Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute

Seed Grant Program for MR Studies

Version: 3aug2021

The Zuckerman Institute's *Seed Grant Program for MR Studies* funds ground-breaking magnetic resonance (MR) studies to help the Columbia community ramp up its MR research and MR grant acquisition. The program's purpose is to ensure that the Columbia research community can rapidly expand the utilization of MR techniques, including functional (fMRI), structural (e.g. diffusion), and metabolic (e.g. spectroscopy) imaging. The program can fund basic and applied, cognitive, clinical, and methodological studies that align with the scientific mission of the Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute.

Each application will be considered on the basis of merit and need, and will be accepted subject to availability of resources (including scan time and staff). Criteria considered in deciding about an application include:

- **Merit**: Is the project scientifically ground-breaking?
- **Need**: Does the PI currently have insufficient funding for conducting the study? Will their existing funding not cover the project?
- **Grant plan**: Is the PI committed to a concrete plan for an external grant proposal that the seed study contributes to (e.g. pilot data) and that budgets for scanning at the Zuckerman Institute? We usually expect the grant application to be submitted within 12 months of the Seed Grant application.
- **Track record**: Is the applicant a PI eligible to apply for an NIH R01? (A tenure-track position is not a requirement, but a postdoc position is not sufficient.) In case the PI previously received a *Seed Grant for MR*: Has the external grant proposal been drafted? Has it been submitted?

Details on Zuckerman Institute *Seed Grant for MR*
  (1) The program will fund seed studies that (a) break new ground, (b) cannot be funded by external grants the PI already holds, and (c) form the basis of a new grant application that budgets for MR measurements to be performed at the Zuckerman Institute at the current rate of $695.25/h (or $618/h without support of an MR technologist).
  (2) The program can support one study for each grant proposal a PI commits to developing and submitting.
  (3) The PI must make use of their seed hours within 1 year of the notification of award. Leftover hours after 1 year will be lost.
  (4) The program funds only the hourly rate of scanning at the Zuckerman Institute's MR facilities ($618 or $695.25 with MR technologist support). *All other costs associated with the study, including subject payment and the MR reads for incidental findings required for human scans, have to be funded independently.*
  (5) There is no guarantee that any given application will be funded as acceptance depends not only on the quality of the proposal, but also on the availability of resources (including scan time and staff).
  (6) Publications using data acquired in part or entirely on a *Seed Grant for MR* must be reported to the Zuckerman Imaging Center and must acknowledge the Seed Grant. Please include a statement such as the following in the Acknowledgements of the publication: "This study was funded [in part] by the *Seed Grant Program for MR Studies* of the Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute at Columbia University."
  (7) Seed grants can be rescinded for noncompliance with MR Core policies (unsafe practices, not booking time in iLab, frequent lateness or overrun, inconveniencing other users, damaging or reconfiguring equipment).
  (8) Seed time is unpaid, and thus lower priority than paid time. In a given week, from M-F 9-5, total unpaid time is limited to 8 hours. Unpaid time can only be booked M-F 9-5 if there will still be 14 hours available M-F 9-5 in that week, after the seed time is booked. Evenings and weekends are unaffected by these restrictions. You are encouraged to make use of evenings and weekends.

Researchers who intend to be considered for a *Seed Grant for MR* from the Zuckerman Institute are requested to fill in the application form (see below) and submit it by email to Nikolaus Kriegeskorte (n.kriegeskorte@columbia.edu), Director of Cognitive Imaging, Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute.

Zuckerman Institute Seed Grant for MR
Application form

Seed study name	
PI name, department	
Study description	**Provide a brief description of your seed study.**
Justification for ZI Seed Grant for MR	**Why is your seed study ground-breaking?** **List your current funding sources:** **Why can't your current funding support the seed study?**

	What future grant proposal does this seed study contribute to?	
	Name of grant proposal:	_____
	Type of grant:	_____
	How many hours of MR at the Zuckerman Institute will be budgeted for in the upcoming grant proposal? ($695.25/hr or $618/hr without MR technologist)	_____
	When will the grant proposal be submitted?	_____ _____ Month Year

Previous Seed Grant funding for PI	**Has the PI previously received a ZI Seed Grant for MR?** **If so, what was the project name and has the grant proposal been submitted?**
Hourly rate requested	$0 (no funding available) [ ] $400 (reduced rate) [ ]

Researchers involved	List all researchers involved in scanning, their roles, and MR training level.
Scanner	Which MR scanner do you intend to use?
MR technologist support	Do you require support by an MR technologist for this study?
Peripheral equipment	State coils, stimulus presentation and response devices, physiological monitoring, or anesthesia, ventilator and restraint requirements for animals.
Internal/external	internal user (Zuckerman affiliate) [ ] external user (other Columbia University employee) [ ]
Population	Does this seed study involve a patient population?
Subjects and hours	How many subjects would be scanned on the ZI Seed Grant? How many MR hours in total are to be funded by the ZI Seed Grant?
Time constraints	Will you require specific times on the scan calendar (for example, only weekends, only mornings)?
Challenges anticipated	Describe difficulties (if any) you anticipate with the MR component of your study.
Requesting prioritized scan scheduling	[ ] No [ ] Yes If Yes: Provide justification (prioritized scheduling should only be requested when there is a strong justification)
Enclosed documentation	proof of IRB or IACUC approval [ ] CV for PI [ ] draft of grant proposal (optional) [ ]
Date of submission	
PI signature	