



**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**  
**OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

**PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING ACCELERATOR**

*OVERVIEW & APPLICATION PROCESS*

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**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**FUNDING**

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

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**PROJECT DURATION**

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

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**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.

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**APPLICATION TIMING AND FORMAT**

- 2 -page pre-proposals with preliminary budgets are due on August 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - pre-proposals will be subject to a preliminary review process and a subset of applicants will be invited to submit full proposals by September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Full proposals with detailed budgets will be due on October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Awards will be granted on December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 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](mailto:mick_sawka@harvard.edu). The subject line should read "Physical Sciences and Engineering Accelerator Awards Proposal"

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**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.



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*SCHEDULE & DEADLINES*

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

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<b>June 18</b>	Request for proposals
<b>August 15</b>	Deadline to submit pre-proposals
<b>September 15</b>	Announce decisions / solicit full proposals
<b>October 31</b>	Deadline to submit full proposals
<b>December 1</b>	Awards announced



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*FORMAT FOR PRE-PROPOSALS*

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**

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**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**

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**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)**

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**Relevant publications / manuscripts**



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*FORMAT FOR FULL PROPOSALS*

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**

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**SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY OR ABSTRACT**

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- 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**

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**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**

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- 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**

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- 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**

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**APPENDIX – MANUSCRIPTS/PUBLICATIONS**

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