Sanofi Innovation Awards (iAwards) Call for Pre-proposals

**iAwards Program Description and Objectives:**

Sanofi is a leading global healthcare company engaged in bringing innovative therapeutic solutions to meet the needs of patients.

The Sanofi Innovation Awards (iAwards) program was created in 2015 to:

- Identify and help develop innovative and translational research proposals that could lead to the development of effective and safer therapeutic solutions for patients
- Provide one year seed funding of $125,000 to each selected proposal, a dedicated Sanofi project champion, in-kind resources and expertise deemed necessary by Sanofi.
- Build strong relationships within each partner institution to identify early research projects aligned with Sanofi’s strategic areas of interest

Sanofi’s main objective in creating the iAwards program is to convert successful and promising iAward projects to sponsored research programs and subsequently create in-licensing and start-up opportunities with the potential to continuously enrich Sanofi’s early stage portfolio. The funding level and duration for iAwards which are chosen for conversion into sponsored research projects will be based on the project needs.

In 2015, the Joint Scientific Steering Committee (JSSC) awarded twenty-four awards which are currently ongoing. We expect to provide funding for up to 24 proposals in 2016.

**Pre-Proposals:**

Please find a copy of the pre-proposal template attached, as well as some guidance on therapeutic areas of interest, and general criteria for pre-proposals. Only the JSSC and select members of Sanofi and your Institution will have access to your pre-proposal. However, information in the pre-proposal is NOT considered confidential and therefore unpublished information should not be disclosed in the pre-proposal. Proposals may not include third party collaborators other than those from partner institutions within the iAwards Program.

The academic partners are: Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University, Massachusetts General Hospital, University of Pennsylvania, University of Texas system and Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Please restrict your completed pre-proposal to two pages (excluding publications).

Please email your completed pre-proposal to: techventures@columbia.edu

The deadline for submission of your pre-proposal is: **May 13, 2016**. The timeline of the iAwards Program is further described on Page 2.

**Therapeutic Areas of Interest and Pre-proposal Criteria:**

The second round of the iAwards Program will focus on proposals within the following therapeutic areas - Cardiovascular Diseases, Diabetes, Immune diseases, Inflammation, Multiple Sclerosis, Oncology and Rare Genetic Diseases. Proposals must provide objectives and work-plan achievable in 12 months and strong rationale for benefit to patients.

**Criteria for Pre-proposals within these therapeutic areas include:**

- New and actionable knowledge about disease relevant targets, pathways and mechanisms
- Early stage compounds or biologics targeting novel disease mechanisms
- New models for validating disease relevant targets
- Technology platforms with the potential to significantly improve drug discovery and development
- Novel therapeutic modalities
Sanofi Therapeutic Areas of Interest for the Second Round of *iAwards* Program (including but not limited to):

**CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES**
- Heart Failure/Cardiomyopathies
- Hyperlipidemia

**DIABETES**
- Novel insulin products
- Insulin resistance
- NAFLD & NASH
- Beta cell survival or proliferation
- Type I diabetes

**ONCOLOGY**
- Immune suppression reversal outside of the “classical checkpoint inhibitors”
- Activation of dendritic cells cross-presentation
- Targeting of tumor microenvironment
- Active Immunization, in particular novel approaches to induce in situ immunization
- Next generation tumor vaccine platforms
- Antibody directed tumor targeting
- Changing macrophage polarization from M2 to M1
- Targeting driver oncogenes and new therapeutic modalities
- Immunotherapy combinations

**RARE DISEASES**
- Inherited metabolic, muscle, pulmonary, CNS, renal, bone and hematological diseases

**IMMUNOLOGY**
- Diseases associated with dysregulated Type 2 immune responses
- Rheumatological disorders
- Antigen Specific Tolerance
- Autoimmune Diseases

**MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS**
- Neuroprotection, Neuro-regeneration and remyelination
- Immuno-modulators: focus on CNS resident innate immune cells and astrocytes
- Biomarkers to monitor, diagnose or stratify patient populations

**BIOLOGICS**

**Delivery technologies for biologics:**
- Technologies for tissue specific delivery of nucleic acid therapeutics to organs other than liver
- Alternatives to Gal-Nac ligand for liver targeting
- Technologies to deliver mAbs & protein therapeutics into cells, particularly for cancer
- Delivery of protein biologics across the blood barrier, gastro-intestinal epithelial barrier, skin
- Mammalian cell technologies to improve expression of recombinant proteins

---

**Sanofi Innovation Awards Timeline:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issuance of Request for Pre-Proposal by Institution</td>
<td>April 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission of completed Pre-Proposals to Institution</td>
<td>May 13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification by Sanofi of pre-proposals chosen to be pursued as Detailed Proposals</td>
<td>July 25th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion and submission of Detailed Proposals</td>
<td>September 12th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSSC meets to review Detailed Proposals</td>
<td>Late October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution informed of JSSC funding decisions</td>
<td>By November 7th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>