

Request for Applications (RFA)
The Cohen Translational Engineering Fund

Purpose:

The Cohen Translational Engineering fund, available to Whiting School of Engineering faculty and made possible by a generous commitment from Neil Cohen '83 and his wife, Sherry, is aimed at providing faculty with the critical early funding needed to focus on the first steps of translation.

The fund supports the initial stage of innovation that moves research out of the laboratory, including the development of new WSE patents, and a range of critical needs—from materials and supplies to graduate student stipends and tuition. Recipients are awarded \$20,000 to \$40,000 to conduct work over a period of up to four months.

Eligibility:

To be considered, your application must meet the following criteria:

1. Your technology must be formally disclosed to the Johns Hopkins Technology Ventures office and assigned a case number (e.g. C12345) Disclose an invention here:
<https://ventures.jhu.edu/disclosure/>
2. The invention must not be subject to any pre-existing exclusive licenses, non-exclusive licenses, or options.
3. At least one investigator must have a full, joint, or courtesy faculty appointment at the Whiting School of Engineering at the Johns Hopkins University.
4. The application must not exceed 5 pages excluding the cover page.

Application Components:

1. Technology Validation Section

A. Header/Applicant Information (Cover page). The Applicant must include:

- The JHTV case number for the technology (ex. C12345)
- The name of a principal investigator who will be responsible for the project.
- The total amount of funding requested.
- Title of the project
- This information should appear as a stand-alone Cover page.

B. Technology Description, Status, and Intellectual Property.

- A detailed description of the associated Technology should be provided. The description should focus on how the Technology is unique/novel in its approach to solve an important commercial problem relative to other approaches in the scientific literature and other commercial products.
- Describe the status of the Technology's development – describe the studies completed and the conclusions derived.
- Any preliminary data or other results suggesting that the Technology is likely to work as predicted should be included.
- Describe the intellectual property secured for the Technology and strategies for strengthening the Technology's intellectual property portfolio.

C. Application of Technology as a Product/Market Assessment.

- Describe potential commercial products or services that could be based on the technology.
- Describe how these products will solve a problem in the market and describe the overall importance of solving that problem.
- Include a description of the value (ideally in dollars) that these products will bring to customers – cost savings, time savings, convenience, improved outcomes, etc.
- Include a description of the person who will buy the product or service and a brief summary of the size of the market opportunity that these customers represent.
- Include any academic, industry, or other contacts or networks that would support commercialization of the technology.
- Outline a general description of the applicant’s competitive advantages over competing products and services.

D. Project Description, Milestones, and Detailed Budget/Justification.

- Include a summary of the proposed project and the anticipated milestones and a clear timeline.
- Describe how each of the milestones leads to a clear demonstration or validation of the technology for the proposed commercial purpose and/or significantly advances the technology along the commercialization pathway. Milestones must be quantifiable and measurable so it will be obvious when they have been successfully, or unsuccessfully, met.
- A budget of the costs required to conduct the project should be provided.
- A justification for the significant project costs should be provided.
- Please note that if the research plan is slated to be conducted during the regular academic year, you may not include faculty salary support. Additionally, indirect costs are **not** covered by the Cohen Fund and should **not** be included in the proposal’s budget.

Review Process:

All applications will be reviewed by a committee comprising relevant industry members as well as faculty and staff. The committee review date will be in April 2019 with a projected award date of late-April 2019. Please plan project timelines accordingly.

Scoring

For each section, reviewers will use the following system for scoring:

Score	Description
5 – Excellent	The applicant has included all of the required information and has made a very convincing argument in support of the criterion being scored.

4 – Above Average	The applicant has included all of the required information and has made a reasonable argument in support of the criterion being scored.
3 – Good	The applicant has included most of the required information and has made a fair argument in support of the criterion being scored.
2 – Fair	The applicant has provided most of the required information but has not made a fair argument in support of the criterion being scored.
1 – Poor/Missing	The applicant has not provided enough of the required information to make a fair argument in support of the criterion being scored.

Reporting Requirements:

A final report will be due within 45 days of completion of the project in the form of a 1-page summary of results and commercialization efforts to date. In addition, the completion of a 1-page marketing summary in order to help build momentum for the project through outreach to other potential funding sources or potential licensees.

Program Information:

Please email completed applications to: bgibson@jhu.edu

Applications are due no later than midnight of March 15th. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

For questions please contact:

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