

FAQ
Blavatnik Therapeutics Challenge Awards

Q: Can I get guidance on writing the pre-proposal?

A: Yes, we encourage you to contact us, so that we can help you draft a milestone-based research plan with go/no-go decision points. Please contact the Director of Translational Research Programs at ifat_rubin-bejerano_i-hub@hms.harvard.edu.

Q: Is the application considered fully confidential?

A: Yes, it is. All reviewers will be under confidentiality.

Q: What is the level of indirect costs allowed under the award?

A: HMS and all affiliated institutions have agreed to an indirect cost rate of 38%. The total costs of each award, including indirect costs and direct costs, may be up to \$1 million.

Q: Will the Blavatnik Family Foundation acquire any rights of ownership of the pre-existing IP?

A: No, they will not.

Q: How would any new IP developed under this program be handled?

A: All new IP will be filed by and assigned to the institutions. The Blavatnik Family Foundation will not own the IP.

Q: Can you elaborate on the Blavatnik Family Foundation investment right?

A: Receipt of funding will carry the responsibility to negotiate with the Blavatnik Family Foundation a right of co-investment in technologies resulting from the project. Questions regarding the Blavatnik Family Foundation's investment right should be addressed directly to the Foundation. A representative of the Foundation will be meeting with the institutions' technology development offices in December.

Q: Who are the members of the Executive Steering Committee?

A: The Executive Steering Committee is composed of expert faculty at HMS and the affiliated institutions as well as experts from the venture and biopharma communities.

Q: Will the Translator Director be assigned to the projects by the Foundation? Is that person expected to have a fiduciary or executive position in any potential spin-out company?

A: The Translator Director is an employee of Harvard Medical School. He is not going to have any position at spin-out companies.

Q: Would Harvard Office of Technology Development become involved in business discussions covering a BTCA-funded therapeutic if the IP were held solely by an affiliated institution?

A: No, it will not.

Q: Can awards be made to projects that are already optioned by a start-up company?

A: No, they cannot.

Q: Would vaccines be covered by this award?

A: Yes, they would.