



Request For Applications (RFA)

KYNETIC Product Development Grant – Cycle #3

Background:

The [REACH](#) (Research Evaluation and Commercialization Hub) program is a National Institutes of Health (NIH) initiative that has created five new proof-of-concept product development hubs. The goal of the program is to accelerate the translation of groundbreaking innovations to benefit human health into commercial products that improve patient care and enhance health. Kentucky's REACH hub is KYNETIC (Kentucky Network for Innovation & Commercialization).

[KYNETIC](#) will accelerate translation of academic innovations into biomedical products across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Led by the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development on behalf of KY public universities, KYNETIC will administer \$650,000 per year for 4 years to support approximately 13 product development projects per year. In addition to funding translational research, KYNETIC will provide commercialization-related education and training, as well as feedback from various experts, including the NIH and their partners (see <https://ncai.nhlbi.nih.gov/ncai/resources/other>).

The KYNETIC program is not a traditional grant program, it is product-focused and requires business-case project management. Applicants who are invited to submit a full application will work with project managers and/or mentors to develop a product development plan and timeline. Receipt of funding for selected projects will be milestone-driven and KYNETIC staff will monitor project progress. There will be a competitive renewal evaluation (go/no-go decision) about every 6 months and non-progressing projects may be terminated and replaced with new projects.

Eligibility:

This RFA is open to all faculty, staff, trainees, and students at all participating public Universities and community colleges within Kentucky. Non-faculty applicants must identify a faculty member who is willing to sponsor their application. Multiple Principal Investigators (up to three) are permitted. Applications must focus on developing products that have the potential to improve patient care or enhance human health. All types of products (e.g. therapeutic, preventative, device, test, software) are eligible. There is no disease-specific requirement. Applications should involve technologies or ideas that originate from within one of the participating public universities or community colleges that have pending intellectual property or are eligible for patent protection, copyright or some other mechanism for intellectual property protection. Technologies that are already licensed to a company are not eligible. Clinical trials ([by NIH definition](#)) are not allowed. Previously funded projects from Cycle 2 are eligible for competitive renewal, but do not need to submit a new pre-application.

Budget and Duration:

Requests for \$50,000 per project, over a period of 6 months, will be considered. Projects are eligible for competitive renewal every 6 months up to a maximum of \$200,000 per technology.

Important Dates (anticipated):

Pre-application deadline:	February 15, 2021
Full applications invited:	Approximately March 2, 2021
Full application due:	April 15, 2021 (by invitation only)
Full application presentations:	To be determined (mid-May, 2021)
Award start date:	July 1, 2021 (anticipated)