

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
**2025-26 KIBM Innovative Research Grant (IRG) Program**  
Deadline for proposals: Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 5pm PT

The Kavli Institute for Brain and Mind (KIBM) solicits proposals for the support of innovative interdisciplinary research during 2025-26. The purpose of the KIBM Innovative Research Grant Program is to foster research focused on ideas that bridge different levels of organization of brain and mind. A goal of this program is to stimulate testing of hypotheses for which no standard funding stream is available. We are interested in innovative, risky projects from which a high payoff could be obtained. A further goal is to assist in generation of preliminary data that will enable funding from extramural agencies. Preference will be given to proposals encompassing several disciplines or laboratories and for projects that catalyze new collaborative research. Extensions of ongoing research programs are not likely to be favorably considered.

### **Budget**

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The requested budget may not exceed \$50,000.

Unallowable expenses include salary support for faculty and Research Scientists, indirect costs, renovation costs, entertainment, and lobbying costs.

Budgeted expenses must directly support the proposed project. No more than \$30,000 out of the \$50,000 can be used for salary, benefits, tuition remission, tuition and fees, and consultant fees to support postdocs, graduate students, lab staff, and consultants. Allowable non-personnel expenses include equipment, lab supplies, facility recharge costs, participant payments, publication fees, and travel to present project findings at conferences.

### **PI Eligibility**

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The Contact PI must have an appointment at UC San Diego or the Salk Institute and is the individual with primary responsibility for overseeing the project supported by the grant. PI eligibility is not limited to faculty investigators; we welcome applications from graduate students and postdocs. Named collaborators outside of UC San Diego and the Salk Institute may be part of the research team.

### **Proposal Format and Review Criteria**

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#### **ABSTRACT AND RESEARCH TEAM**

*1 page maximum*

This section should describe the proposed research and address its importance and novelty. In addition, proposals should explain:

##### **Abstract**

A brief one paragraph executive summary of the proposed research written in a language that is clear, accessible to the educated layperson, and avoids unnecessary technical terms.

##### **Research Team and Laboratories**

This section should briefly describe the research team and laboratories.

## DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH

2 pages maximum excluding references and figures

This section should describe the proposed research and address its importance and novelty. In addition, proposals should explain:

- a) the ways in which the research will help bridge the brain-mind gap
- b) how the research is interdisciplinary and will involve investigators from different laboratories or disciplines
- c) how the research is innovative and what the potential payoff could be
- d) what follow-on funding sources from extramural sponsors might be available should the research be fruitful
- e) if applicable, also include a description of how the project would contribute to outreach and/or campus diversity goals

## ITEMIZED BUDGET AND OTHER SUPPORT

1 page maximum

This section should describe an itemized budget and all other sources of support.

### Itemized Budget

This section should contain an itemized budget. The budget period will be from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. If the budget is to be split between multiple departments or institutions, please indicate the subtotal and lead investigator for each department/lab. We are unable to allocate funds to any foreign institutions. We also discourage allocation of IRG funds to a domestic institution other than UCSD or Salk.

### Other Support

Please list the other sources of support for all PIs (i.e., faculty or equivalent but not graduate students and postdoctoral fellows) and indicate how the project cannot be supported by these funds. Address the impact that funding would have for the project.

## LETTER(S) OF COLLABORATION

Compile all letter(s) of collaboration into one word or PDF file

A letter of intent to collaborate should be uploaded for each faculty-level team member.

A brief letter or email to the Contact PI stating the following is sufficient: *I write to express my enthusiastic support of the proposal entitled "[REPLACE WITH PROPOSAL TITLE]" to the KIBM Innovative Research Grant Program. I look forward to this collaboration.*

The review criteria used for proposal evaluation can be found on <https://kibm.ucsd.edu/research/innovative-research-grants>

## Online Application Form

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Submit proposals to KIBM electronically using the online application form via InfoReady, which will be available by early 2025 on the following site: <https://kibm.ucsd.edu/research/innovative-research-grants>.

## Award Conditions

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- If applicable, valid animal and/or human subject protocols must be approved by the appropriate institution prior to the issuing of award funds.

- A final report must be submitted when requested, to include a listing of any publications, presentations, press releases, and follow-on grants that may have resulted from the research.
- Grant recipients will be asked to present their research at the KIBM Innovative Research Symposium in Summer 2026.
- Award announcements will be made no later than June 2025 with a planned start date of July 01, 2025.

Please contact us at [kibm@ucsd.edu](mailto:kibm@ucsd.edu) with any questions.