

Pre-proposal Application Form

The Pre-proposal will have **two (2)** components: 1) this Pre-proposal Application Form and 2) a short, two-page Letter of Intent. The Pre-proposal should be submitted to: IllinoisPOC@illinois.edu. Only investigators who have submitted a Pre-proposal and are invited to submit a Full Proposal will be eligible to submit a Full Proposal. Detailed information on the recommended content is as follows:

1. Before Applying

Only applicants who meet and agree to the following criteria will be considered eligible to submit a Pre-proposal:

- The PI must currently be a full-time faculty member at Illinois, or a professor emeritus who maintains an active research group.
- The PI must have an invention disclosure on file with OTM, or submit a disclosure along with this form, upon which the proposed project will be based. Pre-proposal applications will not be accepted if a disclosure is not filed with the Office of Technology Management.
- Non-Illinois personnel should be identified within the grant application as key contributors and their role within the project should be defined. Competitive applications will utilize both University and non-University expert resources and personnel to help with key milestones related to product development, testing, or prototype construction.
- A PI may submit only 1 proposal per funding Unit. A PI may submit proposals to multiple funding Units, provided that the proposals are not based on the same invention disclosure.
- The technology which provides the basis for the proposal must not be exclusively licensed, or encumbered by any other prior obligations that would preclude the University from moving forward with commercialization (i.e. sponsored research agreement, ongoing collaboration with an industrial partner, or consulting agreement). Please note that technologies that have been optioned or non-exclusively licensed **may be** eligible for the program, depending on the circumstances.
- The IP surrounding the invention disclosure must be owned (or co-owned) by the University of Illinois. If co-owned, it may not be co-owned with an industrial partner and the University of Illinois must be the lead institution. Please contact OTM if you are unsure about the IP ownership of your invention.
- The project must be focused on commercial product development or testing. POC funding cannot be used for basic exploratory studies or as general funding for the PI's lab.
- Project milestones and deliverables must be achievable within 12-18 months of the start of funding and within the requested budget.

2. Applicant Information

Principle Investigator: _____

Position Title: _____

College / Department: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Co-Investigator: _____

Position Title: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Applying under College / Department (Please take into consideration where work will be performed. Proposals will be awarded based on availability of funds from each College/Institute.)

Please check **one (1)**:

- Applied Health Sciences
- Beckman
- Engineering, Dept. _____
- IGB
- Social Work

3. Proposed Project

Title of Proposed Project: _____

Anticipated Budget Requested: _____

Proposed Period of Support: _____

Where else have you applied for funding for this project?

Was the funding awarded? (Please circle one): Yes No

4. Invention Disclosure Information

Title of Invention Disclosure: _____

OTM Reference Number: _____

5. Letter of Intent (LOI) Instructions (no more than two (2) pages)

Please include the following information:

- a. **Project Description** – Introduce the problem your technology solves, a high-level overview of your technology and how it will address that problem, as well as a brief description of your proposed project.
- b. **Project Impact** – Identify current technical or commercial risks associated with your technology that your proposed project will be able to address, thus significantly impacting the commercial potential of your technology.
- c. **Specific Aims/Milestones** – Propose 2-3 distinct milestones that will be used to track the progress of the project over the course of the funding period. Milestones should be logically ordered such that the successful completion of one milestone triggers work to begin on the next milestone. (Please note: IPOC funds are released in tranches, meaning a defined milestone must be successfully achieved before the next tranche of funding is released.)
- d. **Market Attractiveness** – Describe the envisioned end product based on your technology and the market it will compete in. Identify the differentiating factors (e.g. better/faster/cheaper) that will make your technology competitive in the market place. Provide any industry-specific feedback you have received on the competitive advantage of your technology and its ability to fulfill an unmet need in the marketplace.
- e. **Appendix** – A maximum of one (1) page of supporting data or references cited in the LOI may be included. The appendix will not count towards the two-page LOI limit.

6. Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that this project is eligible for submission based on the criteria set forth in Section 1 of this application. I further understand that if I am invited to submit a Full Proposal Application, there is no guarantee that the Full Proposal Application project will be funded.

The Full Proposal Application will be reviewed and scored by a Proof of Concept Awards Program Review Committee and only those projects which are scored highest by the Committee will be funded.

Principle Investigator: _____

Principle Investigator Signature: _____

Co-investigator: _____

Co-investigator Signature: _____