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 3, 2020.**

**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](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. Please see the applicant eligibility section of the LOI and Proposal Submission Guidelines prior to nominating a new investigator.

**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.
- Immediate relevance to goals of one or more of the CDI’s Centers:
  - McDonnell Pediatric Cancer Center focuses on the etiology and treatment of pediatric cancers.
  - Center for Metabolism and Immunity focuses on musculoskeletal, kidney and gastrointestinal disorders including the microbiome, disorders of metabolism, and diseases related to the immune system.
  - Center for Pediatric Pulmonary Disease focuses on the biology of the pulmonary system and genetic and acquired causes of pediatric lung disease.
  - Congenital Heart Disease Center focuses on the environmental and genetic etiology of congenital heart and vascular disease, related birth defects, and other heart disorders.

Recent changes have been made to the submission guidelines; please download the latest version of the CDI’s Letter of Intent and Proposal Submission Guidelines from the CDI website [http://www.childrensdiscovery.org/Grants/Forms,InstructionsPolicies.aspx](http://www.childrensdiscovery.org/Grants/Forms,InstructionsPolicies.aspx). Note that all letters and accompanying materials must be submitted online at [http://www.childrensdiscovery-application.org/login.php](http://www.childrensdiscovery-application.org/login.php).

Following internal review, selected investigators will be invited to submit a complete proposal that will be due on April 1, 2020. All investigators receiving CDI funding will be expected to participate in CDI activities relevant to their proposed work.

Please contact Tim Butts at (314) 286-0256 or [cdi@kids.wustl.edu](mailto:cdi@kids.wustl.edu) with any questions or concerns.