



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
CENTER FOR RNA BIOLOGY

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## 2025 Center for RNA Biology Seed Grant Program

**Background:** A primary mission of the Center for RNA Biology is to promote RNA research at OSU. With this memo we announce the seed grant competition for 2025. One goal of this program is to foster new collaborations between CRB member labs and to apply new methodology to RNA-related research questions. Thus, collaborations between CRB members and outside labs will also be considered. The purpose of this program is to seed new research projects and generate preliminary data for new grant applications. This year the Center will fund **up to three \$50,000** grants for a one-year period beginning Autumn 2025 (anticipated start date of Nov 1, 2025).

**Requirements:** The proposals must come from at least two research groups and constitute a new initiative for which preliminary data are needed to support a future grant application and increase competitiveness for funding. These funds cannot be used to purchase equipment. PIs who were awarded a seed grant in the previous cycle are not eligible to apply in 2025.

**Format:** Applications are limited to 3 pages (half-inch margins, single-spaced, 11-point Arial font). The proposal will consist of an Abstract that includes a description of the co-PI research team's expertise and commitment (300 words max), Specific Aims, a Significance Statement, a Research Description (including experimental approach, expected outcomes, potential pitfalls, and alternative approaches) and a plan for future grant application(s) including the intended agency and the anticipated date for submission. Separate NIH-style Biosketches of the co-PIs should also be included along with letters detailing Matching Fund Commitments (see below).

**Budget:** Up to 60% of the available funds can be used for personnel costs. The budget should be roughly equal for each group, and PIs should document how the funds will be divided between their labs, including a general statement of the types of expenditures these funds will be used for. This information will be used to apportion funds to the respective departments. The CRB will contribute \$35,000 and we require a matching commitment of \$15,000; we expect the match will consist of a combination of funds from the departments or colleges that the two co-PIs are members of. Letters of commitment from the Department Chairs or College Deans must be included.

**Submission:** All parts of the proposal (3-page Proposal, Biosketches, Letters) should be combined into a single PDF and submitted to Zack Mikesell ([mikesell.22@osu.edu](mailto:mikesell.22@osu.edu)) by October 1, 2025.

**Review:** Proposals will be reviewed by an ad hoc committee consisting of faculty members of the Center for RNA Biology. Funds will be awarded to the individual departments, and the departments will be responsible for any cost overruns. We anticipate earliest award start date of Nov 1, 2025. The recipients of seed grant support will be required to submit a final report by Dec 15, 2026 detailing results of the funded research and the agency to which they have submitted (or anticipate submitting) a grant application based on these data. If a grant has not been submitted the final report should indicate the intended date of submission.