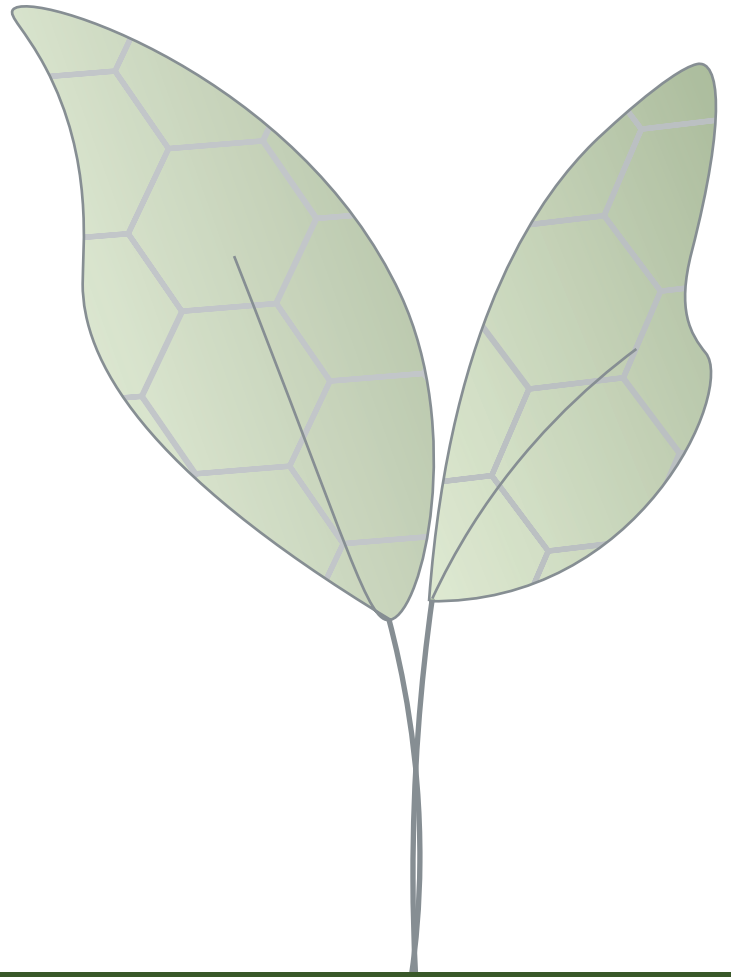




THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



EEH SEED GRANTS

2024

INTRODUCTION

The Foods for Health Research Initiative is seeking proposals from the Ohio State community for our Spring 2024 award cycle.

The FFH Seed Grant Program has three primary goals:

1. Foster new collaborations and encourage exploration into promising, novel areas of research.
2. Enable the generation of data, novel tools, and methods needed for successful applications for extramural funding.
3. Advance the vision and mission of FFH.

These goals will be achieved through the funding mechanisms described in this packet. Please address all questions to Matt Teegarden at teegarden.3@osu.edu.

ABOUT FFH

The Foods for Health Research Initiative is Ohio State's premier program for interdisciplinary research that defines the health impacts of foods using modern technology and informatic approaches. Our growing community is made up of researchers in diverse disciplines across 12 academic units.

OUR VISION

Healthier lives through scientific discovery across food, nutrition, and diet.

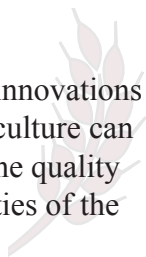
OUR MISSION

To advance multidisciplinary research that defines the relationship between foods, disease prevention, and health promotion.

FFH promotes research across three key pillars and one crosscutting theme:

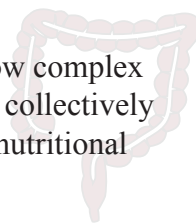
Crop & Food Improvement

Understanding how innovations across food and agriculture can be used to enhance the quality and healthful properties of the food value chain



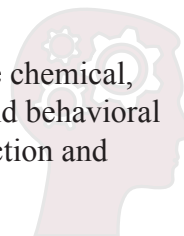
Precision Nutrition

Understanding how complex biological factors collectively influence unique nutritional needs



Food Perception & Behavior

Understanding the chemical, chemoreceptor, and behavioral basis of food selection and eating



cross-cutting theme: **Multi-omics and data analytics**

Utilizing modern analytical approaches to understand complex relationships

AWARD OVERVIEW

FFH is pleased to announce two seed grant mechanisms for the 2023 cycle.

INNOVATE \$50,000 over 24 months. Aimed at new collaborations & new lines of research. Up to 2 awards available.

STRENGTHEN \$20,000 over 12 months. Aimed at enhancing quality of ongoing research studies. Up to 3 awards available.

FFH is dedicated to interdisciplinary, basic and translational research on the relationship between nutrients, foods, dietary patterns, disease prevention, and health promotion.

The following topics are of highest priority:

- Dietary patterns, foods, and nutrients in health and disease
- The interface between diet, nutrition, and the microbiome, including fiber-containing foods
- Chemical/biochemical underpinnings of food-host interactions that influence ingestive behavior
- Food and agricultural science to develop and test novel foods and technologies that target human health outcomes
- The application of advanced statistical approaches, bioinformatics and/or machine learning for the analysis and integration of “-omics” datasets relevant to diet and health outcomes

Questions on the suitability of a research question or topic are welcomed. Please contact Matt Teegarden at teegarden.3@osu.edu.

Proposals will be evaluated and prioritized by a panel of internal (Ohio State) reviewers. Every effort will be made to match reviewer expertise to each proposal. However, due to the highly multidisciplinary nature of FFH, **proposals should be prepared in a way that is appropriate for a broad scientific audience.**

TIMELINE

February 1 Request for proposals released

February 29 (11:59 PM) Letters of intent due

April 4 (11:59 PM) Final proposals due

May 13 Applicants informed of award decision (FFH reserves the right to adjust this date as necessary to facilitate the review process)

INNOVATE

INNOVATE awards provide up to \$50,000 in direct costs for a two-year project. The purpose of this award is to build new and compelling interdisciplinary teams that generate collaborative research productivity for specific funding opportunities.

ELIGIBILITY

- This opportunity is open to all FFH affiliated faculty.
- One faculty member will serve as principal investigator along with a minimum of one collaborating faculty member from a different discipline as Co-PI.
- Investigators must represent distinct disciplines, and multi-college/academic unit collaborations are strongly encouraged.
- Collaborating investigators may also be listed on the application.
- Projects must be distinct from ongoing activities and/or represent significant new collaborations
- The same individual may not serve as PI on more than one FFH Seed Grant application per cycle. PIs may serve as collaborators on other applications.
- Investigators who currently serve as PI on active FFH seed grant projects may not serve as PI on new applications.

AWARD TERMS

- All awards will be transferred to and administered by the PI's home department. Funds are valid for two years from the date of initial fund transfer.
- No faculty salaries, faculty fringe benefits, or capital equipment (>\$5,000 purchase price) will be supported.
- Travel necessary for completion of research is allowed. Travel expenses for presentation of results is allowable up to \$2,000. Planned travel should be conducted in accordance to University policy in place at the time of travel.
- 50% of funds will be transferred at the start of the award period, with the second 50% released upon submission of an acceptable mid-term report. Alternative disbursement schemes will be considered if strongly justified.
- No-cost extensions are discouraged, though permissible only in extenuating circumstances.
- A final report must be submitted by the end of the two-year award period. Failure to submit a final report will result in disqualification from future funding opportunities from FFH.
- FFH support must be acknowledged in all resulting publications and presentations.
- The FFH cost center 10677 must be included at 0% effort level in the associated PA005 for any future proposal submissions that use data collected with these funds. This will allow FFH to track effort and return on investment to ensure the longevity of the FFH Seed Grant Program.

NEW THIS YEAR:

- At the end of the award period, FFH will work to provide opportunities for successful teams to share project outcomes (research findings, next steps, etc) with the wider FFH community. It is expected that teams participate in these efforts which may consist of providing a formal/informal research presentation and/or a featured interview in FFH media.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Recipients of this award are expected to submit publication(s) to peer-reviewed journal(s) and/or application(s) for extramural funding related to the project within one year of project completion.

LETTER OF INTENT (REQUIRED)

All interested teams must submit a letter of intent form.

- The fillable PDF form is available here: <https://foodsforhealth.osu.edu/media/323>
- The LOI submission portal is available here: <https://go.osu.edu/ffh-loi-submission>

APPLICATION FORMAT

Applications are limited to three pages including figures and tables. Section III is not counted towards the page limit. Applications must be saved as a single PDF file using the naming convention “PI-Name_INNOVATE-24.pdf” (e.g., Buckeye_INNOVATE-24.pdf). Documents should be single-spaced with ½ inch margins and 11-point type (Calibri or Times New Roman). Sections will include:

I. Introduction

- a. Title of proposal
- b. PI/Co-PI including names, colleges, and departments
- c. Lay abstract (250 words max)
- d. Problem statement: what is the research question being addressed? Why is it significant, and how does it fit within the goals of FFH? What is the hypothesis?
- e. Innovation statement: What is novel or innovative about the proposed research and/or collaboration?

II. Approach and Outcomes

- a. Materials and Methods: Describe the study design and the methodology that will be used to collect and analyze data. Address current or potential limitations and how those will be overcome.
- b. Expected Results: Describe anticipated findings using applicable references and preliminary data. Discuss the technical value these findings would have.
- c. Outcomes: Describe how the proposed work will be used to advance competitive extramural funding applications. In addition, discuss additional ways in which results will be used (i.e., grant applications, publications, teaching, etc.). Be as specific as possible in terms of use cases and timelines.

III. Project Team, Timeline, References and Budget (not included in 3-page limit)

- a. Team: Provide the name, contact information, title, college, and department for each supporting team member (including students). Also describe the relevant expertise and proposed contributions of each member.
- b. Past outcomes: Please provide a short synopsis of outcomes from previous seed awards (not just FFH awards) including the source of funding and related outcomes (publications, grants, etc) if available.
- c. Timeline: Briefly describe how work will progress over the 24-month award.
- d. References: Provide bibliographic details of references cited in the application
- e. Budget: Fill out the FFH Seed Grant Budget Table ([link](#))
- f. Budget Narrative: Justify costs, including how cost/sample was calculated (if applicable).

STRENGTHEN

STRENGTHEN awards provide up to \$20,000 in direct costs for a one-year project. The purpose of this funding mechanism is to enhance the quality of ongoing research, leading to collaborative publications in higher impact journals while providing a foundation for successful grant submissions.

ELIGIBILITY

- This opportunity is open to all FFH affiliated faculty.
- One faculty member will serve as principal investigator along with a minimum of one collaborating faculty member as Co-PI.
- Investigators must represent distinct disciplines, and multi-college/academic unit collaborations are strongly encouraged.
- Collaborating investigators may also be listed on the application.
- The same individual may not serve as PI on more than one FFH Seed Grant application per cycle. PIs may serve as collaborators on other applications.
- Investigators who currently serve as PI on active FFH seed grant projects may not serve as PI on new applications.

AWARD TERMS

- All awards will be transferred to and administered by the PI's home department. Funds are valid for one year from the date of initial fund transfer.
- No faculty salaries, faculty fringe benefits, or capital equipment purchase will be supported.
- Salary support for post-candidacy students is strongly preferred given the short time frame of this award.
- Travel necessary for completion of research is allowed, but must be strongly justified. Travel expenses for presentation of results is allowable up to \$1,000. Planned travel should be conducted in accordance to University policy in place at the time of travel.
- 100% of funds will be transferred at the start of the award period. No-cost extensions are discouraged, though permissible only in extenuating circumstances.
- A midterm report must be submitted during the sixth month of the award period.
- A final report must be submitted by the end of the 12-month award period. Failure to submit a final report will result in disqualification from future funding opportunities from FFH.
- FFH support must be acknowledged in all resulting publications and presentations.
- The FFH cost center 10677 must be included at 0% effort level in the associated PA005 for any future proposal submissions that use data collected with these funds. This will allow FFH to track effort and return on investment to ensure the longevity of the FFH Seed Grant Program.

NEW THIS YEAR:

- At the end of the award period, FFH will work to provide opportunities for successful teams to share project outcomes (research findings, next steps, etc) with the wider FFH community. It is expected that teams participate in these efforts which may consist of providing a formal/informal research presentation and/or a featured interview in FFH media.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Recipients of this award are expected to submit application(s) for extramural funding within one year of project completion.

LETTER OF INTENT (REQUIRED)

All interested teams must submit a letter of intent form.

- The fillable PDF form is available here: <https://foodsforhealth.osu.edu/media/323>
- The LOI submission portal is available here: <https://go.osu.edu/ffh-loi-submission>

APPLICATION FORMAT

Applications are limited to three pages including figures and tables. Section III is not counted towards the page limit. Applications must be saved as a single PDF file using the naming convention “PI-Name_STRENGTHEN-24.pdf” (e.g., Buckeye_STRENGTHEN-24.pdf). Documents should be single-spaced with ½ inch margins and 11-point type (Calibri or Times New Roman). Sections will include:

I. Introduction

- a. Title of proposal
- b. PI/Co-PI including names, colleges, and departments
- c. Lay abstract (250 words max)
- d. Research statement: What is the overarching goal of this aspect of your/the team’s research? Why is it significant? What is the proposed study (or studies) and how do they fit in to the research narrative that will be submitted for extramural funding?

II. Approach and Outcomes

- a. Materials and Methods: Describe the study design and the methodology that will be used to collect and analyze data. Address current or potential limitations and how those will be overcome.
- b. Expected Results: Describe anticipated findings using applicable references and preliminary data. Discuss the technical value these findings would have.
- c. Outcomes: Describe how the proposed work will be used to advance competitive extramural funding applications. Discuss specific funding opportunities you plan to apply to with this preliminary data. Be as specific as possible in terms of organizations and timelines

III. Project Team, Timeline, References, and Budget (not counted in page limit)

- a. Team: Provide the name, contact information, title, college, and department for each supporting team member (including students). Also describe the relevant expertise and proposed contributions of each member.
- b. Past outcomes: Please provide a short synopsis of outcomes from previous seed awards (not just FFH awards) including the source of funding and related outcomes (publications, grants, etc) if available.
- c. Timeline: Briefly describe how work will progress over the 24-month award.
- d. References: Provide bibliographic details of references cited in the application
- e. Budget: Fill out the FFH Seed Grant Budget Table ([link](#))
- f. Budget Narrative: Justify costs, including how cost/sample was calculated (if applicable)