Purpose

A primary objective of the UW Department of Family Medicine (DFM) is to support and strengthen the research capabilities of its faculty. In light of this goal, the DFM has established a bridge funding program to support investigators with established research programs. The purpose of bridge funding is to sustain the research programs of productive researchers through the period of a funding gap to give the investigator an opportunity to regain extramural funding. Bridge funds are not intended to support new projects – the DFM Small Grant Program is the appropriate funding mechanism for pilot projects.

Eligibility

Bridge-funding awards are targeted to provide interim support for research programs when grants are not funded. Contingent on the amount of funding available in the research budget, bridge funding will be available for a limited number of tenured, tenure track or CHS faculty if they plan to submit grants, or are waiting on funding for submitted grants and writing for publication. Faculty members with unfunded competing renewals or grant funding which is ending and not eligible for competitive renewal are eligible to apply. Principal investigators with substantial funding from other sources or reserves are not eligible. If an applicant is initially denied bridge funding, they may re-submit a proposal in the following year but then are not allowed additional attempts for the following two years. The department will consider bridge requests when an investigator’s funded project has not been renewed and temporary support is required to retain key personnel and to maintain project momentum. Awards are for programs that are without funding for a short period of time. As such, awards will be limited to 18 months.

Compensation support for a faculty member would be up to the FTE that had been previously grant funded with a maximum of 40% for 18 months. Or it can provide up to 40% protected time for tenure track faculty to support the tenure process. If the individual has had bridge funding for 18 months they will not be eligible again until 3 years post bridge funding and after the receipt of external funding. If the individual has bridge funding and subsequently receives a grant, bridge funding will not continue.

Bridge funding recipients will be required to submit a detailed program plan with deliverables and monthly progress report to the Research Director. A brief narrative report and an Excel project plan spreadsheet template will be used for program management and reporting. Progress will be reviewed in more detail every 6 months by the Chair, Director of Research and Bridge Funding committee. Failure to meet program goals will result in the withdrawal of funding support. Before the 18 months is completed, the faculty member will meet with the Chair and Research Director to determine the work-time allocation if grant funding is not imminent. This could be an increase in percent time in clinic or another role in the department.

All funding support is based on the premise that funding is available in the DFM budget to be designated by the Finance Committee.

11/14/2013
Submission and Review

Deadlines

Application deadlines will be April 15th, and October 15th of each year.

Format

Applications should be submitted on the DFM Bridge Funding application and Gantt chart forms in a PDF format by email to the DFM Research Director. The application forms are available on the DFM Internal Webpage.

Review

Applications will be reviewed by the Bridge Funding Committee. The Committee will be chaired by the Research Director. The membership will be comprised of senior faculty members from the DFM Executive Committee or Research Committee who have a history of extramural funding and peer-review experience. Recommendations by the Bridge Funding Committee will be forwarded to the Department Executive Team for final decision. The primary consideration for making an award is the likelihood that the interim bridge-funds will lead to reestablishing extramural support from grants that have lapsed in funding.
Department of Family Medicine

Bridge Funding Application

Date: ____________________

Name: ____________________________________________

Title: ____________________________________________

Office Address: ________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________

Office Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________

Period Covered by This Application:

From: ___________________________ to: ___________________________

Total Amount Requested: ___________________________

ADMINISTRATIVE CHECKLIST (The following items must be included):

• Application Form

• Application Proposal (2 pages)

• DFM Bridge Funding Project Management GANTT CHART Template (Excel Spreadsheet)

• Budget outlining the amount and intended use of the requested bridge-funds.

• Current CV/Biosketch
APPLICATION PROPOSAL: A brief statement not exceeding 2 pages is requested. This proposal should focus on: (1) what you plan to do, (2) how you plan to do it, and (3) what is the significance of this project. The proposal narrative should reflect the activities, milestones, and deliverables that you have listed in the Gantt project plan Excel spreadsheet.

BUDGET/BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

Budget and Justification should include all estimated costs including applicant time, other personnel tasks and duties, any in-kind work to be devoted to the project. Diana Myers diana.myers@fammed.wisc.edu can assist with budget development.

Salaries

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<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duties:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dates Covered: Begin</td>
<td>End</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salary requested: $</td>
<td>Fringe Benefits: $</td>
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<td>Prior source of salary:</td>
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<td>Fraction of total salary:</td>
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<td>Other contributing sources:</td>
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Equipment

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dept. contribution: $</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other contributing sources:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Supplies and Expenses

| Total costs: $ |  |  |
| Itemize costs: |  |  |

11/14/2013
Department of Family Medicine

Bridge Funding Progress Report

Please provide the following information based on the original application submitted with your bridge funding request.

Date: ____________________

Name: ______________________________________________

Project Title: __________________________________________________________________________

What are the principal activities and accomplishments of the project to date?

Have you been able to secure additional financial support for this work?

What resources have you utilized for this project (mentor committee, UW entities, etc.)?

What problems have you encountered?

Have there been any modifications made to the budget originally submitted with the application?

What do you plan to accomplish by the next reporting period?

11/14/2013
Department of Family Medicine

Bridge Funding Policies and Procedures

FAQ

• When can applications be submitted?
  April 15, October 15

• When would bridge funding become effective?
  July 1 or January 1

• Is there a standard application for bridge funding?
  Yes, the application form is available on the DFM internal webpage

• Can funding be spread over a period greater than 18 months?
  No, funding can only be allocated for 18 months

• If the maximum amount of funding is awarded (40%), can it be split (e.g. 20/20) over a time period of more than 18 months?
  No, funding can only be allocated for up to 40% for 18 months

• How often are progress reports required to be submitted?
  A short 1 page progress report is due monthly and reviewed at a brief meeting with the Research Director. Based on the monthly reports, more detailed written progress reports are due every 6 months for review by the Department Chair and Bridge Funding Committee.

• Is there a required format for progress reports?
  Yes, the report form is available on the DFM internal webpage

• What is the maximum amount of funding that can be requested?
  40% of 1.0 FTE

• What expenses are allowed in the proposed budget?
  PI salary. Other expenses will be considered on a case-case basis

• Does the amount include both UW salary and UWMF compensation?
  Yes
Department of Family Medicine

Bridge Funding Policy

RESEARCH SCENARIOS

Mid-Career DFM MD/Researcher

For FY14, the department will be paying non-clinical work at the hold harmless rate of $198,771 to a 1.0 FTE MD/Researcher. With this rate of compensation, if a researcher with the salary support rate/title of assistant/associate professor were to apply for bridge funding, he/she would be eligible for up to $79,508 plus fringe benefits.

Established DFM MD/Researcher

For FY14, the department will be paying non-clinical work at the rate of $201,000 to a 1.0 FTE MD/Researcher. With this rate of compensation, if a researcher with the salary support rate/title of professor were to apply for bridge funding, he/she would be eligible for up to $80,400 plus fringe benefits.

K Award DFM MD/Researcher

For FY14, the department will be paying $175,000 per year to a 1.0 FTE MD/Researcher. With this rate of compensation, if a MD researcher who is currently supported by a K award were to apply for bridge funding, he/she would be eligible for up to $70,000 plus fringe benefits.

K Award DFM PhD/Researcher

For FY14, the department will be paying $101,000 per year for a 1.0 FTE PhD /Researcher. When a PhD/Researcher is on a grant, their salary is entirely UW with 75% supported by the award and 25% supported by the department. With this rate of compensation, if a PhD researcher were to apply for bridge funding, he/she would be eligible for up to $40,400 plus fringe benefits.