The Office of the Dean of the College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences (CBSHS) is pleased to announce the 2019 call for proposals for the IMPACT grants program. The IMPACT program aligns with the Clemson Forward plan for research (see: https://www.clemson.edu/forward/research.html).

IMPACT’s purpose is to provide a tangible investment to accelerate CBSHS faculty members’ ability to produce impactful research that benefits people and communities. A real investment to make a real impact. Wherever possible, these efforts should align with the University’s six strategic innovation areas: big data/cyber; health innovation; sustainability; human resilience; transportation, energy, and advanced manufacturing; and advanced materials.

A major goal of the IMPACT program is to increase research productivity as evidenced by submission of external research proposals, the receipt of honorific awards, and the production of scientific publications that bring national prominence to CBSHS and Clemson University. As such, each IMPACT proposal should clearly identify the primary outcome as it relates to achieving this goal, and explain how the proposed work and funds are necessary to achieve the primary outcome.

New this year, the CBSHS IMPACT competition will follow a tiered award structure. The purpose of this structure is two-fold: 1) to promote cross-departmental collaboration within CBSHS through the creation of Tiger Teams (TT), and 2) to continue to support Individual-Investigator-Initiated awards (I3, a more traditional seed grant opportunity). Note that in addition to the minimum number of CBSHS investigators as specified in the table below, the projects can include additional investigators from other units outside of CBSHS. Investigators outside of CBSHS count toward the minimum number of investigators, but do not count for the minimum structure. Further an individual can serve as the PI on only one submission, but may serve on multiple proposals in other roles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Budget (max)</th>
<th>Minimum Number of Investigators</th>
<th>Minimum Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I3</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>1 investigator</td>
<td>from CBSHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TT2</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>2 investigators</td>
<td>from CBSHS (can be same department)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TT3</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>3 investigators</td>
<td>from at least 2 different CBSHS departments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TT4</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>4 investigators</td>
<td>from at least 3 different CBSHS departments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TT5</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>5 (or more) investigators</td>
<td>from at least 4 different CBSHS departments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The IMPACT grant submission and review process will be coordinated by the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies with the assistance of the CBSHS Research Committee in proposal evaluation and selection of funded projects. It is important to note that the I3 proposals will be reviewed and discussed separately from the TT proposals. It is anticipated that a portion of the funding will go to support both I3 and TT proposals.
The selection criteria for the IMPACT proposals include:

1) the likelihood of success in achieving the identified primary outcome;
2) the necessity of the requested resources for achieving the primary outcome;
3) the significance of the proposed work, i.e. what will we learn from it and how will it move a specific research field forward;
4) how the innovation (or lack thereof) contributes to the potential for a sustained and powerful influence;
5) the strengths and weaknesses of the investigator(s), approach, and environment that enhance or detract from the likelihood of achieving success;
6) how the project will accelerate the Principal Investigator’s (PI’s) ability and/or the Tiger Team’s ability to produce impactful research that benefits people and communities and increases CBSHS’s and Clemson’s national prominence; and
7) in the case of Tiger Teams with 3 or more investigators requesting $30K and above, the importance of the collaborative team, and how working together as a team will lead to increased potential for success.

PIs who have received previous IMPACT funding are not eligible to be PIs on new submissions unless they have already submitted a large external proposal targeted on their previous IMPACT grant and can provide evidence of this achievement.

Applicants should submit a (maximum) 4-page proposal that includes:

1) a cover sheet (not included in page requirements) identifying the title of the project, the team members and their respective department affiliations, the Tier being applied for, and a total dollar amount requested;
2) a brief abstract;
3) a description of the project;
4) a statement of need for the project;
5) methods to be used;
6) a description of the project team;
7) a timeline for project completion;
8) a statement of the primary outcomes;
9) a specific list of 1-3 external requests for proposals (RFP) for targeted external grant submissions, including the RFP name and number, the sponsor, and the program officer’s name and contact info.; and
10) a budget with justification, NOT to exceed the respective tier maximum budget.

A separate list of references may be attached and is not counted in the 4-page limit. Cover letters and CVs should not be included.

Format the proposal using 12-pt. Times New Roman font or 11-pt. Arial, single line spacing, one-inch margins, and 8½ x 11 inch paper size.

Given the expected interdisciplinary nature of the reviewers, which reflects the typical grant review panel, it is important that the proposals be written in a conversational manner targeted at scientist reviewers who may have a working knowledge of the field, but not be experts in the proposed research area.
Principal Investigators should work with the CBSHS research office\(^1\) for application and budgeting assistance and to submit their proposals through the InfoEd portal to Dr. Eric Muth, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences, Clemson University.

Use of Funds:
The IMPACT funds may be used for a variety of activities including, but not limited to:

- Graduate stipends
- Software
- Database access
- Equipment or facility access to acquire key data
- Travel to engage program managers
- Travel to meet with collaborators from other institutions to work on proposal planning
- Participant support
- Salary for faculty, post-docs, or adjuncts is only allowed in **VERY RARE cases** and requires documentation of prior approval from the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies.

Use of funds is subject to business center approval. Expenditures must be made in accordance and compliance with all laws, policy, procedures, and practices of the State of South Carolina, Clemson University, and/or the College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences.

Please note that IMPACT funds cannot be used as matching funds for University-level initiatives.

Funds will be available to successful PIs as individual accounts maintained at the college or department level dependent on the discretion of the CBSHS financial officer, with no F&A (indirect) costs. Matching funds by departments, such as additional funds, instrument time, release time, staff or student support, is highly encouraged, but not required. If departmental matching is being provided, please explain what is being provided in the budget justification section. The IMPACT award project period will be 12 months, running July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Office of Sponsored Programs Requirements:
Prior to submission, all investigators associated with a proposal must complete the (1) Sponsored Programs Certification and (2) Conflict of Interest training and disclosure. Please visit [https://www.clemson.edu/research/sponsored-programs/researchers/spc.html](https://www.clemson.edu/research/sponsored-programs/researchers/spc.html) and [https://www.clemson.edu/conflict-of-interest/training.html](https://www.clemson.edu/conflict-of-interest/training.html) for more information.

Questions about the rationale and practical matters related to the IMPACT program can be directed to the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, Dr. Eric Muth ([muth@clemson.edu](mailto:muth@clemson.edu)).

Key Dates:
- NLT Tuesday, December 18 – call for proposals sent to all CBSHS faculty.
- Wednesday, March 13 – all proposal materials due in electronic form by 4:30pm to the grants coordinator assigned to your proposal.
- NLT June 30\(^{th}\) – faculty notified of funding decisions and funds will become available July 1\(^{st}\).
- If any of these dates fall on a weekend or university holiday, the due date will default to the next business day.

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\(^1\) [https://www.clemson.edu/academics/dcas/crca/proposal-notification/index.html](https://www.clemson.edu/academics/dcas/crca/proposal-notification/index.html)