The Children’s Discovery Institute requests applications from all Washington University faculty for the funding mechanisms listed below.

Letters of Intent must be submitted by 5:00 pm CST on February 1, 2019.

Funding Mechanisms:

1. Large-Scale Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives: Provide up to $1,500,000 for up to a three year period for highly innovative and novel projects to teams of colleagues with differing areas of expertise who wish to pool their talents and resources to identify targets for improved diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of a pediatric health issue that is relevant to the goals of the CDI. Projects proposed as part of the initiative should be thematically integrated and synergistic and should ultimately lead to the procurement of other extramural support. Large-Scale Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives are more complex in scope and budget than Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives and are almost always Multiple PI projects. Example of Large-Scale Interdisciplinary Research Initiative: Functional, Structural, and Genetic Characterization of Pediatric Ciliopathies.

2. Core Large Initiatives: Provide up to $1,500,000 for up to a three year period to establish facilities, services, or other shared resources that have the potential to expedite identification of therapeutic targets, diagnostic markers, or animal models for CDI and/or WU research studies. Examples of funded cores can be found at: http://www.childrensdiscovery.org/ResearchCenters/CoreOtherResources.aspx

3. Educational Initiatives: Provide up to $50,000 per year for up to a three year period for educational activities on child health topics relevant to the goals of the CDI.

4. Faculty Recruitment/Scholar Awards: Provide $300,000 over a five year period for exceptional new investigators to establish a laboratory and to embark on highly promising pediatric medical research relevant to the goals of the CDI. Nominations for Faculty Recruitment/Scholar Awards may be submitted by any Washington University Department Chair or, for the Departments of Medicine or Pediatrics, the Division Chief. Department Chairs or Division Chiefs wishing to submit nominations (i.e. Letters of Intent) for Faculty Recruitment/Scholar Awards must obtain the approval of the CDI Executive and Scientific Directors prior to submission.

Funding Objectives:

- Preference will be given to faculty members prior to achieving tenure, to teams of investigators from multiple disciplines, and to multi-investigator projects to develop interactive research groups.
- Translational impact, scientific excellence, and potential for acquisition of new knowledge. This includes the development and/or testing of novel approaches for diagnosis, therapy and/or prevention.
- Synergistic with other programs at Washington University and St. Louis Children’s Hospital.


Following internal review, selected investigators will be invited to submit a complete proposal that will be due on April 1, 2019. All investigators receiving CDI funding will be expected to participate in CDI activities relevant to their proposed work.

Please email cdi@kids.wustl.edu with any questions or concerns.