

CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT | Due Sep 13, 2024

Funding and Support to Bring Academic Innovations to Society

The University of Missouri, through funding from the NSF Accelerating Research Translation (ART) program, established the **Mizzou Technology, Entrepreneurship and Commercialization Hub (Mizzou TechHub)** in 2024. The Mizzou TechHub is designed to jumpstart innovation translation at MU through the creation of comprehensive training programs, funding opportunities, wrap-around support services, and establishing an ambassador network. The TechHub provides Seed Translational Research Project grants (STRPs) to bridge the gap between academic research and society with the goal of attracting follow-on funding from federal sources, private sector investors, and strategic partners to continue translating the innovation. We are currently issuing a call for Letters of Intent (LOI) from innovators who wish to further their inventions toward economic and/or societal impact. Join us at one of our upcoming Information Sessions to learn more:

W1004 LAFFERRE HALL INFO SESSION [\[RSVP\]](#)
Wednesday, September 4, 4:00-4:45 PM CT

ZOOM INFO SESSION [\[RSVP\]](#)
Thursday, September 5, 12:00-12:45 PM CT

AWARD DETAILS

The Mizzou TechHub provides proof-of-concept milestone-driven/tranche funding and support for translational projects. Select projects are provided with resources and the opportunity to work with experts to pressure-test the translational viability of their ideas using universal business and societal impact criteria. Award amounts can be up to \$150,000.

FUNDING +

-  Annual Boot Camp
-  Expert Feedback
(Academic, Industry, Investor)
-  One-on-one
Mentoring
-  Post-award Project
Management
-  Industry-specific
Consulting Support
-  Introductions to
Industry Partners &
Investors

ELIGIBILITY

Project should address an unmet need and have a reasonable chance of achieving a university exit. The solution should be an invention based on MU intellectual property or MU academic research with the potential for high societal impact. *Technologies that are already licensed or optioned to a company are not eligible.* Additional requirements:

All MU faculty are eligible to serve as Principal Investigator (PI). Co-PI(s) or Collaborators must be from MU. The PI or a member of their team (student or staff) should be willing to attend the Translational Bootcamp that will be offered in the Fall Semester as part of the training curriculum. Based on LOIs submitted, up to 10 teams will be invited to Bootcamp to attend lectures by subject matter experts and to receive individualized one-on-one mentoring on their innovations. Bootcamp lectures will be open to all faculty, staff, and students at MU who have an interest in translational research.

HOW TO APPLY

It is highly recommended that applicants meet with the Mizzou TechHub before submitting an LOI. Please contact Hub Program Coordinator, Kate Kelley [email: mizzoutechub@missouri.edu] to schedule a meeting with one of the Project Managers. If you have questions about the Hub, or need additional information, you can also call Dave Grant at (573) 882-4487.

Email: mizzoutechub@missouri.edu

Phone: (573) 882-4487

FUNDING TIMELINE



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

	Mizzou TechHub
Who can be a Principal Investigator on an application?	All MU faculty are eligible.
What types of product/technology are eligible for STRP funding?	All technologies, product concepts and solutions with the potential for economic and/or societal impact.
What is the maximum funding amount available?	Award amounts can be up to \$150,000.
Why should I attend Bootcamp?	The Bootcamp is designed to provide hands-on individualized training to researchers to help them develop their Mizzou TechHub grant proposal and translational case for funding.
Does an independent group recommend projects for funding?	Yes, the Mizzou TechHub External Review Board (ERB) will recommend projects for funding.
How will funded projects be managed by the Hub?	Funded projects will be actively managed by the Hub under a translation-focused project management oversight and decision-making plan. Hub Program Managers will meet with funded investigators on a monthly basis to track project progress. Investigators will also meet with the ERB on a regular basis to report progress toward milestones. Based on these updates, the Program and ERB will make go/no-go/tranche funding decisions on all funded projects. Non-progressing projects may be terminated.
What kind of ecosystem support services are available to Mizzou TechHub STRP funded projects?	Through the Strategic Ideas Studio (SIS), the Mizzou TechHub offers services such as small business support, strategic partner engagement, access to industry-specific experts, prototyping/testing facilities, etc. For more details, please contact Hub Co-PI and SIS Manager, Dave Grant (grantdav@missouri.edu).