

## Call for Innovation Seed Projects (ISP2023) in Biomedicine IREP

The Biomedical Research Institute of Lleida Fundació Dr. Pifarré (IRBLleida) was founded with the goal of fostering collaboration among basic, clinical, and epidemiological research, with the purpose of making biomedical research a catalyst for improving everyday clinical practices, benefiting the broader population. IRBLleida's mission is to advance, develop, transfer, oversee, and disseminate outstanding research, scientific, and technological knowledge. We believe that the capacity to nurture groundbreaking ideas and research is crucial in advancing healthcare and improving lives. In this context, we are glad to announce an open call for funding seed projects specifically tailored to promote innovation and facilitate the transfer of knowledge within the field of biomedicine.

### 1. Objective of the Call:

The primary goal of this call is to provide financial support for the implementation of new ideas that could potentially lead to the effective transfer of generated knowledge to the healthcare and business sectors. The IRBLleida will fund **1 grant** of 20.000€ for the development of a project within a period of one year.

### 2. Project Characteristics:

Projects submitted within this biomedicine-focused call are expected to meet the following criteria:  
**Innovation:** Proposals should introduce novel concepts in the biomedicine field, exploring uncharted territory and addressing previously unassessed health issues. We are particularly interested in inventive solutions that have the potential to enhance clinical practices and open new avenues for business opportunities within the healthcare sector.

**Knowledge Transfer:** Projects should demonstrate how they intend to transfer the generated knowledge to clinical practice and/or the biomedicine business sector, by identifying the most relevant stakeholders in the space and proposing the most feasible route to technology transfer.

**Early Stage:** Projects should be in their initial stages of development (TRL1-TRL3), reflecting a commitment to pioneering research and innovative ideas that carry an inherent risk. Protection strategy needs to be considered.

**Feasibility:** Despite being in the early stages, projects must demonstrate reasonable technical and economic viability. Applicants are expected to provide a clear plan for bringing their groundbreaking biomedicine idea to fruition.

### 3. Areas of Interest:

We invite proposals related to different fields, which may include **but are not limited to**:

- Novel medical technologies and devices.
- Biomedical research breakthroughs.
- Innovative pharmaceutical solutions.
- Cutting-edge applications of artificial intelligence in healthcare.
- Advancements in healthcare information and communication technologies.
- Innovations in healthcare related to nutrition.

### 4. Eligibility.

Candidates must be affiliated with IRBLleida prior to the proposal submission deadline, and maintain said affiliation throughout the duration of the funded project.

### 5. Duration:

ISP grant will last for one year, and it will begin on the first day of the first month following the date of the final resolution of the call. This period may be extended for a maximum period of 6 months. Once the extended period of the project's activity has concluded, it will be considered finished, and any unused funds must be returned to IRBLeida.

### 6. Financing:

ISP grant is endowed with a maximum of €20,000 that will be administered by the PI, through the IRBLeida management office. The project will only fund direct costs, and no overheads will be applied. Eligible expenses will include all costs related to the purchase of consumables and inventory materials, as well as the use of IRBLeida Core facilities and external subcontracting services necessary for project development. Personnel hiring is eligible for a maximum of 50% of the budget. Ineligible expenses are travel, publications fees, and any other costs not directly related to the development of the project.

### 7. How to Apply:

To participate in the call, the candidates will submit the following documentation using the **ISP2023 application form**.

- Curriculum vitae of the candidate in the CVA format.
- ISP proposal form including an executive summary, objectives, what problem are you addressing, a detailed work plan, a clear timeline, and an estimated budget. Additionally, describe how you plan to facilitate the transfer of knowledge within the biomedicine sector.

### 8. Selection Process:

The process consists of the following phases:

#### 8.1. Presentation of the project

The deadline for submission of applications will be open from 28 of November of 2023 and until 15:00h of 29 of December of 2023. Applications received after this deadline will not be accepted.

#### 8.2. Evaluation and selection of proposals

A panel formed by three members of the IRBLeida Business Advisory Board (BAB) will review all proposals, based on the following criteria (maximum 100 points).

- Innovation: The uniqueness of the idea compared to the state-of-the-art (30 points).
- Knowledge transfer: Its potential impact on the biomedicine sector (30 points).
- Feasibility: The quality of planning and adequacy of the research team (20 points).
- Commercial viability: There is a market for your idea/product, and if there is, is your solution better than what is currently available? (20 points).

The evaluation panel will determine scores based on their expertise and experience, taking into account the objectives of the IRBLeida's Innovation Seed Project call. In the provisional funding decision, the BAB panel will prioritize applications. The members of the BAB may declare the call for proposals void if, after evaluation, the proposals do not meet the minimum quality criteria established in 60 points.

After the provisional funding decision, applicants will have 5 working days to submit any possible allegations to the decision by sending an email to [innovacio@irbllleida.org](mailto:innovacio@irbllleida.org). The allegations will be studied by the BAB panel and a response will be given to the allegations within a maximum period of 7 business days.

### **9. Follow-up project and beneficiaries' obligations**

Any oral or written communication based on data generated from the Innovation Seed Project must be communicated to the innovation unit at least one month before the intended date of the communication to avoid compromising the possible protection of assets.

Within a maximum period of three months after the effective finalization of the grant, the PI will prepare a final report detailing the results obtained and send it to the Innovation Unit e-mail ([innovacio@irbllleida.org](mailto:innovacio@irbllleida.org)). The Innovation Unit will assess the need to protect the results within a month.

Obtaining the grant implies committing to the development and implementation of the idea, under the supervision of the Innovation Unit of IRBLLleida. The beneficiary must inform IRBLLleida of any application for or receipt of grants, public and/or private, for the same purpose; as well as any incidence or variation that may occur in relation to the original proposal.

### **10. Acceptance of the terms and conditions, industrial and intellectual property, personal data protection and confidentiality**

The intellectual or industrial property and exploitation rights that may derive from the implementation of the granted idea will belong to IRBLLleida, recognizing as authors or inventors the people who have conceived and implemented these ideas and applying the intellectual and industrial property regulations of IRBLLleida.

The personal data of the participants in the Call for Innovation Seed Projects (ISP2023) in Biomedicine processed by the IRBLLleida for the purpose of managing their participation in this Call and, where appropriate, the awarding and delivery of the prize.

The documentation associated with the proposals will be treated as confidential information, being obliged to maintain the confidentiality of the information all persons involved in the evaluation and assessment of the proposals, and may be used for informative and dissemination purposes, subject to prior consent of the applicants.

Participation in this call for proposals implies knowledge and acceptance of the terms and conditions.

### **11. Important Dates:**

Call start date: November 28<sup>th</sup>

Proposal submission deadline: December 29<sup>th</sup>

### **12. Information clause on the processing of personal data**

**Responsible party:** Institut de Recerca Biomèdica de Lleida Fundació Dr. Pifarré (IRBLLleida).

**Purpose:** Management of calls.

**Legitimation:** The legal basis of the processing is the carrying out of a selection process to provide financial support for research projects.

**Addressees:** The data will not be transferred to third parties, except in the legal obligations established by law.

**Rights:** Access, rectification, and deletion of data, as well as other rights, as explained in the additional information.

**Additional information:** You can consult additional and detailed information on Data Protection on our website <http://www.irblleida.org/en/legal-notice/>.

The data provided by applicants will be incorporated into the processing system owned by IRBLleida in order to manage and resolve the selection process, and will be processed in a lawful, fair, transparent, adequate, relevant, limited, accurate, and up-to-date manner, in compliance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and Organic Law 3/2018, of 5 December (LOPDGDD). The legal basis for the processing of data is the fulfillment of a legal obligation on the part of the controller reinforced with the consent of the data subject.

This data must be kept for the period of time strictly necessary to fulfil the aforementioned purpose, respecting in all cases the period determined by these rules and regulations governing the call for applications and the applicable archiving regulations.

Certain data may be communicated to third parties in the public or private sphere, either because the intervention of these entities in the course of the aid management process may be necessary because it is correctly resolved, or because it is provided for in a regulation with the status of law.

As long as the interested party does not communicate otherwise, it will be understood that their details have not been modified and that they undertake to notify the IRBLleida of any variation.

Applicants may exercise their rights of access, rectification, limitation of processing, suppression, opposition to the processing of their data or exercise their right to portability by writing to IRBLleida (Avda. Rovira Roure, 80, 25198 Lleida), to the e-mail address [protecciodedades@irblleida.cat](mailto:protecciodedades@irblleida.cat) or to the IRBLleida's Data Protection Delegate, [dpd@ticsalutsocial.cat](mailto:dpd@ticsalutsocial.cat). You must attach a photocopy of your ID card or sign the e-mail with a recognized electronic signature. In the event of disagreement with the processing, you also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Catalan Data Protection Authority.