Gillings Innovation Labs – Round 6

Request for Short Proposals

Funded by the $50 million Gillings gift, Gillings Innovation Labs (GILs) engage in cutting-edge research, translation of interventions to high-impact settings, and development of novel technologies or methodologies for the improvement of public health, both locally and globally. GILs are innovative, cross-disciplinary, and strive to achieve fundamental breakthroughs in public health.

Emphasis

In Round 6, applicants are highly-encouraged to submit proposals for cross-department, interdisciplinary implementation science projects that will position the School for national and global leadership.   For more information, see "What is Implementation Science?" (PDF) and this related journal article (PDF). Preference will be given to proposals that include collaborators from other Gillings departments, UNC-Chapel Hill schools, academic institutions, community organizations, and/or businesses.

Funding Pool

Up to four proposals may be funded at up to $150,000 each. Projects may be proposed for up to two years (24-months).

Applicant Eligibility

Faculty members (both tenure- and non-tenure-track) who have primary appointments in the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health are eligible to apply.* Proposals may include a co-PI from another Gillings department or UNC Chapel Hill school.

*Gillings department chairs are not eligible to apply in Round 6.

Key Dates

- 🕐 **January 23, 2017:** Short Proposals due

- 🕐 **March 2017:** Select applicants are invited to submit a Full Proposal

- 🕐 **May 22, 2017:** Full Proposals due

- 🕐 **July 2017:** Earliest notification of awarded GILs

- 🕐 **August 2017**: Earliest project start-date

Application Process

Applications will be completed in two phases:

(1) Short Proposals
Teams applying for a Gillings Innovation Lab should submit a Short Proposal to accelerate@unc.edu by no later than 23 January 2017 by 5 p.m. EST. (See below for requirements.)

(2) Full Proposals
A selection of applicants will be invited in March 2017 to submit a Full Proposal for funding consideration. Full Proposals may be no more than five pages, excluding appendices. More details about Full Proposal requirements will be provided to applicants in March 2017.

Short Proposal Requirements

Please provide answers to the following questions in no more than two pages (single-spaced, margins at least .5", Sans Serif font size 10 - 12).

1. Project Design

In no more than 500 words, describe the project design, including proposed aims, methods, assessment & evaluation, and plans for dissemination/translation of results. (Projects may be proposed for up to 24-months.)

2. Potential public health impact

In no more than 500 words, describe the public health challenge underlying the proposed project, and the impact the project will have on this public health challenge if project aims are successfully met.

3. Proposed innovation

In no more than 500 words, describe the specific innovation and how it is novel and implementable. The innovation can take on any form – e.g. a behavioral intervention, methodology, software, policy change, device, etc.

4. Milestones and Deliverables

List major milestones and key deliverables for the project.
Milestones should reflect key points in time that represent an important event or decision in the life of the project. Deliverables are the outputs of the project.

5. Team

List all project personnel, students, collaborators, and partners that will participate in the project.
Participation of students and cross-disciplinary collaborations are highly encouraged. Partnerships with other schools, institutions, communities, organizations, and businesses are also highly encouraged.

6. Budget

Approximate the budget required to carry out the project, broken down by budget category.
Budgets may include salary support (including fringe benefits) for investigators and study staff, costs of project materials, procurement or conduct of crucial assessments, or study-specific travel or transportation. In general, costs directly related to conducting the proposed work are allowed. In general, costs for infrastructure or other activities that are spread beyond the efforts of the GIL (e.g., buildings, general lab equipment and computers) are not allowed.

Budget Categories:
Salaries of UNC personnel (provide an estimated salary for each team member; include fringe benefits and % effort)
Consultants
Sub-awards
Supplies & Materials
Travel
Other

Review process

- Each Short Proposal will be reviewed by members of the Gillings Research Council and additional subject matter experts as appropriate.
- Short Proposals will be evaluated on several elements including:
  - **project approach** --clear and compelling aims, appropriate and feasible methods, unbiased and rigorous data collection and analyses, well-specified evaluation of outcomes, identification of potential challenges, identification of well-specified milestones and deliverables;
  - **impact/significance of the proposed solution** -- ability of project to make improvements to public health, scale of the problem it attempts to solve, ability to translate results to broader settings;
  - **innovation** -- novelty, usefulness, commercializability (if appropriate), marketability, sustainability;
  - **composition of the project team** -- team members have appropriate experience and training, inclusion of members from multiple departments or schools, partnerships with external organizations, inclusion of students/trainees; and
  - **whether or not the project aligns with the Round 6 implementation science emphasis**

- In March 2017, a selection of applicants will be invited by the Research Council to submit Full Proposals, which will be due by May 22, 2017.
- Each Full Proposal will be reviewed by members of the Research Council and additional subject matter experts as appropriate. The Research Council will prepare recommendations for the Dean's Council subgroup, which will meet and vote on these recommendations in July 2017.
- Awarded proposals will be announced in July/August 2017.