



# AI for Health Seed Grant

The AI for Health Institute  
2025 Call for Proposals



AI for Health Institute

*Supporting groundbreaking interdisciplinary research that harnesses the power of AI to improve health outcomes*

<b>Proposal Deadline</b>	<b>March 1, 2025</b>
<b>Award Period</b>	<b>July 1, 2025 until June 30, 2026</b>
<b>Award Ceiling</b>	Up to \$50,000 over one year
<b>Number of Awards</b>	Up to 5 awards
<b>Application Portal Opens</b>	November 15, 2024

## Program Scope

The Here and Next Seed Grant program and the [AI for Health Institute](#) are pleased to announce the launch of a new seed funding program supporting **innovative and interdisciplinary research that leverages Artificial Intelligence (AI) to address critical challenges in health**. This program is designed to catalyze collaborations across disciplines, encouraging the integration of AI with public health and health care. Projects must bring together researchers from AI and health domains to forge new paths to solve significant health problems with advanced AI technologies. This will be a returning program with cycles to be held in subsequent years.

## Eligibility

- Co-Principal Investigators (co-PIs) must be full-time faculty at WashU at the time of application and remain so for the award’s duration.
- There must be a tangible collaboration from at least two schools within WashU (a minimum of two co-PIs must have primary appointments from different schools).
- All co-PIs must be current on their reporting from any previously received Here and Next Research Grants (including Spark Funding Grants, Ignite Grants, and Transcend Initiative Grants) to be eligible for subsequent awards.
- Proposals submitted to this competition should not be under review in any other Here and Next seed grant competition.

## Application Information

*All applications must be submitted via the InfoReady platform.*

## General Tips & Guidelines

- Applicants should address each element discussed in the Evaluation criteria in the body of their proposal.
- All responses should be written to be understandable to non-specialists.
- It is recommended that applicants do not repurpose previously submitted grants but concentrate on responding to the criteria articulated below, especially as it is expected that proposals for this program have not yet been funded.

## Part I: Team Information & Project Summary

- Enter the names, appointments, schools, departments, and emails of the project's co-PIs
- Enter the name of the staff who would be the post-award administrator, if awarded
- Project Title
- Project Abstract—150 words free of jargon, for a general academic audience
- Amount Requested

## Part II: Project Description

Project descriptions should be written for an interdisciplinary audience across AI and health. In no more than 3 pages (single spaced, 1-inch margins, font no smaller than 11 pt.) applications must explain the following:

- **Research** What is the specific AI-driven health research being proposed? Clearly articulate the innovation and novelty of your approach, emphasizing how AI is being applied to address a significant health challenge. Describe the potential impact of this research on health outcomes and its contribution to the field of AI in health.
- **Team Composition and Roles** Identify the researchers involved in this project, detailing their roles and responsibilities. Explain how the interdisciplinary expertise of the team is crucial to the success of the project, particularly in integrating AI with health-related disciplines. Highlight how each member's unique background and skills contribute to a comprehensive approach to the research question.
- **New Line of Inquiry** Describe how this project represents a novel research direction for the team, particularly in the context of AI for Health. Clearly explain how the project is exploratory and not an extension of already funded work. Explain why this seed funding is essential for initiating this new line of research.
- **Planned Activities** Outline the specific activities that the team will undertake during the award period that the funds will enable. Describe how these activities will advance the project, including any preliminary data collection, algorithm development, or pilot studies that will set the foundation for future research activity.
- **External Funding Potential** Identify potential sources of external funding that the team could target in the future. Explain how the proposed activities during the seed funding period will enhance the team's competitiveness for these funding opportunities, particularly in AI and health-focused grant programs.

## Part III: Budget and Budget Justification

If there are any questions about allowable costs, please reach out to [researchseedfunding@wustl.edu](mailto:researchseedfunding@wustl.edu) to confirm.

- Up to \$50,000 over one year

- Allowable costs are:
  - Non-faculty personnel (postdoctoral fellows, students, and staff)
  - Research materials (such as data sets, lab supplies, etc.)
- Non-allowable costs are:
  - Faculty salary
  - Course relief
  - Equipment or capital expenses
  - Indirect costs
- Generally unallowable costs are:
  - Travel
  - Research costs outside of Washington University

## Part IV: Additional Information & Uploads

- Upload Biosketches in the NIH format for each co-PI, combined into a single .pdf file. Include only the most relevant and recent publications and research, no more than 4 pages per co-PI.
- Upload Other Support document (NIH format) for each co-PI combined into a single .pdf file. This should include all active research funding pending, external and internal.
- **Optional** Supplementary Upload: Please limit this to one page of information. This may include a concept graphic, a program of activities, etc.

## Review Criteria

### 1. Innovative Excellence and Impact in AI and Health

The proposal should demonstrate that the research described will have a critical impact on AI and its use within health systems and healthcare. The research proposed should be impactful and cutting edge, designed to push the boundaries of what is currently possible.

### 2. Collaborative Excellence

The co-PIs listed on the proposal are from varying academic and scientific disciplines. The work proposed cannot be done without one of the research partners listed. There are clear pathways for the work to move the needle in the disciplines of each researcher, and in the broader area of AI for Health.

### 3. Clarity and Feasibility of Proposed Research Activities

The research activities described are feasible in the timeline given and with the resources requested. The budget provided clearly justifies the planned activities. Personnel support is reasonably justified and their contribution to the project described.

### 4. Clarity and Feasibility of Potential Funding pathways

The pathway to subsequent funding is clearly detailed in the proposal and the research activities described will allow the team to become more competitive for the prospective external funding sources.

## Review Process & Timeline

The AI for Health seed grant will use a panel of peer reviewers across interdisciplinary areas of AI and health. The names of the reviewers are confidential. Applications will be reviewed as

swiftly as possible with notification of award in early summer 2025 and an award start of July 1, 2025.

## Reporting Requirements

A report detailing project activities, outcomes, and fiscal expenditures will be due 90 days after the award period's end. There will be another follow-up one year after award period end. All reports will be in the InfoReady system.

## Questions and More Information

Please reach out to [researchseedfunding@wustl.edu](mailto:researchseedfunding@wustl.edu) with any questions about this or other Here and Next Seed Grants.