



California Institute of Technology  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Joint Center for Translational Medicine Seed Grant Program



Translational Acceleration Grant  
Funding Guidelines

The California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in collaboration with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) has established The Joint Center for Translational Medicine (JCTM). The JCTM's Translational Acceleration Grants (TAG) provides awards to support highly competitive applications from Caltech and UCLA faculty proposing research that will advance efforts in translational medicine. The program provides one year of support and a possible one year extension depending on the quality of progress towards the translational goal. The JCTM does not guarantee funding of any applications during a particular award cycle.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Only Caltech or UCLA faculty (tenure track/"in-residence") may apply for JCTM funds.
- Collaborative Caltech-UCLA projects with proven track record of ongoing interaction and critical mass of expertise are encouraged.
- Projects connected to cellular therapeutics, genetic medicine, novel technologies and materials that are not routinely covered by the pharmaceutical industry will receive the highest priority.
- Extramural collaborations with Caltech and/or UCLA are allowed.

**AWARD DURATION:**

- The award provides support of up to \$100,000 for 12-months, with the possibility of a 12-month renewal.

**AWARDS:**

- Up to \$100,000 per year to support direct research costs
- Budgets must reflect a 10% indirect cost
- Funds are released in six-month intervals
- Eligible Costs:
  - o Expenditures must be directly related to the proposed research project,
  - o Personnel costs (PI's salary and benefits are not to exceed 10% of the total award)
  - o Materials and Supplies
- Ineligible Costs:
  - o Capital equipment
  - o Student Tuition, fees and stipends

**APPLICATION PROCESS:** The TAG includes a two-step submission process (1) Letter of Intent (LOI) and (2) Application. Investigators will be selected from eligible LOI applications to submit complete award proposals. All application materials must be in 11-point Arial font with one inch margins and submitted electronically to [jctm@caltech.edu](mailto:jctm@caltech.edu).

The **Letter of Intent** must include:

1. Completed face page
2. One page concise description of the research proposal and goals
3. One page estimated total budget and general breakdown of projected expenses

The **Full-Application** must include:

1. Completed face page
2. Maximum five page proposal, including figures & references (no papers, manuscripts, appendices, etc.)
3. Current biosketch in NIH format for each Principal Investigator and Post-Doctoral Fellow (three page maximum for each biosketch)
4. One page budget with a short narrative justification
5. PIs must submit applications directly to Caltech.



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**REVIEW PROCESS:** Submitted documents are assessed and rated according to scientific merit by the JCTM Advisory Committee. Following committee review and scientific priority ranking of all applications, recommendations for funding will be developed in accordance with the available research funds. The review process is confidential and applicants will not receive comments or scores.

**ANNUAL REPORT/COMPETITIVE RENEWAL:**

1. At the end of each project year, the PI must submit a detailed scientific progress report to the JCTM describing the status of the research, financial report, and the progress to date.
2. Additional Support: Investigators requesting an additional year of support should indicate in the annual report and outline why supplementary funds are necessary to complete the project
3. The report must also include:
  - a. A list of new publications and extramural grant support relevant to the TAG.
  - b. If the supported research resulted in publication(s), PIs shall also provide two reprints (or preprints, if the publication is in press) and a PDF of each article.

**COMPLIANCE APPROVALS:** Documentation of the following relevant compliance committee approvals must be submitted with full-applications;

1. Institutional Animal Care and Use and Committee (IACUC)
2. Institutional Review Board (IRB)
3. Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight (ESCRO) Committee
4. Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
5. Other applicable compliance committees

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** All publications and presentations resulting from research projects supported by a TAG should acknowledge in the publication support from The California Institute of Technology – University of California, Los Angeles Joint Center for Translational Medicine.