

NursEng Healthcare Innovation Seed Grant

The Nursing and Engineering Innovation Center is pleased to offer the *NursEng Healthcare Innovation Seed Grant*. The purpose of the *NursEng Healthcare Innovation Seed Grant* is to promote and support interdisciplinary and innovative research, scholarship, and creative collaborations among faculty from the Schools of Nursing and Engineering that will advance innovation in healthcare technology and have strong potential as a foundation for extramural funding for larger-scale innovation and research activities in the future.

Innovation research, scholarship, and creative collaborations funded by this grant are expected to lead to significant long-term outcomes, such as publications, intellectual property, academic symposia, and future research, scholarship or collaborations.

Award Details:

We anticipate funding for up to four proposals for FY2023 with funding amounts ranging from \$5,000 to a maximum of \$12,000.

Proposals must consist of at minimum one PI from the School of Nursing and one PI from the School of Engineering at any campus including UConn, UConn Health, Hartford, and Waterbury. New collaborations between the School of Nursing and School of Engineering are encouraged.

Preference will be given to proposals that identify specific external funding opportunities and that have the potential to support sustainable (e.g., multi-year) collaborations.

We will not consider funding for ongoing projects to supplement existing budgets unless the seed funds will fund a new and innovative component of a larger project. Awards of \$5,000 - \$12,000 will be considered for each project.

Eligibility:

- UConn School of Nursing faculty (tenure, in-residence, and clinical tracks)
- UConn School of Engineering faculty (tenure, in-residence, and clinical tracks)

Deadlines:

- Full proposals must be submitted by **November 6, 2023, 5:00 pm**.
- Awards will be announced by November 30, 2023
- Award period: January 1, 2024, to December 30, 2024.
- For more information, please contact Dr. Leila Daneshmandi (leila@uconn.edu) or Dr. Tiffany Kelley (tiffany.kelley@uconn.edu).

- **Proposal Guidelines:**

The full proposal must include the following:

- 1. Cover Page**, including:

- Project Title
- PI/Co-PIs: names, titles, email addresses.
- Total amount requested: (min. \$5,000, max. \$12,000)

- 2. Project Summary (limit: 300 words):**

Succinctly state the objectives, methods to be employed, and the significance of the proposed activity to the advancement of knowledge.

- 3. Project Plan** (maximum: 3 - 4 pages, font size arial 11, single spaced, 0.5" margins):

- **Significance and Aims:** Include a brief rationale for the proposal aims and goals. If applicable, include hypotheses to be tested.
- **Methods/Strategy:** For research or scholarship projects, describe the design, setting, sample, measures/instruments, intervention (if applicable), data collection procedures, and data analytic approaches. For innovation or other projects describe the methods used to develop, implement, and evaluate the project.
- **Innovation/Novelty:** Outline the ways in which the proposed work is new/innovative in the topic addressed, approach, methods, or techniques in comparison to previous work in the field.
- **IRB Approval (as indicated).** Please describe the status of the human subjects/IRB approval. If not yet approved, please build sufficient time into the timeline for this your innovation project.
- **References:** Include appropriate references for the innovation grant proposal.
- **Timeline:** Outline the timeline for completion of tasks/milestones. The Nursing and Engineering Innovation Center will request a semi-annual and annual progress report. Unused funds will be returned if the proposal cannot be completed in a timely and reasonable manner. One year award periods are expected (1/1/24 - 12/30/24) unless there is a compelling reason for a different period. Extensions may be allowable with adequate justification. Include in the timeline plans for future funding at the completion of the project.

- **Research Team:** Describe the proposed contributions of the team and their respective roles.
- **Future Funding and Dissemination Plan** (half page): Describe the importance of this funding for the continuation/success of the project; specify how the funds will be used to support efforts to obtain future external funding. If a specific program has already been identified, please describe.

4. Proposed Budget:

List and justify each budget item. Use of the OVPR Internal Funding Budget Excel spreadsheet is optional for this grant: <https://ovpr.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2557/2018/12/OVPR-Internal-Funding-Budget-Template-FY24-for-FY23-competitions.xlsx>

- Allowable expenses: Materials and supplies, laboratory services, travel to collect data, GA salary, undergraduate student salary, consultant salary limited to \$100/hr., participant incentives.
- Not Allowable: PI or Co-I salary, course buyout, or travel to conferences.

Describe other sources of support for this proposal and how the requested funds will be additional to those sources. Funds will not be awarded or will be reduced if there is a significant overlap in available funds/budgetary items with existing funding sources or if the request is to supplement a current project with a budget shortfall.

Describe plans for use of the School of Nursing, School of Engineering, or other resources. Budget for these as needed. If there is a need to engage other faculty or staff, please document that supervisors have approved this engagement (1 page maximum).

5. Biosketch:

An NIH or NSF style biosketch or UConn CV (limited to 5 pages) is required for the PI/Co-I's. Please include a list of past/current/pending support for the last five years from all UConn sources (including start-up funds) and external sponsors.

- **Submission:**

Please email a combined PDF file of all materials to Tiffany Kelley (tiffany.kelley@uconn.edu) and Leila Daneshmandi (leila@uconn.edu)

Please contact Dr. Leila Daneshmandi (leila@uconn.edu) or Dr. Tiffany Kelley (tiffany.kelley@uconn.edu) if you have any further questions.

- **Review Process:**

Submissions will be reviewed by a panel of faculty from the Schools of Nursing and Engineering.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Intellectual merit and innovativeness of the project.
- Significance of the application in advancing unmet healthcare needs.
- Composition of the team, including relevant expertise needed to complete the project. Teams that do not include at least one Engineering faculty, and one Nursing faculty will not be considered. New collaborations are encouraged.
- Appropriate methods and approach, and realistic budget and timeline for completion of project.
- Specific plan for using the work generated from this award to lead to future larger-scale activities and external awards.