

Innovations for Exceptionally Low-Cost Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) Manufacturing

Grand Challenges (In Honor of Dr. Steve Hadley)

Application Instructions

Information required for application

Please refer to the following guidelines as you prepare your application to the RFP “Innovations for Exceptionally Low-cost Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) Manufacturing”.

Your application includes:

- Applicant profile and information – completed via our application portal
- Proposal – uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file
 - Maximum 4 pages “Option A” Applications, 4.5 pages “Option B” Applications
 - Figures and references are included in this page count
- Budget table and narrative (1 page) - uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file

Please note that a template for the budget narrative and table can be found within the application portal within the corresponding upload task. Details on each section can be found below. Along with this application instructions document, we encourage you to reference the request for proposals overview document and the challenge rules and guidelines to ensure that your proposal responds to the challenge.

Applicant Profile

To begin your application, please click on one of the following links:

- [Option A Application](#)
- [Option B Application](#)

Through these links, you will be able to access the “Innovations for Exceptionally Low-cost Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) Manufacturing” Option A or Option B program. Either create a new account or log-in to the system (if you have previously created an account) and begin your application by filling in the applicant profile.

Proposal File

Proposal Format

Your proposal must be formatted as follows.

- No longer than 4 pages maximum (Option A) or 4.5 pages maximum (Option B)
- 11-point font or larger
- At least 0.5” margins all around
- Single line spacing
- Standard character spacing (neither expanded nor condensed)
- Arial or Times New Roman font

- Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF filetype
- Entire file size of 3MB or less
- Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data.

The funders may not accept applications that do not adhere to these restrictions.

Proposal Content – Option A Applications

Please include the following in your application (4 pages maximum overall; suggested lengths in parentheses):

1. Introductory information (1/2 page):
 - A short description of the specific problem your proposal addresses
 - Indicate in one or two sentences **in bold** the essence of your idea for a solution (1-2 sentences)
 - Please indicate how the project outputs will have industrial utility and (if relevant) may facilitate regionalized mAb manufacture in LMIC settings
 - Describe the current status of the research/technology and the preliminary data that supports the proposal
2. Proposal information (1.5 pages):
 - A clear hypothesis for the proposed work for the project
 - A brief description of the work you will undertake to achieve the desired outcomes, including a breakdown of the proposed work packages the data you expect to generate.
 - An outline of the proposed economic model that will be used to assess project success.
3. Team capabilities and relevant experience (1/2 page): Clearly outline the capabilities and experience of the team and collaborators. Please also flag any conflicts of interest.
4. Path to impact (1/2 page)
 - Brief description of the downstream plans and stages required if you are successful in this work to further develop your technology or approach towards low-cost mAb manufacture and global health impact.

Proposal Content – Option B Applications

Please include the following in your application (4.5 pages maximum overall; suggested lengths in parentheses):

1. Introductory information (1/2 page):
 - A short description of the specific problem your proposal addresses
 - Indicate in one or two sentences **in bold** the essence of your idea for a solution (1-2 sentences)
 - Please indicate how the project outputs will have industrial utility and (if relevant) may facilitate regionalised mAb manufacture in LMIC settings
 - Describe the current status of the research/technology and any non-confidential data demonstrating [Technical Readiness Level 3-5](#)
2. Proposal information (1.5 pages):
 - A clear hypothesis for the proposed work for the project

- A brief description of the work you will undertake to achieve the desired outcomes, including a breakdown of the proposed work packages the data you expect to generate.
 - An outline of the proposed economic model that will be used to assess project success.
3. Team capabilities and relevant experience (1/2 page): Clearly outline the capabilities and experience of the team and collaborators. Please also flag any conflicts of interest.
 4. Path to impact (1/2 page): Brief description of the downstream plans and stages required if you are successful in this work to further develop your technology or approach towards low-cost mAb manufacture and global health impact.
 5. Intellectual Property (1/2 page): Provide a summary of the background IP and the expected project foreground IP, indicating who will own the foreground IP and any strategy to widen its impact with respect to supporting regionalised mAb manufacture in LMIC settings.

Budget Table and Narrative – 1 page maximum

Please use the [budget template](#) (linked and on the application portal) to include a breakdown of allowable direct costs under the following categories.

- Personnel
- Subcontracts
- Subgrants
- Capital Assets/Equipment
- Travel
- Supplies
- Other Expenses
- Indirect Costs*

**Please review the Gates Foundation [Indirect Cost Policy](#). For Option A of this joint Grand Challenges call, LifeArc may have additional or different indirect cost policies, for example for this funding call LifeArc permits indirect costs up to 15% for LMIC-based applicants.*

Additionally, please provide a one (1) paragraph Budget Narrative to explain the major cost drivers and how costs relate to planned activities and target outcomes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to many application questions can be found on the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) document.

Inquiries

Please direct all questions about this initiative, selection criteria or application instructions by e-mail to the following address: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org