MARTIN GLIOBLASTOMA RESEARCH FUND

SITEMAN CANCER CENTER | WashU Medicine | BJC HealthCare

Siteman Investment Program
Research Development Awards

Program Overview

The Siteman Investment Program (SIP) provides funding to support innovative, high-impact cancer research across the continuum of discovery, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. This program is designed to advance promising ideas with strong potential for future external funding and meaningful clinical or community impact.

Purpose and Scope of SIP RDA

- Advance the most promising ideas that will allow physicians to predict, prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure all types of cancers more effectively and with fewer or no side effects, for example, by tailoring therapies to a patient's individual genetic makeup or the biology of their disease.
- Accelerate discoveries to test and verify pioneering options for fighting cancer and translate clinical findings into groundbreaking, practical applications
- SIP RDA has a strong interest in funding recently well scored, but unfunded, NIH applications.
    - SIP RDA is meant to fund projects that have excellent potential for NIH/NCI funding (e.g., R01, SPORE, PPG) but need additional data
- Projects directly responsive to addressing health disparities in SCC's catchment area are encouraged and will receive strong consideration

Available Funding Categories

Category	Primary Focus	Funding
Martin Glioblastoma Research Fund	Glioblastoma research across disciplines.	Up to $50,000 over 1 year
See individual RFAs for other SIP RDA categories below on the SIP RDA website.		
Team Science	Multi-project collaborative programs preparing for NIH/NCI submissions within 12–24 months (P50, P01, U54).	Up to $800,000 over 2 years
Clinical Trial	New institutional investigator-initiated, interventional trials unable to secure external funding	Up to $300,000 over 3 years
Pre-R01 – General	Pilot, secondary analysis, technology development, and other hypothesis-driven research projects with preliminary data.	Up to $200,000 over 2 years
Pre-R01 – Prevention and Control	Research addressing cancer prevention, survivorship, implementation science, policy, genetics, and cancer control in the catchment area.	Up to $200,000 over 2 years
Pre-R01 – University of Missouri Collaboration	Collaborative Pre-R01 projects between WashU and University of Missouri faculty.	Up to $200,000 over 2 years
Pre-R01 – Head and Neck	Translational or clinical research focused on head and neck cancers.	Up to $200,000 over 2 years
COE Supplement	Community-engaged research addressing cancer burden in the SCC catchment area.	Up to $50,000 over 1 year
Genome Integrity Development Award (GIDA)	Pilot projects in genome integrity conducted with Center for Genome Integrity (CGI) collaborators.	Up to $100,000 over 2 years
Partner Prevention & Control Interventional Clinical Trial	Prevention and control intervention trials conducted with at least one SCC catchment-area health system partner.	Up to $100,000 over 2 years

SIP RDA is supported by a variety of sources including: The Cancer Frontier Fund at The Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital, which includes gifts from Pedal the Cause's annual bike challenge, The Foundation's annual Illumination Gala, and donations throughout the year; the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Research Fund; Swim Across America – St. Louis; and various philanthropic gifts via Siteman Cancer Center.

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Siteman Investment Program
Martin Glioblastoma Research Fund
2026 Cycle 2 Request for Applications (RFA)

A. Overview

Available funding: Up to $50,000 over 1 year

Timeline:

Date of Announcement	**July 23, 2026**
REQUIRED Statement of Intent due by 4:00 PM CST	**August 20, 2026**
Full Applications due by 4:00 pm CST	**September 24, 2026**
Project Start Date	**January 2027**

B. Purpose of Martin Glioblastoma Research Fund Category and Expectations

- The main goal of this award, provided by The William A. Martin Jr. and Hilda M. Martin Trust, is to support a WashU Medicine research project that is multidisciplinary and focuses on glioblastoma.
- The project should be innovative and involve at least two PIs from different departments.
- Projects must focus on glioblastoma.
- **Assumptions:** All projects should further The Brain Tumor Center's research and scientific mission (https://braintumorcenter.wustl.edu/about-us/) through responsible stewardship of philanthropic funds. The Brain Tumor Center priorities are considered in final funding decisions.

C. Eligibility

- **Faculty Appointment**: There must be at least two PIs from different departments, and both must have a full-time faculty appointment at the Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor level* at WashU (WU).
  - ***NEW:** Faculty members at the Instructor level are no longer eligible to submit to SIP RDA. Instructors are encouraged to pursue funding from the ACS IRG (American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant) and the Siteman Travel Awards.
- **Brain Tumor Center Membership**: We highly encourage all PIs to become members of The BTC at the time of submission. To become a member, send a request for a brief application to Megan Goldberg, m.goldberg@wustl.edu.
- **Siteman Membership**: At least two PIs submitting the application must either a) be an approved Siteman Cancer Center member or b) have submitted an acceptable Siteman Cancer Center membership application by the application deadline.
  - Questions regarding membership should be directed to sitemanmembership@wustl.edu.
- **SCC Research Program**: The contact PI may be a member of ANY research program at Siteman Cancer Center
- **2.5% Minimum Effort**: The contact PI AND Co-PI(s) (if applicable) must each have a minimum of 2.5% effort dedicated to the project. Salary does not have to be included in the budget (i.e. may be cost-shared), but the PI and co-PI(s) must have protected time available to dedicate to the SIP RDA project
- **Info for Current SIP RDA Awardees**: A faculty member currently funded in the role of contact PI by a SIP RDA is still eligible to submit an application as PI.
- **Multiple SIP Submissions per Cycle**: A faculty member may still submit one, completely distinct, application as contact PI this cycle.

  - Any faculty member may submit an application under the Pre-R01 or Clinical Trial categories and participate as a co-PI/project PI/leader on a Team Science application, as long as the projects are scientifically unique.
- **Distinct Science**: Please note that SIP RDA will not fund the same science multiple times. If a faculty member has received SIP funding previously (or any other internal funding from Siteman Cancer Center such as a Catalyst Award), they must clearly demonstrate that the science of the proposed project is new and distinct from the previously funded project(s).

D. Terms of the Award

- Full terms will be detailed in the notice of award. The following are general expectations.
  - Siteman expects that the grantee will completely utilize the full amount of funding during the term of the award. No-cost extensions are discouraged but will be considered with compelling justification. All unspent funds at the end of the grant period will be returned to the sponsor.
  - All awardees will be expected to adhere to progress reporting requirements.
  - No funding will be released prior to receipt of appropriate institutional compliance approvals (e.g. PRMS, IRB, IACUC, etc.). **Projects without necessary regulatory approvals in place 180 days following receipt of the Notice of Award will be reviewed by SCC leadership.** This may result in a change of award terms or forfeiture of SIP RDA funding. No aspect of the project can begin (including non-human subject research components) without documentation of all required approvals.
  - **NEW:** If the applicant had a pending NIH application at the time of SIP RDA submission that results in funding AND is determined to be overlapping science, 100% of the SIP RDA award must be returned.
  - Awardees may request adjustments to their grant role/responsibilities, percent effort, or award period for personal or family situations including, but not limited to, parental leave, childcare, elder care, medical conditions, or a disability.

E. Budget

Expenditures Allowed:

- Salary support for investigators and other relevant faculty collaborators or staff. The current NIH salary cap must be used where applicable.
- Research supplies
- Per diem charges for patients if part of a clinical study, not reimbursable by standard payment terms
- Technical assistance
- Graduate student/postdoctoral stipends if relevant to the project with a detailed justification
- Domestic/foreign travel necessary to carry out proposed project based on institutional travel policies
- Other expenses such as lab and core fees, pathology, imaging, data analysis, etc.
- Consultant costs
- Publication costs not to exceed $2,000 across the total project period
- Clinical research coordination (for recruitment and data collection) and expenses related to the completion of correlative science studies are also allowable.

Expenditures NOT Allowed:

- Secretarial/administrative personnel salary support
- Office equipment and supplies
- Computer (including software) and equipment maintenance fees
- Tuition

- Travel and/or registration/related fees for conferences and
- Travel not essential to carrying out the proposed research
- Purchasing and binding of periodicals and books
- Dues and membership fees in scientific societies
- Recruiting and relocation expenses
- Administrative or institutional charges for services normally considered overhead (e.g. space rental, utilities, building maintenance)
- Non-medical or personnel services to patients
- Sub-contracts to institutions not affiliated with Siteman Cancer Center and pre-award costs
- EAB/IAB honorarium and meeting expenses
- Budgeting for the purchase of equipment is unallowable on SIP grants without prior approval from SCC administration. Non-office equipment and/or technology with the intent to design, test, or facilitate a new device must be required for completion of the project and must not be reasonably accessible elsewhere on campus. All requests must include a detailed justification.

F. Application Guidelines

- Submission of the Statement of Intent (SOI) form is required and due by 4:00pm CST on the due date listed on Page 1. The SOI form can be accessed via the SIP RDA website or by clicking here. The SOI is not formally reviewed and approval to submit a full application is automatic; PIs should not expect or anticipate any further correspondence from Siteman Administration following submission of the SOI.
- Use Arial 11-point font for text.
- Use the NIH PHS 398 forms, unless otherwise indicated. Applicants must follow the NIH guidelines when completing the forms included below. NIH forms can be found at: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html.
- Applications must include all appropriate components (see section G below).
- Combine all documents into one PDF document and submit the application via proposalCENTRAL. The signature page generated by proposalCENTRAL is not required. It is best to **print to PDF** each document versus saving to PDF.
- Late and/or incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- **NEW GUIDANCE:** Please ensure that your proposal is written in such a way that it is easily understood by scientists outside of your specific field to maximize understanding and enable reviewers to provide helpful feedback.

G. Application Components

1. **Siteman Cancer Center Cover Sheet** (Download from website – Updated July 2026)
    - SCC requires a description of your research project written in plain language. The purpose of the plain language summary is to provide a clear overview of the research in straightforward, non-technical language to be shared with the sponsors, donors, the general public, and the media. As an example, the general public does not know what a kinase is. They do know that proteins must modify or change other proteins. Please steer clear of scientific words in your plain language abstract.
        - The Becker Library offers a variety of services and resources to assist applicants with making written materials easier to understand. For more information, visit the Becker Health Literacy and Communication webpage at: https://becker.wustl.edu/services/health-literacy-communication/

2. **Project Summary and Key Personnel** (PHS 398 Form Page 2)
3. **Budget Pages** (PHS 398 Form Pages 4 and 5)
    - **Budget Justification:** A detailed budget justification is required. For a list of allowable / unallowable costs, see pages 2-3.
    - **Note: Budgets, including personnel funds, should be split evenly between at least two laboratories in different departments at Washington University.**
    - **Facilities and Administrative (F&A)/Indirect Costs:** Do not include indirect costs at time of submission.
4. **NIH Biosketch for All Key Personnel**
    - **NEW:** May submit the new SciENcv Common Form OR the previous NIH Biosketch format to satisfy this requirement.
5. **Specific Aims and Research Strategy**
    - **Specific Aims** (1 page maximum)
        - Concisely state the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s), including the impact that results from the proposed research will exert on the research field(s) involved. List the specific objectives of the research proposed, e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, or develop new technology.
    - **Research Strategy**
        - **Martin Glioblastoma Research Fund: 2 pages maximum**
        - Start each section with the appropriate section heading – Significance, Innovation, Approach. Cite published experimental details in the Research Strategy section and provide the full reference in the Bibliography and References Cited section (references section NOT included in the page limit).

            I. Significance
            - Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses.
            - Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
            - Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

            II. Innovation
            - Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms.
            - Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.
            - Explain any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches/methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

            III. Approach
            - Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted. Note which parts of the proposal will be performed under each PI.
            - Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims.

- If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility, and address the management of any high-risk aspects of the proposed work.
- Within the 2-page maximum, you may include a timeline of milestones for your proposal.

6. **Bibliography and References Cited**
7. **Biostatistical Plan** (0.5 page maximum)
   - A formal statistical plan must be included with the proposal. Applicants can reach out to the Siteman Biostatistics and Qualitative Shared Resource (BQSR) at the following link for grant writing resources: https://publichealthsciences.wustl.edu/biostatistics-shared-resource/
   - Applicants should work with a statistician to provide the statistical plan. The detailed statistical considerations should be clearly described in this section.
   - Appropriate statistical considerations may include, but are not restricted to:
     - Specification of the study design and the endpoints.
     - Justification of sample size, including power calculations needed to achieve significant differences between the study groups. If a formal power calculation is used, the authors should describe the primary outcome on which the calculation is based, all the quantities used in the calculation (such as effect size, alpha level and power) and the resulting target sample size per study group.
     - A proper analysis plan for data collected, including rationale for the selection of specific statistical tests.
     - Identification of the responsible party that will be overseeing the implementation of the statistical plan throughout the project to ensure appropriate statistical support and collaborations in place.
     - Description of the blinding procedures for the personnel doing assessments. If some observations are impossible to blind – i.e., a drug that has an obvious phenotypic impact on the treated animals – the implications should be described.
8. **Multi-PI Leadership Plan** (0.5 page maximum)
   - Given the goal of the mechanism is to foster cross-disciplinary collaboration, clearly articulate how each PI brings key scientific knowledge and responsibilities. The roles and administrative, technical, and scientific responsibilities for the project or program should be delineated for the PIs, including responsibilities for human or live vertebrate animal subject studies as appropriate.
9. **Plans for Future Funding** (0.5 page maximum)
   - Discuss how findings from your project will advance a larger, collaborative proposal.
10. **Compliance Document(s)**
    - Include a page indicating the status of all applicable compliance approvals as listed on the cover sheet (e.g., IACUC, IRB, PRMC) or, if the approvals are already in place, include copies of the approval letters. Funds will not be allocated and no aspect of the project can begin (including non-human subject research components) without documentation of required approvals. If no compliance is needed, please include a page stating approvals are not applicable.
11. **Letter(s) of Support**
    - Applicants may include letters of support as relevant to the Aims of the proposal.

Note: Appendix materials are <u>not allowed</u> unless specifically requested above.

H. Review Process

- **Martin Glioblastoma Research Fund** proposals will be reviewed separately from the SIP RDA Study Section by a committee of experts. They will review grants using a modified version of the new NIH criteria, with Factor 3 replaced by the probability that the proposal will lead to further multi-PI funding. One proposal will be awarded.

For any questions, please contact:
Steve Baer, Program Manager
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