



**CBC HITES**

CHICAGO BIOMEDICAL CONSORTIUM

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Hub for Innovative Technology and  
Entrepreneurship in the Sciences

## **CBC-HITES Frequently Asked Questions**

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## How is CBC-HITES different from other grant programs?

Funded in part by an NIH REACH award, the goal of CBC-HITES is to help academic investigators move their inventions from the lab to the marketplace and educate researchers and trainees about the process.

Before the applying team submits a Letter of Intent (LOI), CBC-HITES encourages and welcomes conversations with researchers about their ideas and whether they are at the appropriate stage for our funding.

If the applying team is funded, CBC-HITES provides not just funding, but wrap-around support in the form of project management, connections to industry, venture, CROs, and technical, regulatory, and other experts that are needed throughout the lifetime of the translation process. In addition, CBC-HITES integrates each institution's technology transfer function into the process. All these deliverables, services, and funding will help Chicagoland academic scientists navigate and accelerate the translation of their innovative discoveries to impactful healthcare solutions.

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## Who is eligible to apply for the CBC-HITES program?

This RFA is open to faculty and trainees associated with any of our [nine partnering institutions](#). While CBC-HITES requires applications be submitted by a faculty member, we welcome projects driven by trainees. Non-faculty applicants must identify a faculty member who is willing to sponsor their application. Applications must focus on developing technologies that have the potential to improve patient care or enhance human health. **The detailed eligibility for each award is found in the RFAs on our website.**

CBC-HITES can accept projects focused on developing therapeutics, biomarker diagnostics, medical devices, health information technology, or research tools.

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## Does my institution participate in the CBC-HITES program?

The following partnering institutions participate in the CBC-HITES network:

- Northwestern University
- University of Chicago
- University of Illinois Chicago
- Rosalind Franklin University
- Loyola University
- Rush University
- Northern Illinois University
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- Discovery Partners Institute

We also accept applications from affiliates of the above institutions. Please reach out to us to determine your institution's eligibility.

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### **Can a PI submit more than one application?**

A PI is limited to one active [CBC-HITES application](#) at a time.

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### **Can solo PIs apply?**

Yes, an individual PI may submit an LOI application. Although collaborative proposals are encouraged there is no specific requirement for cross-institutional collaboration.

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### **What projects are eligible? Does my technology have to treat one specific disease?**

There is no disease-specific requirement, but the project should be focused on the development of a therapeutic, therapeutic platform, diagnostic or biomarker, medical device, or health IT. The goal of CBC-HITES is to help applying teams develop a compelling hypothesis and focus on gathering data that advances the hypothesis and discharges key translational risks.

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### **What's the policy on intellectual property?**

Applications should involve ideas that originate from within a participating institution (making them potentially eligible for patent protection or some other mechanism that will return income to the program) or university-derived technologies with pending/issued patents or copyright. Technologies that are already licensed to a company are not eligible for funding.

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### **What is the size of the CBC-HITES award?**

Faculty from any one of the nine partnering institutions can apply for an award of up to \$75,000 in direct funding for one year of research.

PIs or teams that include a PI from the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois Chicago, or Northwestern may apply for an award of up to \$250,000 in direct funding for two years of research.

Please see the RFAs on our website for a detailed explanation of award eligibility. Our program managers are always willing to meet to discuss the process.

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### **Are there restrictions on the use of funds?**

The proposed research activities and budget requests must thus be within institutional guidelines for an application to be successful. Note: PIs may claim up to 2% effort/salary relief. Graduate student tuition and tuition remission is not allowed on CBC-HITES awards. Award funds cannot be used for correlative studies associated with ongoing clinical trials. Each PI can include travel expenses of \$1000/application.

CBC-HITES does not allow facilities and administrative (F&A)/ Indirect Costs on any funded project.

If a company has been formed, CBC-HITES funding must go to the PI's partnering institution and cannot be used by the company.

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### **Can we use our award for clinical trials?**

No

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### **What are the expectations/deliverables for CBC-HITES Awardees? What benchmarks will I have to meet in the program?**

Receipt of funding for selected projects will be milestone-driven and CBC-HITES staff will monitor development and help with project management. Recipients are also required to provide yearly narrative progress reports.

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### **How do I apply?**

[Click here for application instructions.](#)

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### **What happens after I apply?**

Please see the RFAs on our website for details on the review process for each award. Our program managers are always willing to meet to discuss the process.

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### **What additional resources are available to applicants?**

[Click here for a list of additional resources.](#)

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