OBJECTIVES
To accelerate research projects towards one of following value-creation inflection points:
(1) formation of a start-up company,
(2) licensing the technology to an established company, or
(3) securing follow-on industrial funding for continued R&D.

PROJECT TYPES
- The PSE Accelerator Awards are designed to support innovative research aimed at extending preliminary observations, establishing proof-of-concept, scaling-up a product or process, and generating (or enhancing) intellectual property positions.
- Projects may be structured such that some portion of the budgeted activities will be outsourced to one or more external organizations.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY
- Principal Investigators whose employer is Harvard University.
- Proposals need to be directed towards one or more aspects of the physical sciences or engineering.

FUNDING
- Awards will range between $50,000-$100,000 per project.
- Funding will not be subject to Harvard indirect expense charges

PROJECT DURATION
- Projects are anticipated to last between 6-12 months.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE AWARD
- The Principal Investigator will commit his/her time and effort, as appropriate, to lead and oversee the project.
- All intellectual property, including background patents, must be assigned to Harvard.
- Acknowledgment of Harvard’s intent to license any resulting and/or background IP, the de-risking of which with Accelerator funding will provide Harvard with the opportunity to command better financial terms from investors.
- Budget items will not include PI salary or capital equipment.
- A final report will be due within thirty (30) days of completion of the project.

APPLICATION TIMING AND FORMAT
- 2-page pre-proposals with preliminary budgets are due on September 18th.
  - pre-proposals will be subject to a preliminary review process and a subset of applicants will be invited to submit full proposals by October 16th.
- Full proposals with detailed budgets will be due on December 11th.
- Awards will be granted by January 15th.
- All submissions must be received no later than 6:00 pm on the respective due date in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Reader (.pdf) format. Pre- and full proposals should be submitted by e-mail to mick_sawka@harvard.edu. The subject line should read “Physical Sciences and Engineering Accelerator Awards Proposal”

SELECTION CRITERIA
- Projects will be selected by a Steering Committee comprised of Harvard faculty, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and industry leaders.
- The review criteria will emphasize the commercial potential of the research project; the existence of, or the possibility of filing, intellectual property; and the delineation of a clear R&D roadmap detailing how Accelerator Funding will lead to a value-creation inflection point.
- Particular emphasis will be given to those projects that could result in a Harvard-led start-up.
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING ACCELERATOR

SCHEDULE & DEADLINES

IMPORTANT DATES

- July 17, 2015: Request for proposals
- September 18: Deadline to submit pre-proposals
- October 16: Announce decisions / solicit full proposals
- December 11: Deadline to submit full proposals
- January 15, 2016: Awards announced
Project pre-proposals should be no more than 2 pages long, excluding the cover page.

The emphasis should be on defining what the next value-creation inflection point is, and articulating how it will be achieved by way of a technical plan with well-defined milestones and a corresponding budget.

PAGE 1: COVER PAGE

Summary Information
- Title of Proposal
- Type of Project
- Requested Period of Performance
- Total Funding Requested
- Existing Intellectual Property (patents, copyrights)

Abstract

Contact Information (to be provided for each Principal Investigator)
- Name
- Title
- Department, Division, Center and/or Laboratory
- Telephone Number
- Email Address
- Harvard Room Number

PAGES 2-3: PROJECT PROPOSAL

Background and Significance
- What is the problem that you are addressing and why?
- Briefly describe recent research directly relevant to the problem, including others in the field, and in particular, your own prior work if any.
- Highlight the novelty, risks and potential benefits of the project

Research Plan
- Summarize the experiments you will perform to solve the problem (i.e., advance the technology to the next value-creation inflection point)

Key Personnel and Collaborators
- List of individuals/organizations required to complete the project.

Budget (funding will not be subject to Harvard indirect expense charges)
- Total amount requested

APPENDIX (OPTIONAL)

Relevant publications / manuscripts
Full project proposals should be no more than 10 pages long, excluding the cover page.

The emphasis should be on defining what the next value-creation inflection point is, and articulating how it will be achieved by way of a technical plan with well-defined milestones and a corresponding budget.

**COVER PAGE: PI NAME AND DEPARTMENT, PROJECT TITLE, TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST**

**SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY OR ABSTRACT**

A. Describe the need, problem or opportunity, and significance of the technology  
B. Describe the potential benefits of the proposed project with respect to advancing the technology  
C. State major research objectives of the project

**SECTION 2: DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

I. Research Plan and Objectives  
A. Provide a brief introduction to the area of investigation  
B. Describe your specific research objectives and summarize the experiments you will perform to achieve each  
C. Estimate the cost and time required for completion of each objective  
D. Describe the anticipated results where possible  
E. Provide a work performance schedule or Gantt chart  
F. Propose key technical milestones for the project

II. Related Research and Research Support  
A. Describe significant recent research related to this proposal including your own work and others in the field

**SECTION 3: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

A. Provide a brief description of any inventions you have already made related to the proposed research  
B. Provide a statement about the current IP status of the invention  
C. Describe how the proposed research will add value to and enhance the invention’s patentability and/or commercial potential and/or importance

**SECTION 4: DETAILED BUDGET**

A. The research project may be structured such that some, or even a large portion of the approved, budgeted activities will be outsourced to one or more approved entities (e.g., contract research laboratories/organizations, engineering/design firms).

**SECTION 5: KEY PERSONNEL & COLLABORATORS**

**APPENDIX – MANUSCRIPTS/PUBLICATIONS**