



QED Program

www.sciencecenter.org/programs/qed

Request for Applications (White Papers)

Spring 2012 Application Cycle

QED PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The University City Science Center is announcing its fifth application cycle of the QED Proof-of-Concept Program. The QED Program is open to academic investigators developing **medical technologies with commercial potential**. This program provides key areas of support, including business guidance, bridge funding, and access to industry and investors. Selected investigators receive guidance from members of the region's entrepreneurial community, working with them to develop project proposals that answer critical market questions. Feedback is then offered by potential investors and industry licensees, and up to four of the most promising proposals will be selected to receive continued guidance and up to \$200,000 of funding, per project (up to \$100,000 in cash – matched by the institution* – over 12 months). Technologies may include therapeutics, medical devices, *in vitro* diagnostics, imaging agents, biomaterials, and research or software-enabled tools. In addition to these broad areas, investigators are encouraged to consider the special emphasis topic being offered in this round.

SPECIAL EMPHASIS TOPIC – DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

During this cycle, QED is actively encouraging the submission of digital health technologies, dedicating up to two of the total awards for such projects. These technologies may include bioinformatics, mobile applications, electronic records, imaging platforms, educational tools, and software-embedded devices. For these projects, the amount of each total award will be up to \$50,000 in cash, matched by the institution*.

PARTICIPATING IN QED

The QED Program targets the innovative scientist with a strong interest in moving his or her technology to the marketplace. Participation begins with the submission of a White Paper Application, a brief document that outlines key elements of the technology and its commercial potential. A group of projects will be selected as Finalists, and the Principal Investigators will be matched with Business Advisors having appropriate domain expertise. The Principal Investigator and Business Advisor, along with the Technology Transfer Office at the PI's institution, will work together over the ensuing three months to develop a Proof-of-Concept Plan that will outline specific research aims and a commercialization strategy, and serve as a valuable tool when seeking sources of follow-on funding. Project teams will receive feedback on their Proof-of-Concept Plans from investors and industry representatives during a live presentation. The QED Program will directly support up to four projects in this cycle.

KEY DATES FOR THIS PROGRAM CYCLE

Opening date for White Papers: **May 21, 2012**

Early submission of White Papers for feedback: **June 29, 2012**

Final submission of White Papers to QED: **July 20, 2012**

Finalist Invitation for Proof-of-Concept Plans: **August 6, 2012**

Finalist Proof-of-Concept Plans due: **October 19, 2012**

Investigators that are selected as Finalists are asked to keep the following dates available and participate in the scheduled activities.

Strategy Panel Sessions: **August 13-14, 2012**

Project Team Orientation: **August 20-21, 2012**

Specialist Clinics (optional): **Week of September 17, 2012**

ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Delaware State University
- Drexel University
- Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Harrisburg University of Science and Technology
- Lankenau Institute for Medical Research
- Lehigh University
- Monell Chemical Senses Center
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Penn St. College of Medicine and the Penn St. Hershey Medical Center
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Philadelphia University
- Rutgers University
- Temple University
- Thomas Jefferson University
- University of Delaware
- University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
- Widener University
- The Wistar Institute

Collaboration with additional organizations is permitted, but the Principal Investigator must be employed by one of the eligible institutions, and organizations, listed above.

NEXT STEPS

Details about the program are provided in the *Handbook for QED Program Participants*, which is available on the QED website (www.sciencecenter.org/programs/qed/rfp), along with White Paper Application forms. **If you are interested in taking part in the QED Program, you should contact your Technology Transfer Office, since that office is responsible for submitting all White Papers.** Your Technology Transfer Office contact can be found in the *Handbook* or on the QED website.

***TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Each participating institution has agreed to provide matching funds and to limit indirect costs, and to revenue sharing in the event of a successful license. **These provisions apply only to projects that receive direct funding from the Science Center as part of the QED program.** Each institution has established its own mechanism for providing the funding match. For more information, please contact your Technology Transfer Office and/or your Department.