CITRIS and the Banatao Institute
Core Seed Funding Opportunities for 2019

**Deadline:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 5:00 PM (PST)

Weblink: [http://citris-uc.org/core-seed-funding/](http://citris-uc.org/core-seed-funding/)
Questions: [seeds@citris-uc.org](mailto:seeds@citris-uc.org)

CITRIS and the Banatao Institute ([http://citris-uc.org](http://citris-uc.org)) create information technology solutions for society’s most pressing challenges. Established in 2001, the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS) leverages the interdisciplinary research strengths of multiple UC campuses to advance the University of California’s mission and the innovative spirit of California. The institute was created to shorten the pipeline between world-class laboratory research and the development of cutting-edge applications, platforms, companies, and even new industries.

We invite Principal Investigators at UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Davis Health System, UC Merced, and UC Santa Cruz campuses to apply for seed funding that furthers CITRIS and the Banatao Institute research initiatives ([http://citris-uc.org/core-initiatives](http://citris-uc.org/core-initiatives)) strengthens connections among UC campuses, and catalyzes early-stage research that can lead to external funding.

Funded projects have attracted follow-on support from federal, state, corporate, and private sources including the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Intel, Microsoft, Mellon Foundation, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

View descriptions of prior awardees and projects: [http://citris-uc.org/core-seed-funding/#past-awards](http://citris-uc.org/core-seed-funding/#past-awards).
# 2019 Core CITRIS Seed Funding

## Area(s) of Interest
- Connected Communities
- Health
- People and Robots
- Policy Lab
- Sustainable Infrastructures
- The Future of Work (WITS)
- WITI@UC (Women in Technology Initiative)

*Note: full descriptions of above will be available soon with full RFP*

## Total funds available
$600,000

## Project amount
$40,000 to $60,000

## Eligibility
- All applicants must have Principal Investigator (or exceptional PI) status on their campus.
- At least 2 PIs.
- Each from a different CITRIS campus.

### CITRIS Campuses:
- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UC Davis Health System
- UC Merced
- UC Santa Cruz

## Timeline
- **November 2018-January 2019:** Each CITRIS campus may host an information session for potential applicants. Dates and details will be posted on our website and emailed to CITRIS newsletter subscribers.
November 2018-January 2019: Matchmaking and multi-campus team formation occurs among Principal Investigators. Complete the seed funding interest form for assistance with finding compatible co-PIs.

December 10, 2018 (planned): Online application portal will open for submissions. Link to the portal will be posted to the Seed Funding page in late November.

January 31, 2019 at 5:00pm PST: Applications are due online.

March 1, 2019: Applicants who received a Seed Fund Award in 2018 must submit a preliminary report on findings and results in order to be considered for a Seed Fund Award in 2019.

Mid-March 2019: Awardees are notified.

April 1, 2019: Performance period begins for 2019 Seed Funded projects.

June 30, 2019: Final reports for 2018 Seed Funded projects are due.

Eligibility and Proposal Requirements

For the core CITRIS and the Banatao Institute Seed Funding opportunity:

- To encourage multi-campus collaboration, each proposal must include at least two Principal Investigators, from at least two different CITRIS campuses: UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Merced, UC Santa Cruz.
- Collaborations between PIs on the main UC Davis campus and the UC Davis Health System campus in Sacramento fulfill the above requirement.
- Projects are expected to further one or more of the CITRIS and the Banatao Institute Initiatives described below and at http://citris-uc.org/core-initiatives. Proposals that include applications of such technology in developing regions are welcome.
- Projects that use CITRIS research assets, such as the Marvell NanoLab (http://citris-uc.org/marvell-nanolab/) and CITRIS Invention Lab (http://invent.citris-uc.org), are also encouraged.

Exclusions

- CITRIS Seed Funding may not be used for faculty salary or non-resident tuition.
- Principal Investigators may participate in a maximum of two proposals per application cycle and serve as Lead researcher on a maximum of one proposal per application cycle.
- Principal Investigators who have previously received seed funding must submit an online status report for the previous project(s) before being considered for a new CITRIS Seed Fund Award.
Evaluation Criteria

1. **Feasibility**: Can the stated goals be achieved within 12-18 months?
2. **Creates solution to a societal challenge**: Is the societal problem and its scale clearly identified? Will the proposed project help to address this challenge?
3. **Potential for follow-on funding**: Has this area of research been identified by federal agencies or other funders as an area of future investment? Will the CITRIS Seed Fund Award help the investigators make a stronger case for future external funding?
4. **Alignment with CITRIS and the Banatao Institute research initiatives**: Does the proposal further one or more of the CITRIS interest areas described below?
5. **Use of CITRIS and the Banatao Institute research assets** including the Marvell NanoLab ([http://citris-uc.org/marvell-nanolab/](http://citris-uc.org/marvell-nanolab/)), CITRIS Invention Lab ([http://invent.citris-uc.org](http://invent.citris-uc.org)), or other CITRIS-affiliated testbeds is encouraged but not required.
6. **Inclusion of pre-tenured faculty** is highly encouraged but not required.

Submission Instructions and Requirements

The CITRIS Seed Fund application portal will open in mid-December 2018. A portal link will be available at [https://citris-uc.org/core-seed-funding/](https://citris-uc.org/core-seed-funding/).

We suggest that the Lead PI initiates the online application for each proposal team, using their campus email account. The co-PI(s) will then receive an automatic email link to log on and view or edit the joint proposal.

To help you prepare, please have the following information ready to create or log in to your account and complete the online application:

- PI and co-PI name, campus, home department, link to CV
- Project Title
- Abstract (250 words max)
- Brief narrative (2-3 pages) What problem does the project address? What new technology will be developed? Will the project apply existing technology in a novel way? If successful, what would be the impact of the new technology or application? What qualifications do the team members offer to address the challenge?
- Budget narrative with allocation of funds between campuses (paragraph). Please include name and email of Research Administrator for each PI.
- Up to five references (links). These may refer to the challenge being addressed or to previous work that the PIs intend to build upon.
- Optional: upload a one-page .pdf or image file
- List of prior CITRIS Seed Fund awards (if any): PI names, year, project title