

GENERAL AND TECHNICAL BASES
SEED GRANT FOR BRAIN HEALTH LEADERS
LATIN AMERICAN BRAIN HEALTH INSTITUTE (BRAINLAT)
UNIVERSIDAD ADOLFO IBÁÑEZ, SANTIAGO, CHILE

I.- HISTORY AND MISSION.

The Latin American Institute of Brain Health (BrainLat) is an initiative born from the School of Psychology of the Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, in which the School of Engineering and Sciences, the School of Government and the School of Business also participate, and currently brings together leading Chilean and foreign institutions in brain science, including the Geroscience Center (GERO), the Memory and Neuropsychiatry Clinic of the University of Chile (CMYN).

BrainLat is affiliated with the Global Brain Health Institute (GBHI) at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and Trinity College Dublin (TCD). With the support of this network, the institute will conduct world-class interdisciplinary and transnational research with real-world effects, train new researchers, and disseminate evidence to a broad audience.

In turn, to fulfill its mission to support emerging leaders in brain health, aging and dementia activities and/or small-scale studies to promote skills, knowledge, activities and general efforts to delay, prevent and/or mitigate the impact of dementia or promote brain health, it will provide funding for projects.

II.- BACKGROUND OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

In order to achieve its mission of supporting mental health research, empowering emerging leaders in research and applying for external funding initiatives with the support of emerging leaders in brain health, BrainLat invites eligible researchers to

submit their projects for funding in accordance with the provisions of these Terms and Conditions.

Funding will be awarded to projects that prioritize activities that demonstrate potential to lead to larger projects with an emphasis on Latin American communities and that propose a seed initiative (e.g., preliminary study, extended project planning, focused networking or impact-based proposal) and use an evidence-based approach to identify, change or improve outcomes around age, cognitive related cognitive loss and dementia.

Projects that involve innovative or exploratory approaches even when there is little empirical evidence will also be eligible for award as long as they have a clear focus and consider a plan for additional funding.

The proposed project should clearly identify synergies with the objectives of BrainLat, ReDLat and GBHI, as well as contain a concrete plan for further expansion.

III.- BASES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

These Terms establish the general and technical conditions for this call. By the mere fact of applying, the applicant accepts these Terms and Conditions of this respective call and is obliged to comply with them in their entirety.

IV.- EXPECTED RESULTS.

Without prejudice to the results of the project in particular, all calls governed by these Bases seek to obtain that emerging researchers manage to generate contact networks and relationships with senior researchers; that this relationship translates into support and collaboration for their research work and that the results obtained can eventually be presented and/or applied for seminars, funds, etc., in conjunction with BrainLat.

In addition, Projects should contribute to one of the following general long-term objectives:

- Innovation: developing fresh and original ideas for a well-defined problem.
- Networking: fostering interaction among BrainLat, ReDLat or GBHI members.
- Insight: creating social change, reducing stigma, and inspiring optimism and dignity for seniors.
- Populations: Promote equity in prevention strategies and models of care for vulnerable aging populations.
- Practice: Improve dementia diagnosis, treatment, and care for patients and their families.
- Policy: develop and refine brain health policies through evidence-based advocacy and outreach.
- Publication and advocacy: generate knowledge and new opportunities to advance the field of brain health and dementia prevention.

V.- APPLICANTS.

Researchers who comply with the application requirements established in these Guidelines and whose application is supported by their institution of origin (Institution Receiving Funds/Sponsor) may apply to this fund,

Researchers who are not members of BrainLat (School of Psychology, School of Engineering and Sciences, School of Government, School of Business), GBHI (fellows or professors) and the Multi-Partner Consortium for Expanding Dementia Research in Latin America (ReDLat) will not be accepted to apply.

VI.- FUNDING.

The amount allocated as a grant is unique and total. That is, all Chilean taxes that may be levied on the transfer of the funds will be deducted prior to the transfer of the funds and the taxes of the country of residence of the awardee will be paid by him/her.

Seed projects have a limit of 25.000.000\$ CLP (1-2 years)

VII.- EVALUATION CRITERIA.

Seed grants will prioritize activities that demonstrate potential to lead to larger projects with an emphasis on Latin American communities while demonstrating how the proposed activity adds to BrainLat's emerging trajectory.

Priority will be given to projects that propose a seed initiative (e.g., preliminary study, extended project planning, focused networking, or impact-based proposal) and use an evidence-based approach to identify, change or improve age-related outcomes, cognitive loss and dementia.

Seed projects that involve innovative or exploratory approaches that are less proven will also be awardable as long as the rationale for the approach is clear and there is a plan for the application of additional funds.

The proposed project should clearly identify synergies with BrainLat, ReDLat and GBHI objectives, as well as provide a concrete plan for further expansion.

Applications will be evaluated with particular attention to:

- Potential role of the proposal as a seed initiative for a larger proposal.
- Impact to the BrainLat, GBHI or ReDLat community.
- Relevance to the question under consideration.
- Applicant information, including the applicant's background to the extent that it will enable the applicant to perform the proposed work, the qualifications of collaborators, and the experience they bring to the project.
- Quality of the work plan, including the novelty and innovation of the proposed project.
- Quality and adequacy of available resources and budget.
- Impact-risk of the proposal and how it will add to the overall knowledge and advancement of the field.

This opportunity is only available for members of BrainLat, GBHI (fellows or faculty), and the ReDLat (PDs, PIs, or Other significant contributors). Letter of Intent (LOI) is required before applying.

VIII.- INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZATIONS

By accepting the grant, the grantee agrees and undertakes to:

1.- Authorizes BrainLat to share the results of the research with other researchers and relevant actors in brain health care, always ensuring respect for intellectual property and safeguarding information that may be considered sensitive or confidential.

2.- Regarding the intellectual property, this will be shared between the researchers responsible for the seed grant and Brainlat.

3. Respect and follow all the requirements indicated in the document called CONDITIONS OF AWARD that are available in the following [link](#).

IX.- RECOGNITION OF AFFILIATION AND COMMITMENT TO JOINT NOMINATION.

The investigator will be considered as affiliated with BrainLat and such author affiliation should be considered in any publication related to the awarded fund, as follows: "Latin American Brain Health Institute (BrainLat), Universidad Adolfo Ibañez, Santiago, Chile".

An acknowledgement of the support provided by BrainLat should also appear in publications of any material, copyrighted or not, if the data are based on or developed under grants funded by BrainLat. The following wording should be used: "This work was supported by the Latin American Brain Health Institute (BrainLat) # (add your specific grant number)".

The investigator commits, if required by BrainLat, to apply jointly to any project, fund, sponsorship, national or foreign that is related to the project that has been funded.

X.- RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE INSTITUTION RECEIVING THE FUNDS

1.- To watch over the delivery of the reports.

- 2.- To manage and administer the funds.
- 3.- To accompany the antecedents that show the investments.
- 4.- To sign together with the Researcher the respective agreement prior to the delivery of the funds.

XI.- RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RESEARCHER

- 1.- Delivery of technical and financial reports within the terms and conditions established in the CONDITIONS OF AWARD. These reports are detailed in the document called [Scientific Progress Report](#)
2. Fulfillment of all the requirements indicated in the document called [CONDITIONS OF AWARD](#).

XII.- Grant Agreement

The successful bidder and the Institution Receiving Funds must sign the respective agreement specifying the commitments acquired by each of them prior to the receipt of the funds.

The agreement must be signed within a maximum period of 10 days from the date it is sent. Failure to sign will imply irrevocable waiver of the award.

XIII.- PROTECTIONS FOR HUMAN RESEARCH SUBJECTS (IF APPLICABLE)

In case the research proposal considers the participation of human subjects, full adherence to the Declaration of Helsinki must be ensured. In the case of animal research, the projects must follow the Animal Welfare Assurances for Research.

XIV.- Timeline

- **July 2021:** RFA distributed
- **August 10th 2021:** Deadline to submit the Letter of Intent (LOI)
- **August 30th 2021:** Notification to submit the proposal
- **September 30th 2021:** Deadline to submit full proposal
- **November 30th 2021:** Funding notice
- **December 2021:** Seed project implementation begins (formal start expected for January 2022)

XV.-Submitting a Letter of Intent (LOI):

The Letter of Intent (LOI) is a required step in the application process. The LOI must include: **i)** Brief project summary, including methodology (1000 characters), **ii)** Specific aims (1000 characters), **iii)** Innovation/novelty of the proposed project (1000 characters), **iv)** Overall Impact (1000 characters), and **v)** a description of any previous relevant interaction with BrainLat, GBHI or ReDLat members (1000 characters).

The full application consists of the following:

- Seed Description & Plan – summary of the area of work the applicant is pursuing, description of the scope and importance of the problem being addressed, specific goals/aims or seed project objectives, relevance for BrainLat, GBHI or ReDLat goals and its Latin American impact, approach (strategy, methodology), evaluation plan, timeline, plan to expand the work of the seed and/or seek leveraged funding (3 pages).
- Statement of Mission Alignment – written by the applicant to highlight their commitment to institute mission and the long-term impact goals stated above. This statement should include how the proposed work will add to the applicant's career trajectory, including next steps once the activity is successfully accomplished (1 page).
- Available Resources & Budget Justification – the projected budget and justification must be comprehensive and match the Seed Project Plan in scope and breadth (1 to 2 pages).

- Curriculum Vitae (CV) – a CV/biosketch for the applicant must be included, limited to four pages.

XVI.- ALLOWABLE COSTS INCLUDE (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO):

- Salary of the applicant, technical assistance and other staff (including administrative support directly related to the funded seed project).
- Travel (with justification in the narrative), not to exceed 40% of the total proposed budget.
- Computer equipment, hardware or software (if used strictly for the execution of the seed project and with justification in the narrative), not to exceed 20% of the total proposed budget; if the proposed equipment expense will exceed this limit, the awardee must have prior written approval.
- Purchase and care of laboratory animals and/or small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies.

Direct costs not allowable under this grant include:

- Rental of laboratory/office space.
- Construction or renovation costs.
- Facility fees
- Laboratory or supply costs that are not directly relevant to the proposed seed project

Application: Questions and all application materials should be sent by e-mail to Dr. Agustín Ibáñez and Dr. Claudia Duran-Aniotz at brainlat@uai.cl.