

Sponsor & Opportunity: National Science Foundation (NSF): Accelerating Research Translation (ART) – Track 2: Growing Capacity for Research Translation (GROW)

Sponsor Link:

<https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/art-accelerating-research-translation/nsf25-548/solicitation>

Funding Opportunity Number: NSF 25-548

Submission Limitation per Institution: One (1)

Notre Dame is Eligible for: Track 2: Growing Capacity for Research Translation (GROW)

Internal Expression of Interest Deadline: 2025-11-10

Sponsor Full Proposal Deadline: 2026-01-15

Notre Dame Limited Submissions Listing:

<https://research.nd.edu/our-services/funding-opportunities/faculty/limited-submissions-program/>

Focus: The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to increase the scale and pace of advancing discoveries resulting from academic research into tangible solutions that benefit the public. The overarching goal for the Accelerating Research Translation (ART) program is to advance the U.S. scientific and economic leadership by building capacity and increasing the number of robust translational research ecosystems in Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) that span across the full geography of our nation.

The ART program seeks proposals that have a blend of: (1) activities that will help build and/or strengthen the institutional infrastructure to sustainably grow the institutional capacity for research translation in the short and long terms; (2) educational/training opportunities, especially in engaged scholarship and experiential opportunities for students, postdoctoral researchers, and faculty, to become entrepreneurial leads (EL) and/or seek use-inspired- and/or technology transfer- and research translation-oriented careers in the public and/or private sectors; and (3) specific, research translation and technology transfer activities that offer immediate opportunities for transition to practice to create sustained economic and collective impacts. Importantly, NSF's definitions of research translation and technology transfer go beyond a traditional focus on lab-to-market pathways leading to new startups and small businesses; rather, NSF aims to grow capacity at IHEs to achieve the full range of translational impacts emanating from research discoveries and innovations by including civic entrepreneurship; informing standards-setting, policy, and regulatory bodies; scaling rigorous and engaging curricula, instructional material, and pedagogies; and more.

The ART program framework is built around five distinct Tracks that are interconnected. These Tracks are differentiated by the institution's Research Translation Readiness Level (RTRL). Notre Dame is pursuing Track 2.

- **Track 2: Growing Capacity for Research Translation (GROW)**
 - This is an opportunity for only IHEs that currently have a high level of research with a modest research translation infrastructure in place but where the level of research translation remains relatively low. This Track 2 is aimed at IHEs that have a high potential and desire to substantially elevate the overall level of research translation to unleash innovation and create significant opportunities for sustained economic and collective impacts. The proposal must be led by and

focused on outcomes of one IHE in partnership with one mentoring IHE with a high RTRL. A Track 2 award may be budgeted for up to a total of \$6 million for a duration of 4 years. Subject to availability of funds and quality of proposals, NSF plans to make up to 10 awards under this Track.

Required Internal Application Materials: Upload the documents to the Google Form at <https://forms.gle/xvfbNmiVLh4eHWAo9> by the internal deadline.

- Name of Principal Investigator (PI)
- Project Title
- ND Collaborators
 - For each ND Collaborator listed, include name, department or unit, and specific role for this project in three sentences (maximum).
- Project Summary: A three (3) page project summary (maximum) based on the [NOFO Merit Review Principles and Criteria](#) outlined:
 - Merit Review Criteria:
 - Criterion One: Intellectual Merit
 - Criterion Two: Broader Impacts
 - Address the three (3) additional Solicitation Specific Review Criteria, which have been edited and excerpted for this internal application:
 - Track alignment: Does the lead organization and the overall proposal show a strong alignment with the intent of the Track to which it is submitted? The ART program will support only those proposals that show a clear and strong alignment with the goals of the Track to which they are submitted to.
 - Increased Capacity for Research Translation: Does the proposal clearly define as to how the IHE will increase its RTRL over the course of the award and then sustain and grow beyond the award duration? Does the proposal make a compelling case that makes it clear that the team has strong support from the institutional leadership and the goal is to scale research translation across the entire IHE (and not just in one or two disciplines)?
 - Education and training: Does the proposal describe how undergraduate, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and faculty would be trained and/or provides access to resources for education related to entrepreneurship, technology transfer, as well as activities related to sustained economic and collective impact?

Questions? Contact Notre Dame Research Limited Submissions at limited@nd.edu.

Unless otherwise noted, all internal applications are due by 11:59 PM (ET) on the internal expression of interest deadline.

Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

At the time of this posting, 2025-10-27, the Notice of Funding Opportunity was active on NSF website.