



■ AIMTech | Alliance for Innovative Medical Technology

Call for Proposals for Pilot Grants in Medical Device Development

The Alliance for Innovative Medical Technology († AIMTech) is an initiative to develop new medical technologies to improve healthcare in the U.S. and around the globe. AIMTech's goal is to identify novel technologies and provide guidance and seed funding of up to \$25,000 for 12 months. Additional funding will be based on meeting project objectives and milestones. Up to three projects will be funded to develop working prototypes, to perform evaluations and to perform preliminary development of medical device concepts. All investigators, irrespective of affiliation or rank, who wish to develop medical device concepts are eligible to apply.

▶▶ **Deadline: 5 p.m. CDT on Friday, April 13, 2018**

■ Application

Submit your non-confidential application as a single PDF to aimtech@southernresearch.org prior to the application deadline.

The application should include:

1. Title of project, principal investigator name and title, and contact information
2. Principal investigator's bio-sketch or curriculum vitae
3. Respond to the following with a maximum of five pages, no less than 11-pt. font, Arial, Calibri or Times New Roman, and margins greater than or equal to one-half inch

▶ What is the clinical need? Describe the significance and estimated patient population/year to be reached.

▶ Describe the technical solution. Include a general description of how you propose to solve the problem. What is the status of your device idea (idea, early prototype, late prototype)?

▶ Describe the current practice and competition. What are best practices now? How will your device be superior to existing devices and practices?

▶ What is the status of Intellectual Property?

▶ Provide a timeline for the project, with milestones. Include initial key prototypes that can be developed to establish proof of concept. Provide 2-4 milestones and deliverables, as well as duration of the project, with an anticipated start date of April 30, 2018.

▶ What are the future goals? How will the pilot funds position the program for future investments or funding?

▶ Provide references. This does not count towards the page limit.

■ Exceptions

Please note that the following topics are beyond the scope of the solicitation and will not be considered:

- ▶ Drug discovery or development, including target identification and validation
- ▶ Development of medical technologies for which other parties own the Intellectual Property (IP) or for which no new IP can be reasonably developed

In addition, salary support for investigators will not be considered. However, contracted labor (e.g., machinist time) can be supported by this funding opportunity.

■ Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated by a blinded review committee composed of technical and business experts for technical merit, clinical need, as well as market and business justification. Technologies that are selected will receive AIMTech assistance and mentoring with:

- ▶ Market analysis, including third party evaluations
- ▶ Market and customer discovery program
- ▶ Value proposition development and market landscape fit
- ▶ Technical design, prototype builds and evaluations

Continued funding of projects will be based upon progress against milestones.

Investigators are expected to work closely with AIMTech leaders to develop their idea, including participation in the market and commercialization review process.

▶▶ **For any questions or to discuss your application, please contact Patrick Schexnailder, Ph.D. at pschexnailder@southernresearch.org or (205) 581-2879. <https://southernresearch.org/aimtech/>**

† AIMTech, a three year collaboration between UAB and Southern Research (SR), reached its proscribed end date as of December 31, 2017. While the collaboration will not be formally renewed, our commitment to the promise of both entities to make Birmingham a premiere site for medical device design and innovation continues. UAB and SR will continue to work together on a select group of higher potential programs that emerged from AIMTech, as well as future projects where mutually beneficial. Both entities pledge to drive excellence in medical devices through mutual collaboration to leverage both entities' strengths for positive impact. Please reach out to Stacey Kelpke at UAB or Patrick Schexnailder at Southern Research if you have questions.