

Sponsor/Title: National Institutes of Health (NIH) - Seed Instrumentation Support (SIS) Program (S10 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

External Link: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/360882>

Funding Opportunity Number: PAR-27-021

Submission Limitation per Institution: One (1)

[Notre Dame Limited Submissions Listing](#)

Internal Expression of Interest Deadline: 2026-07-08

Sponsor Application Deadline: 2026-09-25

Note: The Seed Instrumentation Support (SIS) Program (PAR-27-021) replaces the Basic Instrumentation Grant (BIG) Program (PAR-24-326).

Description: Through the Seed Instrumentation Support (SIS) Program, NIH supports the purchase of a single commercialized research instrument that is currently unavailable to the applicant institutions. Like a seed, the instruments are expected to help promote new research opportunities, expand existing research capabilities, foster collaboration and training, and support the growth of future research activities.

Modern research instruments are essential for generating high quality and reproducible data that drive innovations in biomedical and biobehavioral research in all institutions, including low-resource ones. Instruments funded through this program will be shared among users to promote cost-effective research for reproducible biomedical data generation. Hence, the instrument is expected to be placed in a safe and accessible shared resource to maximize collaboration. This NOFO encourages different outcomes based on institutional type: (i) For research-intensive institutions, emphasis is placed on acquiring new or emerging technologies that enable innovative and novel research; and (ii) For low-resource institutions (e.g., R15-eligible institutions that have not received more than \$6 million per year in NIH funding in 4 of the last 7 federal fiscal years), the focus is on building foundational research capacity, expanding the biomedical research workforce, and supporting sustainable, long-term research programs. Institutions applying under this category will clearly justify their low-resource status in the application.

Eligible instruments include, but are not limited to, mass spectrometers, cell sorters, bioimagers, DNA and protein sequencers, light microscopes, 3D printers, and high-performance computers. Applications for general purpose computer systems (computer clusters and data storage systems) will only be considered if the system is solely dedicated to biomedical research.

Foreign-made instruments are allowed. However, the reasons for choosing foreign-made instruments over domestically manufactured instruments will be justified. NIH urges that every effort should be made to give preference to domestically manufactured instruments to the maximum extent possible. Additionally, requesting funds towards purchasing an instrument under a lease agreement is strongly discouraged.

Minimal User Requirement: A minimum of two NIH-funded users must be identified, with at least one of the NIH-funded users must be from the applicant institution. NIH-funded users from other institutions are highly encouraged. Each of the NIH funded users must be a PD/PI on a distinct active NIH award (i.e., a grant or a cooperative agreement). An award given to multi-PDs/PIs is counted only once towards the fulfillment of this requirement. Users with funding from sources such as other Federal agencies, private foundations, or academic institutions are eligible to use the instrument. To justify the requested instrument, the projects supported by NIH research awards should together have a preponderant use of the instrument. While training, curricular instructions, or other non-biomedical research activities may be

supported by the instrument, for-profit activities or billable clinical care are not allowed to use the instrument.

Note: The SIS S10 Program is intended to promote innovation and foster sustainable research programs at applicant institutions. Institutions that focus primarily on development rather than research or short-term awards, such as an SBIR/STTR grant, do not directly align with the goal of developing a sustainable research program and may be incompatible or less competitive for this program.

Internal Application Requirements: Upload the following information to the Google Form at <https://forms.gle/1vBHLPdo6is4tHHt8> by the internal deadline:

- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Project Title
- All ND Collaborators:
 - For each ND Collaborator listed, include name, department or unit, and specific role for this project in three sentences (maximum).
- Project Summary: Three (3) pages (maximum) addressing the following Scored Review Criteria as outlined in the NOFO.
 - Justification of Need
 - Technical Expertise
 - Research Projects

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

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

Internal applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.