

Request for Applications - LaunchPad Funding Collaborative Collision: Children & Youth

Available Funding. Up to 4 awards at \$25,000 each.

Two awards will be sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research, while up to two additional awards will be sponsored by the Florida Institute for Child Welfare (FICW).

Description. LaunchPad offers an opportunity for interdisciplinary teams to compete for seed funding to launch their idea. LaunchPad projects should establish new collaborative teams and generate the necessary preliminary data or tools that will allow FSU to compete for extramural funding. We are seeking projects that align with the event theme, in that they address a major challenge faced by children and youth between the ages of 0-17 years (inclusive). Two interdisciplinary awards are available from the Office of the Vice President for Research.

- Funded projects will be required to provide progress report updates every 6 months and up to 2 years following the completion of the project.

This year, the Florida Institute for Child Welfare (FICW), a legislatively funded institute within FSU's College of Social Work, is offering up to 2 additional seed grants for LaunchPad projects that specifically incorporate prevention practices with children and youth into the LaunchPad proposal. To ensure alignment with the FICW's mission and accountability to our legislative partners, all funded projects for this category will be required to:

- Provide quarterly project updates that can be shared with FICW leadership and legislative partners.
- Ensure that at least one team member is available to attend the annual FICW Symposium (early May) to present on project progress and any preliminary outcomes.
- For any projects proposing data collection involving private or public child welfare agencies, include a letter of support confirming access, data sharing, and/or data collection approval.

Timeline.

Proposals due December 1

Reviews completed by December 15

Award notifications on or before December 19

Award Start Date on January 19, 2026

Award End Date on January 18, 2027

Eligibility.

Teams must have members from 2 or more departments at FSU

At least 2 team members must have attended the Collaborative Collision: Children & Youth event on October 21, 2025

Proposals must provide evidence of a new collaboration (as part of the Expertise and Resources review criterion)

Eligible PIs and Co-PIs include full-time, active status tenured, tenure-track, or research-track faculty members - other job codes may participate as collaborators

Each faculty member may only be PI/Co-PI on one submission

Proposal Submission. The proposals should be submitted [via FSU's InfoReady portal](#). Each application should include **only** the following elements, to be entered and uploaded to the portal.

- Text entry fields for:
 - Proposal title
 - Name and department of the PI and co-PI(s)
 - Total budget
 - Project duration
 - Proposal abstract (up to 300 words)
- Proposed research (up to 3 pages), providing background information, research objectives and approach, the rationale for selection of team members, and plans for follow-up external grant applications, respectively. At least one specific funding opportunity to which the team plans to apply should be identified explicitly in the LaunchPad proposal, with the projected application deadline and anticipated budget for the external proposal.
- Separate attachment with relevant references cited/bibliography, which does not count towards the page limit.
- The detailed budget with justification (1 page).
- Curriculum vitae of the PI and Co-PI(s) only, not to exceed 3 pages for each team member.
 - This should follow an abbreviated NIH format, including a personal statement and the most relevant contributions to science with associated references.

Note: PIs should indicate at the time of submission whether they would like to be considered for the FICW seed grant. Any proposals submitted to this category that are not chosen for funding will still be considered as part of the broader Children & Youth LaunchPad mechanism.

Allowable and Unallowable Expenses.

Faculty salary is not allowed.

Travel is not allowed.

Student support is allowed, including fringe benefits, but not tuition.

Equipment purchases, including computers and computing equipment, are not allowed.

Review Criteria. Proposals will be reviewed according to the [NIH Simplified Peer Review Framework](#), with the following 3 criteria.

- Factor 1: Importance of the Research, scored 1-9
 - Alignment with the event theme will be evaluated as part of this criterion.
- Factor 2: Rigor and Feasibility, scored 1-9
 - This includes evaluation of the extent to which the proposed project will generate the necessary preliminary data or tools that will allow FSU to compete for extramural funding.
- Factor 3: Expertise and Resources, to be evaluated as either sufficient for the proposed research or not
 - Evidence of a new collaboration will be evaluated as part of this criterion.