The Sanofi Innovation Awards (iAwards) program is designed to support early stage innovative and translational research proposals from participating academic institutions. The main objective of the program is to convert successful and promising projects to sponsored research programs and subsequently create in-licensing and start-up opportunities. The academic institutions currently participating in this program are: Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston Children’s Hospital, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University, Massachusetts General Hospital, University of Pennsylvania, University of San Francisco, University of Texas system and Weill Cornell Medical College.

Sanofi strives to build strong collaborative relationships within each partner institution through this program and continue to be actively engaged in accelerating the conversion of innovative ideas into effective and safer therapeutic solutions for patients.

The program provides one year seed funding of $125,000 (includes institutional overhead costs) to each selected proposal, a dedicated Sanofi project champion, in-kind resources and expertise deemed necessary by Sanofi.

Highlights:
- For the 2016 program year, twenty-four proposals were awarded of which 4-5 projects will advance to sponsored research programs
- For 2017, twenty proposals were selected for funding and are currently ongoing
- For the 2018 award cycle, up to 25 proposals will be selected to receive the iAward.

Call for Pre-proposals
The details of the general criteria for pre-proposals and guidance on therapeutic areas of interest are given below. Only the Joint Steering Committee and select members of Sanofi and your Institution will have access to your pre-proposal. However, information contained in the pre-proposal is NOT considered confidential and therefore unpublished information should not be disclosed in the pre-proposal. Proposals may not include third party collaborators other than those from partner institutions within the iAwards Program.

Proposals must provide objectives and work-plan achievable within 12 months and strong rationale for benefit to patients. Applicants must use the accompanying pre-proposal template to submit their pre-proposals. Please restrict your completed pre-proposal to two pages (excluding publications). The completed pre-proposals should be submitted to:

Texas FreshAIR research portal at the following url: https://apps.utsystem.edu/TxFreshAIRResearch/HomePage.aspx. Please log in using your institutional ID and password.

The deadline for submission of your pre-proposal is: June 16, 2017. The timeline of the iAwards Program is further described on Page 2.
Translational Medicine and biomarkers that support clinical development
Novel translational models in IO

**IMMUNE-ONCOLOGY**
- Overcoming Immunosuppression
  - Intra-tumor Treg depletion, modulation of immunosuppressive myeloid lineages
  - DC maturation, improved cross-presentation
- Active Immunization and Antigen-directed tumor targeting
  - Cell engagers and Immune-conjugates
- Immune profiling methodologies in preclinical and clinic

**IMMUNOLOGY**
- Dysregulated Type 2 immune responses
- Rheumatological disorders
- Autoimmune Diseases incl. inflammatory skin disease and Asthma
- Systems Immunology

**NEUROLOGY/NEUROSCIENCES**
- Neuroprotection & Novel targets to preserve synapse number and function in neurodegenerative diseases including MS, PD, ALS; Biomarkers and imaging methodologies
- Novel targets / models for rare genetic diseases of CNS & PNS
- Novel targets / assays for proteinopathies, esp. tau-opathies, including a-synuclein, TDP-43 (not Abeta)
- Remyelination targets and assays, including human iPSC based assays

**INFECTITIOUS DISEASES**
- Chronic/emerging Viral Infections incl. HBV, influenza, HIV & Chikungunya
- Severe Bacterial Infections esp. Gram(-) infections
- Tuberculosis, Malaria
- Adjunct therapies: immuno-modulation, anti-virulence

**RARE DISEASES**
- Inherited Metabolic diseases
- Neuromuscular diseases
- Neurometabolic diseases
- Nephrological diseases
- Bone & Hematological diseases

**BIOLOGICS**
- Tissue specific delivery of nucleic acids to organs other than the liver
- Alternatives to Gal-Nac ligands
- Delivery technologies for mAB and proteins into cells, particularly for cancer
- Protein biologics, typically antibodies, delivery across blood brain barrier, GI epithelial barrier and other organs (skin, pulmonary, oral)
- Mammalian cell technologies for improved recombinant protein expression
- Microfluidic technologies for single cell isolation, manipulation and characterization

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**Sanofi iAwards Timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issuance of Request for Pre-Proposal by Institution</td>
<td>Week of May 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission of completed Pre-Proposals to Institution</td>
<td>June 16th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notification by Sanofi of pre-proposals chosen to be pursued as Detailed Proposals</td>
<td>August 1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion and submission of Detailed Proposals</td>
<td>August 28th</td>
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<tr>
<td>JSSC meets to review Detailed Proposals</td>
<td>Late October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institution informed of JSSC funding decisions</td>
<td>By November 20th</td>
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