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Inclusion & Development, Equity, Advocacy & Support

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IDEAS Spark Grants

Purpose

The purpose of the Mass General Brigham Center for IDEAS Spark Grants is to "spark" the collective creative minds in our department. Inclusion & Development, Equity, Advocacy & Support are important in every aspect of our lives and work. The responsibility of creating a cross cultural workplace and clinical environment falls to all of us. The spark grants are intended to provide financial and technical assistance as well as support to faculty, clinical, and non-clinical staff in fostering ideas of Inclusion & Development, Equity, Advocacy & Support. *The RFP will award 1 grant for each category for a total of 3 awards.*

Guidelines for Spark Grants

Budget Justification

The detailed budget must be on the IDEAS provided spreadsheet and list all direct and indirect costs associated with the proposed project for the entire project period, including a breakdown of these costs and how the total requested award amount was determined.

Project Leads (PL) eligibility and funding recipients

Current MGB faculty, staff, administrators, nurses, physician assistants, residents, fellows, and other members of the MGB community may be applicants or collaborators. We encourage projects that involve multiple groups. There may be 1-3 project leads with at least one of the project leads being a MGB-affliated faculty.

MGB-affiliated Faculty Lead

The MGB-affiliated faculty lead will be expected to serve as primary mentor and facilitator throughout the IDEAS Spark grant process. Each project will be assigned a committee co-chair as the project sponsor. While all project personnel are encouraged to communicate with the project sponsor, the faculty lead will serve as the primary contact for the project sponsor.

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The Center for IDEAS (Inclusion & Development, Equity, Advocacy & Support) is committed to advancing equity, accessibility, and belonging across the entire Mass General Brigham community. These principles guide our programs, grants, education, and partnerships.

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Eligible projects

Any type of non-research project. The department currently has Seed grants and the Spark grants are not intended to compete with them. Projects should impact one of 3 domains, inclusion & development in the workspace, health equity in our patient community, and advocacy & support within our community. Please identify which area your project is focused on.

Projects are meant to be completed within 6 months.

IDEAS Spark grant usage

Unless specifically excluded in the Spark grant guidelines and procedures, grant funds may be used for justifiable, necessary and reasonable project-related costs, including:

consultancy fees

participant incentives

• travel to research site for data collection, etc

· laboratory materials

statistical analyses

Funding assistance will be provided and there is no expectation for grant awardees to use personal funds and to be reimbursed.

IDEAS Spark grant award offering schedule

For 2025, Three Spark grants (1 per domain) will be offered.

IDEAS Spark grant proposal review process

Selected proposals will present to the IDEaS core prior to project initiation.

IDEAS Spark grant proposal review and presentation dates

Submitted proposals must be accepted by the vice-chair for inclusion & development or designee for review by the IDEaS core team. For 2025, Spark grant applications open August 1st, 2025 proposals will be due by November 3rd, 2025, and awarded by December 2025 for a January start date of your project. Target start date January 2026.

Spark Grant Restrictions

IDEAS Spark grant use exclusions

Salary support of project leads, fellows, or residents; conference fees, presentation costs or travel; publication fees

IDEAS Spark grant amounts

An applicant may request up to \$10,000 per project. 3 total projects

IDEAS Spark grant application limits

A faculty member may be a project lead on only one active Spark grant per application cycle

IDEAS Spark grant proposal submission

Proposals may be submitted starting August 1st, 2025 using ONLY the **Spark grant proposal** form and are due by the November 3rd, 2025 deadline. Submissions without this form will not be accepted.







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