

Arkansas Biosciences Institute – Proposal Cover Sheet

The research mission of the university is an integral part of the/our entire enterprise. Research challenges the minds of our students, enhances our ability to recruit and retain undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff and promotes innovation for economic growth in Arkansas. The atmosphere created by faculty actively engaged in research and creative activity fosters excellence in all of our endeavors.

1. Project Title:	
2. Principal Investigator (Name and Title):	
3. Department:	
4. Telephone Number:	5. Email:
6. Human Subjects: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; Vertebrate Animals: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; Transgenic Plants: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
7. Describe how this proposal advances the ABI mission. Which area(s) within the ABI mandated research areas does this research support and how? (see page 2)	
Research Proposal Summary:	

The A-State Arkansas Biosciences Institute (ABI) is soliciting proposals from A-State faculty (applicants must be current tenured or tenure-track faculty on the Jonesboro campus) **to provide seed funds for new discoveries consistent with the mission of the ABI that will lead to nationally competitive grants and publications.** The ABI's defined mission is "to improve the health of Arkansans through medical and agricultural research initiatives. These multifaceted programs will strengthen Arkansas through science-based economic development including research, education and technology." Research proposed in response to this request should focus on the following:

ABI Mandated Research Areas

1. Agricultural research with medical implications
2. Bioengineering research that expands genetic knowledge & creates new applications in agriculture/medicine
3. Tobacco-related research that identifies and applies behavioral, diagnostic, and therapeutic knowledge to address the high level of tobacco-related illnesses in Arkansas
4. Nutrition and other research that is aimed at preventing and treating cancer, congenital and hereditary conditions, or other related conditions
5. Other areas which are related to primary ABI-supported programs

Deadlines:

March 20 (10:00am) – Letter of Intent due, uploaded into Cayuse

April 20 (10:00am) – Complete Proposal due, attachments uploaded into Cayuse

June 15 – Notice to Funded Recipients

July 1 – Project funding begins

Submission:

The completed proposal must be submitted in Cayuse but ONLY utilizing these forms attached as pdf files in the "documents" tab. Please contact Maria Barner located in ABI main office (mbarner@astate.edu or ext. 4292) if you need assistance uploading these forms into Cayuse. Be sure to submit in advance to allow for departmental approvals in order to meet the deadline.

Funding:

Projects will be supported from A-State's portion of the Arkansas Biosciences Institute (tobacco-settlement) funds. It is anticipated that the awards under this competition will be up to \$50,000 per year. Partial funding for proposals will be considered. Funding periods: Year 1: July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 and Year 2: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. Funding of the second year will be dependent upon availability of funds from ABI and evaluation of the progress of the research from year 1.

Application Process: (direct questions to Hope ext. 4028 or Maria, ext. 4292)

1. Letter of Intent – should contain PI's name, proposed title, list of possible participating organizations, and a synopsis that describes the work in sufficient detail to permit an appropriate selection of reviewers – maximum 2 pages.
2. Proposal Cover Sheet - If human or animal subjects are involved in the project, the appropriate sections must be completed. If needed, IBC, IRB or IACUC approval must be obtained upon award and before release of ABI funding. This one-page form is specific to this RFP and is not to be modified. The project summary is not an abstract, but rather a self-contained description of the activity that would result if the proposal were funded. It should be written in the third person and include a

statement of objectives and methods to be employed. It must clearly address (within the allowed area) the scientific merit of the project and its relationship to ABI research objectives, the anticipated outcome or product and the impact of the proposed research. It should be informative to reviewers from the same or related areas and understandable to a lay reader.

3. Proposal text - This section of the proposal should describe the proposed activities, including experimental design and methods, timetable, and information detailing the availability of supporting facilities, equipment, and personnel necessary to attainment of the project's objectives. The expertise of each member of the research team should be defined. Specifically identify funding sources other than ABI (ex: NIH-NCI) to be approached for continuation of this research. If any prior ABI funds have been awarded, please describe the results including listing the publications and presentations plus any external funds applied and awarded based on results from research funded by ABI (provide on separate page not included in page limitation). **Format:** The research proposal is limited to 5 pages. A type size that is clear and readily legible, no smaller than 11 point, with approximately 15 characters per inch and 6 lines per inch. Text margins should be no smaller than ½". Proposal must be single spaced and single-sided. Relevant literature citations (not included in page limitation) should be included.
4. Budget page - Use the Excel spreadsheet provided in a separate document. Each budget year must be itemized on a separate spreadsheet. Supplies, services, and part-time salary have a deadline (items received & paid) of June 15 with the exception of PI salary which has a deadline of June 30. Contact Maria Barner if you have questions or concerns with the budget. There is a maximum on PI summer salary: one PI with one summer per budget year. Any travel listed must be specifically related to this project. Be sure to include any plant and/or animal usage fees.
5. Budget justification - Must include a justification for all requested salaries, equipment, supplies, and travel—maximum of 2 pages.
6. Detailed equipment list (if any)
7. Biographical Sketch for each investigator (maximum of 2 pages each using NSF outline attached)
8. Current/Pending Support—use attached form. PI support from all sources must be listed. Delineate the PI time commitment for all current and pending support.

Proposal Evaluation:

A committee including external reviewers will be utilized to evaluate the proposals and make recommendations regarding project proposals. Reviewers will be asked to provide feedback on all proposals.

Proposals will be ranked on the basis of:

- the proposed research advances knowledge and understanding within the ASU-ABI initiative
- the scientific merit of the proposed research
- the potential to compete successfully for extramural funds from the appropriate federal agencies e.g.; NSF, USDA, DOE, NIH, etc.

Evaluations will also consider the following factors:

- the proposal's quality and the investigator(s) qualifications and capabilities
- plans for long-term scientific sustainability
- appropriateness of the budget and staffing of the project
- appropriateness of instrumentation purchases for the work proposed
- utilization of A-State students both undergraduate and graduate students whenever possible or appropriate

- the establishment of research collaborations with investigators from other ABI organizations (Arkansas Children's Hospital, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences)
- results from any prior ABI research awards

Funded ABI Grant Requirements:

- The awardee must complete annual progress reports that are included in Annual Report prepared by the Arkansas Biosciences Institute for submission to the Arkansas State Legislature and Governor. This requirement may extend for up to seven years beyond the date of the award. Failure to submit an annual report will result in a suspension of existing funds and the awardee will be ineligible for future ABI funding for a period of five years.
- The awardee is expected to acknowledge the ABI in publications and presentations arising from work supported by this award.
- The awardee is expected to attend the ABI Annual Research Symposium.
- The awardee may be asked to make formal presentations to the ABI Board, A-State community or other organizations.
- The awardee will be required to submit a progress report by May 15 (including: topic sentence stating the project's major thesis, primary objectives and scope of the project, techniques or approaches used only to the degree necessary for comprehension, findings and implications stated as concisely as possible, identified and submitted proposals from this project, and any other information requested by the ABI Director). This progress report is crucial for renewed funding of year 2.