



BLAVATNIK CENTER for Drug Discovery
מרכז בלווטניק לפיתוח תרופות



Call for joint drug discovery projects at the BCDD

The BLAVATNIK CENTER for Drug Discovery (BCDD) announces its third call for internal funding of drug discovery related collaboration projects at Tel Aviv University. This call for proposals is open to all TAU researchers and affiliated researchers working in the area of early-stage drug discovery. The BCDD's goal is to accelerate the drug discovery process at Tel Aviv University campus by providing a state-of-the-art research and development environment.

The BCDD (bcdd.tau.ac.il/), a multi-disciplinary research center located in the TAU campus, integrates basic and translational research in the field of drug discovery. The BCDD offers infrastructure and expertise in the fields of medicinal chemistry (peptide and small molecules synthesis, SAR studies and analytical chemistry assays), biology (biological assays development and adaptation to HTS, enzymatic and cell-based HTS) and computer-aided drug design (computational chemistry, chemoinformatics and bioinformatics), which are focused to foster early-stage drug discovery.

The BCDD's resources will be available to enable the selected projects to reach the next level in the drug discovery pipeline. The BCDD will support several research projects by conducting in-house collaborative research using the BCDD infrastructure platform and that of the TAU researchers. The proposal selection is based on the scientific merit of the projects, and will be scored according to the following criteria:

1. Innovation and excellence
2. Unmet clinical need
3. How the BCDD infrastructure and knowhow would contribute to advance the specific project (considering time scale and available workforce)
4. Commercialization opportunities

BCDD FUNDING:

The BCDD is offering in-kind support for collaborative projects for proof of concept studies or extension of on-going research activities. The funded collaborative research will be conducted at the BCDD, using the BCDD infrastructure and workforce according to the work plan designed by the researcher together with the BCDD staff. The BCDD International Advisory Board will further approve the work plan and budget for the project). The BCDD funding will cover the BCDD infrastructure and scientist's workforce (100% coverage). The collaborator will contribute 25% matching for consumables and reagents expenses (at the end of each milestone).

Please note the following:

1. BCDD employees that will be designated to the collaborative project and will contribute to the collaborative study will be entitled to share authorship based on their contribution.
2. The BCDD should be acknowledged while using results produced as part of the collaborative research project (grant application, scientific publication, etc.) using the following acknowledgment.

“This research was supported by the BCDD, funded by Len Blavatnik and the Blavatnik Family Foundation.”

3. **Tel Aviv University Researchers:** Collaborative research projects will be subject to TAU Regulations for Inventions, Patents and their Commercialization, dated 12.7.15 (as amended from time to time). Prior to initiation of the collaborative project, the applying TAU researcher and the appropriate BCDD Principal Investigator (“PI”) shall assess the expected contribution of the BCDD employees to the project and agree on the allocation of the future intellectual property of the project’s deliverables and consideration received from their commercialization. IP distribution will be negotiated based on the personal invention contribution of designated BCDD personnel. The applying TAU researcher and the BCDD PI may also mutually decide to discuss these issues at a later stage.
4. **Tel Aviv University-Affiliated Researchers whose primary appointment is at a hospital and/or another institution:** In the event that the researcher is affiliated with TAU but his primary appointment is with a hospital and/or another institution, prior to the initiation of the collaborative project, Ramot and the respective technology transfer office of the hospital/institution that the researcher is affiliated with, should reach an agreement on allocation of future intellectual property of the project’s deliverables and consideration received from their commercialization. IP distribution will be negotiated based on the personal invention contribution of designated BCDD personnel. Ramot and the hospital/institution may also mutually decide to discuss these issues at a later stage.

APPLICATION PROCESS

An abstract describing the goal of the project, experimental model, target/compound, its characteristics and a description of its therapeutic potential will be submitted through the BCDD website (link below).

The applicant should be able to support the project progression scientifically and to involve (by demand) project-dedicated student/s or scholar/s to work on the project at the BCDD (The BCDD will not cover scholarships or salaries).

The BCDD International Advisory Board experts and BCDD consultants will evaluate the information provided as part of the application.

Applicants that will pass the 1st evaluation step will be notified by the BCDD and will receive further instructions concerning the approval process (establishing a work plan and presenting the project to the IAB members on April 15, 2019). Dr. Avi Raveh (ravehavi@tauex.tau.ac.il) will be in contact with the applicant during the evaluation period.

Project applications forms (“two-pager”, template is attached), NIH type biosketch of the principal investigator and a self- explanatory presentation describing initial results should be submitted by January 1st, 2019 through the BCDD website (<https://bcdd.tau.ac.il/BCDD-RFA-2018>).

The BCDD consultants and International Advisory Board members will review the pre-proposals and assist the selection of those invited for full proposal submission, which will be prepared with the aid of the BCDD staff by March 1st, 2019.

For further details, please contact Dr. Avi Raveh by email (ravehavi@tauex.tau.ac.il) or by phone 03-6409654.

For further information, please visit our website bcdd.tau.ac.il