, new corporate revenues, jobs created, and cost savings are the primary metrics for success but other supportive information such as patent applications and issued patents, licensed technology, publications, other grants funded, are also important milestones of success and should be communicated to the Center.

Twice a year, the Center is required to report on aggregate corporate research expenditures related to the project funding as a whole. To facilitate the collection of this information, acceptance of ARAD funding by the PI authorizes Center staff to periodically review corporate accounts related to these awards.

Faculty who are considering the submission of an application are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Li Liu, Manager, Technology and Business Development (li.liu.1@stonybrook.edu or 631-632-1665) or Dr. William Hanes, Technology Commercialization Fellow (william.hanes@stonybrook.edu or 631-632-2167) prior to writing a full proposal.