



Research Affairs

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS**

Dean's Academic Enrichment Fund (AEF) – Bridge Funding Application

Background

Academic Enrichment Fund (AEF) support may be awarded to the School of Medicine faculty in two categories:

1. Established Investigators who have lost major grant funding but are likely to regain support with bridge funding.
2. Beginning Investigators whose 3-year start-up funding has ended without securing independent support.

Reviews occur in September, February, and June (following NIH review cycles). Up to \$50,000 may be awarded to a maximum of 7 applicants per cycle (20 annually).

Applications must include a commitment of 1:1 departmental match confirmed in a letter from the applicant's Chair. All applications are reviewed by a committee of investigators from various departments across the School of Medicine.

Eligibility

Full time faculty at CU Anschutz.

Established Investigators must have lost all major grant funding (less than \$75,000 total research funding). Salary support is excluded from this total.

Applicants with two prior Bridge Funding awards require Committee and Dean approval to reapply.

Funding Conditions

- Allowable expenses include research staff salaries, service contracts, animals, and supplies.
- Faculty salary is not allowable.
- Funding will be provided for 12-month period from the award date. Extensions past this period will be rare and based on exceptional circumstances.
- If outside funding is secured before or during the grant period, notification must be provided within 30 days of the extramural award notice and unused funds must be returned.
- Progress updates are required 12 months post-award. Failure to submit a progress report will result in ineligibility for future support from the Dean's Office Initiative funding.
- Successful applicants may reapply once if eligibility and progress are demonstrated.
- Unsuccessful applicants may reapply in future cycles.

Application Format

Include the following components (limit: specified pages, single-spaced, Arial 11 font):

One page cover letter

- Designation as Established Investigator or Beginning Investigator
- Current research summary



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- History of institutional and external funding
- Funding potential and response to prior reviews

Additional Documentation Requested:

- NIH biosketch (5 pages, include current funding)
- Summary statements (or scores, if summary statement not yet available) from unfunded applications
- Chair's letter including required match commitment

Do not include appendices. Non-compliant applications will be returned.

Chair's Letter Guidelines

The application must include a one-page letter from the faculty member's Chair or Division Chief addressing the applicant's qualifications, funding potential, and 1:1 match commitment.

Submission Instructions

Submit your application by 5pm on Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

Click here to submit: [BRIDGE APPLICATION](#)

For questions, contact SOM.ResearchAffairs@cuanschutz.edu