

Eshelman Institute for Innovation Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Awards Request for Proposals 2020

The Eshelman Institute for Innovation's (EII) purpose is to create and sustain an innovation engine to enable the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy to define and pursue bold, new, innovative ways to move the mission of the School forward and extend the School's position as a global leader.

The EII aims to educate and train the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs in the creation, implementation, and translation of big ideas into innovative solutions that positively impact society. The EII team does this by sponsoring a young innovators program, a postdoctoral fellowship program, and by offering grant awards to ESOP graduate students and postdoctoral fellows up to \$25,000, when funding is available.

ESOP students and Post Docs are strongly encouraged to collaborate with a Meharry Medical College Ph.D. or M.D. student on their project. We believe that a cross collaboration between schools will profoundly advance research and create great impact. Projects that include a Meharry collaborator will be prioritized for funding by the EII. If working with a Meharry collaborator, please specify this in your application and include necessary information that is requested (budget information, faculty mentor, etc.). Please note, Meharry students are unable to apply for the award without collaborating with an ESOP graduate student or Post Doc. Contact Alexandra Sturchio (sturchio@email.unc.edu) if you have questions about a potential collaboration with an outside institution or collaborator.

The student application will open on **September 8, 2020** and close on **October 21, 2020**. All proposal budgets must be sent to the Office of Research Administration for approval by October 13, 2020. Select applicants will be required to pitch their projects, which will be held virtually on December 10, 2020. Funding for selected proposals will begin on January 1, 2021.

This document includes grant guidelines, proposal requirements and budget information. If you have any questions, please reach out to Alexandra Sturchio (sturchio@email.unc.edu) or the Eshelman Institute of Innovation (eshelmaninstitute@unc.edu).

Jump to:

- [Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Important Dates](#)
- [Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Grant Guidelines](#)
- [Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Budget Information](#)
- [Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Application Overview](#)
- [EII Rankin Innovator Acceleration Award](#)
- [Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Reporting Dates](#)
- [Resources for Applicants](#)

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Important Dates

- **September 8, 2020:** The web-based application will be available on the [EII website](#)
- **October 13, 2020:** The budget must be to the Office of Research Administration for approval
- **October 21, 2020:** The web-based application will close
- **November 20, 2020:** EII will notify those selected to Pitch
- **December 10, 2020:** Virtual Pitch Day (*all applicants are asked to tentatively hold this date on their calendars from 9am-4pm*)
- **December 17, 2020:** Notice of Award
- **December 22, 2020:** Deadline to send EII signed Notice of Award, Photo and Project Description
- **January 1, 2021:** Funded projects begin

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Grant Guidelines

The Eshelman Institute for Innovation will only fund proposals submitted by graduate students and postdoctoral students of the UNC Eshelman School Pharmacy. Please review the below grant guidelines, prior to submitting a proposal.

- Ideas should be new, bold, novel ideas. These ideas are high risk and have the potential to be highly impactful.
- No evidence of prior work in the area is required
- Projects must be completed in one calendar year.
- Student teams and collaborations across degrees and disciplines are encouraged.
- Student and Fellow Mentor Approval form is required for all collaborators on project.
- Budget approved by the Office of Research Administration is required.
- Detailed aims and milestones are required.
- Acceptance of UNC's patent and invention policy required.
- If invited, innovators will be asked to pitch the idea to the Eshelman Institute for Innovation administrative team and faculty review committee.

Collaborators outside of UNC/Meharry Medical College Partnership:

For innovators working with collaborators at institutions outside of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Institute requires signed documentation that contains the following statement from the authorized institutional grants office at the collaborating institution: "the attached budget is consistent with the institutional policies and budgeting guidelines of [insert institution name] and has been reviewed and approved by our authorized institutional official". This documentation must be submitted with the proposal via the Institute's online proposal

submission application. This documentation should be combined with the UNC budget and uploaded as a single attachment.

The lead innovator on the project will serve as the primary account holder for EII awarded funds. However, due to finance requirements, the primary account holder on all awarded funds must be a UNC delegate. Therefore, ESOP students/postdocs must serve as the lead innovator and primary account holder on each proposal (one proposal max).

Budget Template and Approval:

All budgets must be finalized and approved by the Office of Research Administration prior to submission. Please see [Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Budget Information](#) for more information on award budgets.

Student and Fellow Mentor Approval Form:

A Student and Fellow Mentor Approval form is required for all applicants. All external student collaborators must complete a faculty mentor agreement, with sign off from a faculty member at their institution.

- UNC Student/Post Doc Faculty Mentor Approval Form: [Click here to download the form.](#)
- Non-UNC Student/Post Doc Faculty Mentor Approval Form: [Click here to download the form.](#)

Graduate and postdoctoral students may select a faculty mentor that differs from the primary advisor. However, in this case, faculty mentors, as well as the student's main adviser, are required to sign off on the proposal and time commitment to the project upon submission.

Aims and Milestone Form:

Innovators must complete the EII Aims and Milestone template as part of their application. [Click here to download the form.](#)

If you need assistance with crafting the aims and milestones of your project, please reach out to the EII Project Manager, Ashlie Thomas, at eshelmaninstitute@unc.edu.

Compliance:

All awarded proposals that involve conflict of interest, human subjects, animal subjects, intellectual property, specified research materials, or educational research must be reviewed and approved in accordance with the [University and School's policies and procedures](#). You are encouraged to review information as provided by the [Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research](#) which provides research and compliance support.

As part of the application, all applicants will be asked to review and agree to [UNC's Patent and Invention Policy](#) and the [UNC Conflict of Interest Policy](#).

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Budget Information

An important component of your proposal submission is the preparation of an initial budget. Please ensure that the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy's Office of Research Administration (ORA) has worked with you to create and review the budget.

The ORA deals with a high capacity of requests, so please do not delay reaching out them about your project's budget. Budgets are due to the ORA by **October 13, 2020**. Please contact Raj Kshatriya, rajakash@email.unc.edu, or Kathryn Fiscelli, fiscelli@email.unc.edu, to schedule time to work on your budget. A member of the office of research administration must sign off on your budget before you submit your application to the Institute, or your application will be considered ineligible. [Budget form and justification example](#).

Please consider project expenses in the following areas:

- **Direct Costs:** Costs that can be identified specifically with your project, an instructional activity, or any other institutional activity, or that can be directly assigned to such activities relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy.
 - **Personnel:** Salary and fringe benefits for innovators and collaborators are not supported by the EII.
 - **Purchased Services:** Consultants and contract costs.
 - **Supplies:** Supplies needed to complete project.
 - **Equipment:** An article of tangible non-expendable personal property that has a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost per unit that equals or exceeds \$5,000.
 - **Other:** Include any miscellaneous expenses and explain the need in detail.
 - **Tuition:** The Institute will not fund tuition.
- **Indirect Costs:** The Institute will not fund overhead, indirect, or F&A costs from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill or from any external collaborating partners or institutions.

Non EII Funding

- The Institute encourages leveraged funding to support your innovation. Describe all existing funding that supports this innovation in your budget justification. Please also describe any additional funding you anticipate receiving.

Please note: For innovators working with collaborators at institutions outside of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Institute requires signed documentation that contains the following statement from the authorized institutional grants office at the collaborating institution: "the attached budget is consistent with the institutional policies and budgeting guidelines of [insert institution name] and has been reviewed and approved by our authorized institutional official". This documentation must be submitted with the proposal via the

Institute's online proposal.

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Application Overview

1. Contact Information
2. Collaborator Contact Information
 - All collaborators on the project must be included on the application.
3. Project Information
 - Project title
 - Requested amount up to \$25,000
 - Brief lay abstract of proposal
 - File upload of formal proposal (6,000 max character limit). Be sure to include:
 - **Problem and/or Need:** Describe the problem or unmet need that motivates your unique solution and/or idea.
 - **Innovative Solution:** Describe the proposed ideas and/or solution. How is it different from other ideas and/or solutions? How will it substantially transform science, medicine, health care delivery, education, outcomes or patient health?
 - **Impact:** Describe the impact that your project will have.
 - **Aims and Approach:** State the specific aims and approach for executing your proposed idea and/or solution. Be sure to mention specific milestones and describe how you will define success for your project and outline the deliverables.
 - **Sustainability:** Describe the plan or path for sustaining this work and/ or program beyond initial funding through follow-on funding, commercialization, implementation
 - File upload of proposal's aims and milestones
 - File upload of budget with budget justification
4. Subject Matter Experts
 - Please identify up to three subject matter experts who, in your opinion, would be reasonable reviewers for your proposal.
5. Documents Uploaded
 - CV/Resume and a CV/Resume for each collaborator listed on the proposal
 - Student Projects Faculty Member Agreement (for all collaborators)
 - Budget Justification with external collaborator agreement language, if needed
 - References; up to two pages
 - Additional documents, if needed
6. Compliance
 - Subcontract agreement information
 - UNC Patent and Invention Policy

- Policy on Individuals Conflicts of Interest and Commitment
7. Rankin Award
- If interested in applying, list how the Rankin Award will impact you; and what might you use the award for

EII Rankin Innovator Acceleration Award

The EII Rankin Innovator Acceleration Award was created from an endowment from Lawson and Gisele Rankin and supports the entrepreneurial efforts of the students in the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy.

The EII Rankin Innovator Acceleration Award is offered to one ESOP recipient annually in conjunction with the EII student and postdoc award. The selected recipient will receive \$5,000 towards their EII grant (grants may not exceed \$25,000) and will receive financial support of \$5,000 to participate in the awardee's choice of an entrepreneurship program, certificate, or mentorship.

Awardees will have one year to complete the scientific aims of their EII project and an additional year to complete an entrepreneurship program, certificate, or mentorship. The EII Rankin Award recipient will be expected to work with an EII team member on selecting a program. Funded EII projects cannot be done simultaneously with the UNC Entrepreneurship Center programs.

In the EII application, students and postdoctoral fellows will have the opportunity to apply for the EII Rankin Award and provide insight into how they would use the award if selected. Please note, applying for the EII Rankin Innovator Acceleration Award is voluntary and is not required of all EII award applicants.

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Reporting Dates

Students that are selected for EII funding will be required to complete quarterly progress reports and a final report. Progress reports and the final report are utilized to provide students with technical assistance, understand what you are learning from the project and assist the EII in providing information on our portfolio, sustainability, and future funding recommendations.

Reporting dates:

- March 15, 2021: Progress report is due
- June 14, 2021: Second progress report is due
- September 13, 2021: Third progress report is due

- January 1, 2022: Final report is due

Resources for Applicants

As you prepare for your application or pitch presentation, we encourage you to take advantage of existing resources and services within UNC. If you have any questions about these resources, please contact eshelmaninstitute@unc.edu.

Proposal Writing Resources:

- [UNC Writing Center – Grant Proposals Tips and Tools](#)
- [UNC’S Funding Information Portal: Proposal Writing](#)
- [UNC Office of Research Development/ORD Research & Proposal Development Resources](#)
- [NC TraCS Proposal Development](#) (*Note: NC TraCS prioritizes NIH and faculty proposals. If you plan to seek their guidance, please coordinate in advance.*)

Pitch/Presentation Resources:

- [UNC’s Learning Center - Giving Effective Presentations](#)
- [UNC Graduate School – Poster and Presentation Resources](#)

Entrepreneurial Resources:

- [UNC Entrepreneurship Center](#)
 - The UNC Entrepreneurship Center is housed within the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise (UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School) and is open to students across UNC’s campus.
 - The UNC Entrepreneurship Center offers a variety of events year-round. For information on their current events, please visit their [events calendar](#).
- [StartupUNC](#)
 - StartupUNC offers a set of courses designed to foster entrepreneurial mindset, and offer services to help start the incubation process for ideas/innovations/products.
- [Innovate Carolina](#)
 - Innovate Carolina offers resources in innovation and entrepreneurship at UNC. For information on their current events, please visit their [events calendar](#).
- [BeAM UNC](#) (Be A Maker Makerspace Network)
 - BeAM UNC focuses on innovation through “making” and offers free training and materials for students, faculty, and staff.
 - [BeAM Design Center](#) is a resource for design and fabrication assistance.
- [Launch Chapel Hill – Business Accelerator Program](#)
 - The Launch Chapel Hill Business Accelerator Program is a 16-week course offered each fall and spring. This program is intended to radically help you build your business by offering a variety of resources.

- [LinkedIn Learning](#)
 - Formerly Lynda.com, LinkedIn Learning is a great free resource for high-quality, online, or on-demand trainings. LinkedIn Learning current offers many trainings focused on entrepreneurship.