

Temple University School of Medicine

Internal Basic Science Research Grant Review Program

The IGR program will provide a formal mechanism for internal grant review by TU research faculty, as an optional resource for faculty preparing grants prior to submitting for extramural funding. The goal of this program is to increase success in obtaining research funding and to enhance the overall process for research faculty. As much as faculty here are well capable of developing strong grant proposals on their own, input from other scientists can only help, and we all stand to benefit directly and indirectly. Fellow faculty can provide assistance at any level that may be needed, from overall experimental design, to technical issues, minor critiques of the experimental plan, writing issues, or any refinements large or small that would enhance the competitiveness of an application. Participants should adhere to the ideal of mutual benefit for all involved, and the program should exist as a safe environment for constructive criticism and open discussion. Other potential benefits of this program include a greater integration of the research enterprise at TUSM, by connecting faculty with each other's research - new collaborations may also occasionally result from participation in the program - and to encourage early writing well ahead of deadlines, which benefits both faculty and grant administrators.

Participation in the program is voluntary, but should be encouraged by Department Chairs and Center Directors for their faculty.

Applicants should contact Larry Goldfinger (goldfinger@temple.edu) to set up a committee. Each grant review panel will consist of 2 faculty for senior investigator grants or 3 faculty for junior investigator grants. Application drafts and written critiques will be assembled in a designated OWLbox folder for viewing and editing by invited participants. *Applicants must identify up to 3 faculty they believe would be well-suited to review their applications.* Reviewers will be drawn from the TUSM faculty, who would be given the option to participate on a per-application basis. Reviewers will be limited to two grants per cycle.

Reviewers should be available to meet with the applicants if they wish to discuss the proposal and any critiques. All interactions and discussions should be considered confidential.

The applicant can then use the written critiques and discussion with reviewers to revise their proposal.

TUSM Faculty Matrix Credit for participation: Applicants will receive 2 points for participation. Reviewers will receive 3 points on completion of written report and review meeting.

1st step – optional: Specific Aims and proposal outline. There is no time frame for this step.

Applicants prepare:

- 1 page summary of rationale/hypothesis/aims
- brief 5-slide presentation (<10 min)
 1. Background
 2. Hypothesis/aim
 3. Experimental design - schematic diagram
 4. Flaws/weaknesses from previous reviewers
- list of publications
- if a re-application, a draft of response to previous critique

Applicants meet with committee to review basic plans and get feedback.

Basic IRG or 2nd step

3 weeks before due date: Applicants who did not participate in step 1 contact Larry Goldfinger to set up a reviewer panel (see description above). Applicants submit a draft of the application with preliminary data roughed out or in place if available. If the proposal is a resubmission, a draft of response to previous critiques is also required. Submit to review committee. ****Applications submitted less than 3 weeks prior to the due date will not be eligible for internal review.**

2 weeks before due date: Committee members generate written reviews, and arrange a meeting for discussion if requested by the applicant.

Till due date: Refine application. Ask for additional feedback if major revisions are required or as needed.