UCSF Initiative for Digital Transformation in Computational Biology and Health Data Science

## 2021 Grant and Fellowship Funding Opportunities FAQs

General

Q: The funding is expected to start 10/2021. Do you know if this funding opportunity will be offered again next year (2022)?
> A: We are hopeful that funding will continue next year. Unfortunately, these programs are not yet guaranteed for any future funding cycles.

Q: Do program fellowship awardees need to be able to receive money at UCSF?
> A: Yes. Award funds must be transferred into a UCSF account. Any subsequent deviation from the documented budget or spending flexibility to address non-UCSF employee status, must be approved and documented.

Q: Is it ok if this application has scientific overlap with existing grants, including industry-sponsored ones?
> A: It is NOT OK to support the same project aims of another funded project with these funds. If an aim or project would be broadened to include something additional and novel, then that could be supported (with very specific description of the distinction).

Q : One of the co-Is and/or mentors may be submitting a separate project via this same grant mechanism. Is this allowable? They are a co-PI on their project and I would be the sole PI on my project.
> A: This is fine so long as the proposed work in the two are independent of each other.

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship

Q: Are students who have completed a two-year computational master's program with plans for applying to graduate school, eligible as 'alternative predoctoral program?'
> A: For the predoctoral award, we are looking for folks who are a bit more advanced in their thesis research. There are a few research-based predoctoral clinical training programs that we were imagining for the "alternative" programs

Q: Is eligibility contingent upon advancement to candidacy upon application or upon the funding start period? (Because of relocation post-COVID, I was forced to delay my candidacy exam from late August to early September. While I will not have taken it by the time application materials are due, I will have likely completed it by the award decision date and will have definitely advanced to candidacy upon the funding start date.)
> A: You may apply, but would need to pass your qual before review, and submit evidence of passing to the submission email: rdoinfo@ucsf.edu. Also, the LOR from the advising PI should talk about this and make a clear argument that the student is ready to be successful now.

Post Doc Fellowship

Q: I am a Post Doc at UCSF and want to apply for a Computational Innovator fellowship. The requirements mention 'Curriculum vitae' (including applicant's primary research PI and thesis committee members)'. Does this also apply to Post Docs?
> A: CVs need to include primary mentor, but only predoc applicants need to include their thesis committee.

Q: I am a third-year general surgery resident at UCSF. I was interested in applying for the post-doctoral fellowship but wanted to make sure that residents were eligible.
>A: You are eligible for the postdoctoral award. You are post-doctoral degree and have less than 5 years of experience.

Q: Are people who have completed a PhD program but are currently working at UCSF in a staff appointment, eligible? (They are doing original research work, but, when they joined, there wasn't a postdoc mechanism to take them on).
>A: For the postdoctoral award, staff are eligible despite having different title codes. The important factors: They are post-doctoral, and have less than 5 years of experience, so as long as they are doing original research and pushing new questions and/or computational approaches. Be sure that this is addressed by a comment in your letter of support so the review committee is clear that this is analogous to a postdoctoral position, just a different title code.

Q: I am in my fifth year of postdoc because I did two years of postdoc at another institution. I am wondering if I am still eligible for the application for this opportunity?
>A: Unfortunately, the postdoctoral fellowships are limited to individuals with less than 5 total years of experience.

Q: I am a final-year resident (expected to finish 6/2022). I am also a post-doctoral fellow. I believe that my active research projects fall in line with what the computational biology post-doctoral fellowship is trying to support. Would there be a way to apply for the fellowship now and postpone the start of the funding to 7/2022 (when I will no longer be covered by my clinical salary)?
>A: Unfortunately, awards cannot be transferred or deferred in start date beyond just a couple of weeks.

Computational Innovator Grant

Q: Computational Innovator Grant is listed as $100k in **total costs**, but I don't see anything about indirect costs mentioned. Is IDC recovery permitted, and if so, at what rate?
>A: This is a UCSF gift-funded award and does not allow indirect costs coverage (no UCSF or any other institutional IDC allowed). The funds will be transferred from one UCSF account to another. If subawards are included for non-UCSF collaborators, their IDC will also not be recoverable with these funds.

Q: For the Innovator grant, if we requested funds for a 2-year project period: would this correspond to 100K/year x 2 years, or 100K divided over 2 years:
>A: The award is for $100K direct/total (no UCSF indirect costs are allowed on the budget) but the proposed project period can be 1 or 2 years.

Q: I'm a fifth-year postdoc this year. I'm not sure if I can apply this Computational Innovator Grants?
>A: Postdocs are NOT eligible for that particular funding opportunity

Q: May we have collaborators from outside UCSF? I would like to work with my collaborators at National Labs, or another UC, or Stanford.
>A: Other PIs and co-I are allowed.

Q. Are Co-PI's allowed? I notice you prefer early career investigators. I am senior in my career but would be happy to have a junior PI on this project if that is allowed.
>A: Multi-PIs are allowed.

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Q: The grant idea I have in mind is a cross-institutional collaboration. Should I list Co-Is from other campuses on the title page, or just those from UCSF?

A: You should list all multi-PIs and co-I's as you normally would, no matter their institutional affiliation. Note, however, that indirect costs at UCSF or any other institution, is not an allowable budget item.