

## OU Big Idea Challenge 2.0 Frequently Asked Questions

### ELIGIBILITY

**How do you view the involvement of non-academic units at OU?**

We encourage involvement of OU personnel across the university.

**I'm a non-tenure term contract faculty – do I need to find a tenure or tenure-track faculty to faculty member to lead the team?**

Yes

**Can I be included as a Co-PI on more than one grant proposal?**

Yes

**Can I be Lead PI on one proposal and a co-PI or collaborator on another proposal?**

Yes

**Can there be Co-Lead PIs?**

Yes, but please designate one of the leads to be the "contact PI" for the purposes of communication on behalf of the team.

### TEAM BUILDING

**Are outside partnerships encouraged, and if so, can funds awarded via the BIC program go to support those partnerships?**

Outside partnerships are strongly encouraged. Funds can be used to bring outside people to campus to participate in workshops, conferences, etc. but OU funds **cannot** be used to pay sub-contracts to academics and other people outside of OU. Outside collaborators must bring their own funding and support to the partnership.

**Is there a minimum or maximum number of collaborators that can contribute to a proposal?**

No minimum or maximum. All proposals need to ensure that the proposed team is transdisciplinary and widely representative of all of the academic disciplines required to tackle the grand challenge you aim to focus on. 40% of the evaluation criteria is based on the assessed quality, transdisciplinarity and strengths of the team.

**Is the BIC restricted only to new collaborations, or can existing, established collaborations apply as well?**

We are hoping to foster new collaborations and connect faculty to areas they haven't previously collaborated with. However, that is not a requirement. If you have an existing collaboration that is consistent with the aims of this program, that is acceptable too.

**Are we able to collaborate internationally? For example, the UK, USA, India and China.**

Tackling global grand challenges often requires seamless collaboration across the globe. Therefore, international collaborations, if appropriate to your challenge, are desired and encouraged. As mentioned above, International collaborators must bring their own funds and support to the partnership.

## **PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT**

**If we have a good idea, but we don't have a strong preliminary result or research publications, is this still a good place to start?**

Yes, you should work to verbalize what your big idea is and build a team around that. Preliminary data is not required.

**For faculty who have had limited private, state, or federal grant monies, what support can the VPRP provide in developing the proposal?**

Our entire team is at your disposal – we are all standing ready to help you put together your BIC proposal. The CFE is also committed to help. Please reach out to Dr. Ann West and to the Center for Faculty Excellence (Dr. Clara A. Smith) to access these resources

**What additional information is allowed outside of the three pages of the proposal?**

Because 40% of the evaluation criteria is to convince reviewers that you have a strong team and can compete externally for funding during and after the two-year period of the BIC, bio-sketches (no format specified) would be suitable additions. Also, references will also not be included in the three-page limit and can be added as an addendum.

**Can our proposal topic span more than one Theme as described in the RFP?**

Yes, absolutely!

## **BUDGET**

**Are there restrictions in the types of activities that can be carried out with BIC funds?**

In general, the budget should match the scope of your proposal, and most typical academic research activities can be funded via the BIC. One exception, as mentioned before, is that subcontracts to faculty at other universities nationally or internationally are not allowed.

**Would the BIC cover salaries for OUHSC faculty?**

We encourage BIC teams that wish to include HSC faculty to reach out to HSC's VPR Dr. Darrin Akins for support for those faculty.

**Along with the detailed budget that is required, is a detailed budget justification required as well?**

Yes. If your idea is selected for the oral presentation stage, the budget will be reviewed and adjustments can be made if necessary.

**OTHER**

**Is there a pre-existing breakdown of how many STEM vs non-STEM proposals will be approved?**

No, everything will be reviewed by an independent review committee and the best ideas will be brought forth.

**Will at least one proposal in each of the four Themes be funded?**

Based on the independent review committee, the best 3-4 proposals will be funded.