UNO
Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (SEM) Initiative
Fiscal Year 2019
Request for Applications

APPLICATION DEADLINE
Applications must be submitted in MavGrants and routed with approvals by 5:00 p.m. on April 29, 2019. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be eligible for review.

INTRODUCTION
UNO has designed this pilot grant program to stimulate collaborations and speed new competitive applications for Federal funding.

PROGRAM GOALS
The overall goal of this program is to initiate and enhance the competitiveness of research collaborations in SEM. SEM is defined as the application of concepts and methods of the sciences (including biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and computer science), engineering, and medicine, particularly as they transform approaches or solve challenges associated with human disease.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION
Any full-time, UNO faculty member (tenure-leading, tenured or research faculty) from any College is eligible to submit an application. In addition, faculty that have received (or will receive) funding from the University of Nebraska Collaboration Initiative for a similar project are not eligible to receive funding from the SEM funding mechanism. However, previous awardees are eligible to submit as Co-PIs.

AWARD TOTAL: A total of one award (up to $50,000 per year for up to two years) will be made in 2019. The Office of Research and Creative Activity will provide funding for these awards.

APPLICATION PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS
• Applicants MUST use the application template available in the Internal Competition application in MavGrants.
• Pages must have a minimum of 1” margins on all sides, and text must be in 11 point font.
• Electronic submission in a single PDF is required.
• At least one Co-PI from a different department is required with evidence that each is bringing a strategic expertise to the team. Applications must describe the specific contribution (roles and responsibilities) of the partners at each institution
• Electronic submission must be received with approvals by 5:00 p.m. on April 29, 2019, through the internal competitions module in MavGrants. The internal competition name is "Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (SEM) Initiative".
• Applications received after the deadline, or not adhering to page length or other formatting requirements will not be reviewed.
FUNDING LIMITATIONS
Funds may be used for supplies and technical support (technicians, biomedical informatics or biostatistics support, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students). Funds may **not** be used for the following:

- Faculty salaries (post-doctoral fellows, graduate students and technician salaries are OK)
- International travel
- Administrative support
- Large Equipment (over $5,000)
- Computer equipment or support
- Remodeling, renovation, or construction
- Recruitment start-up or retention packages

REVIEW PROCESS
All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a UNO committee. Finalist applicants will be invited to a face-to-face meeting to discuss their proposed research project with UNO research administrators. Final funding decisions will be made by the Vice Chancellors for Research and Creative Activity by June 2019 for a start date of July 1, 2019.

SELECTION CRITERIA will be made primarily based on scientific merit.
Other criteria:
- Evidence that the research is founded on a true collaborative partnership.
- Research directly linked to federal funding priorities as evidenced by RFAs, FOA’s, BAA’s and/or Program Announcements that are described in the application.
- The team and project shows high potential for generating new Federal funding. The work does not overlap with or is not a continuation of existing federally funded research.

SECOND YEAR FUNDING REQUIREMENTS
To be eligible for the second year of funding, the PI must: 1) submit a report of progress and accomplishments before end of year one; 2) present those results in person to UNO administrators, including plans for submitting applications for extramural funding. The Vice Chancellors for Research and Creative Activity will determine whether to release funds for year two or terminate the project based on insufficient progress.

Applications for SEM funding must include the following. Refer to the application instructions for forms and more information:

1) A **cover sheet** (form in the application instructions).

2) A **250-word abstract** in non-technical terms.

3) A **three-page** project description including the following elements:
   - *Introduction & Specific Aims or Goals (as appropriate for funding source)*
   - *Research Plan:*
     - Background and Significance
     - Preliminary Results
     - Research Design and Methods
• **Timeline**
  o Project activities
  o Submission of one or more federal funding applications, with identification of relevant Program Announcement or Request for Applications

4) References or literature citations are not included in the three-page limit to the project description and may be listed on one additional page.

5) List of project key personnel (form provided in the application instructions)

6) A biographical sketch for each investigator. Limit of two pages/person.

7) List of the current and pending extramural grants for all investigators (form provided in the applications instructions).

8) A one-page budget (form provided in the application instructions) with budget justification.

**SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

Applications must be submitted and routed with approvals by 5:00 p.m. on April 29, 2019. Applications submitted after the deadline will be returned to the applicant without review.

Applications must be submitted electronically as a single pdf file to the MavGrants Internal Competition module by following the below steps:

- Login to MavGrants with your NetID and password
- Click Main Menu
- Click Internal Competitions
- Click Add New Application
- Select "Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (SEM) Initiative from the drop down list
- Start application

**For additional information contact:**
Office of Research and Creative Activity (402) 554-2286