

2027-28 URI/Brown Early Career Development (UB-ECD) Award: Request for Letters of Intent (LOIs)

Program Goals and Award

The primary goal of the Early Career Development (ECD) funding mechanism at the University of Rhode Island (URI) and Brown University is to promote the research career development of early-stage investigators who are committed to establishing a competitive, externally funded biomedical research program. Investigators are expected to develop a productive and sustainable student research training program. To meet this goal, the program requests Letters of Intent (LOIs) for URI/Brown Early ECD awards for research projects beginning on **May 1, 2027**. Applicants must identify an experienced research investigator, preferably from the New England region, to serve as a mentor for the research project. Applicants can request up to **\$100,000** per year in direct costs for up to two years.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be tenure-track Assistant Professors at URI or Brown University at the time of application.
- Applicants must not have previously received multi-year external funding.
- Applicants cannot receive simultaneous funding from another NIGMS IDEa program, e.g. COBRE or Advance-CTR.
- **Note:** we regrettably cannot accept human subjects proposals that require IRB approval this funding cycle. We are actively working to build IDEa capacity to support these proposals in future funding cycles.

Instructions

Please use the 2027-28 Letter of Intent (LOI) form to register your intention to submit a full proposal. Please limit your submission to one page. References (not required for the LOI) do not count toward the page limit. Applicants should use 11pt Arial font and should not modify the RI-INBRE logo or the margins of the form. A font size of 9pt may be used for figure legends. A detailed description of your proposed project is not necessary, but you should provide enough detail that reviewers can evaluate the importance of your question and how your approach will address the question. In your LOI, please describe the following:

- **Proposal Overview:** Briefly describe the rationale for the project, the specific aims of the proposed research, and the approach to be used.
- **Impact:** Briefly describe the potential impact (likelihood the project will exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field) of this study and how funding would develop the biomedical research infrastructure at your institution and in Rhode Island.

Submission

Submit LOIs at <https://tinyurl.com/RI-INBRE-LOI-2027-28> by 11:59pm **Tuesday September 15, 2026**. Applicants will be notified by **Thursday September 17, 2026** whether they have been invited to submit full proposals. Full proposals will be due by 11:59pm **Wednesday December 2, 2026**.

Contact Information:

- Eligibility, LOI Preparation & Submission, and Questions: Brett Pellock (bpellock@providence.edu)

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