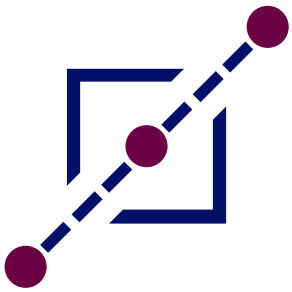
Frontier Fund



Global Health Investment Corporation

2024-2028

Program Lead

Devin Sok, PhD

FrontierFund@ghicfunds.org

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About

GHIC

The Global Health Investment Corporation was established as an independent not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to mobilize private, public and philanthropic capital to accelerate the development, commercialization and access to products and technologies to improve global health and strengthen global health security. A pioneer of investing in global health, GHIC has been supporting high impact biomedical innovations for nearly a decade. Our inaugural Global Health Investment Fund (GHIF) financed the development of new products to combat urgent public health challenges that disproportionately affect people living in low- and middle-income countries. Building on the success of GHIF, we have expanded our mission to pursue additional partnerships to develop and commercialize health technologies to strengthen global health security.

GHIC is led by a team of experienced private equity and venture capital investors and leaders in global public health. GHIC's team draws upon its global health partners and collaborators to identify and evaluate promising investment opportunities.

Frontier Fund

The Frontier Fund is a non-dilutive grant program managed and led by GHIC with funding provided from BARDA DRIVe. The Frontier Fund will support early-stage translational research that will result in new innovations, platforms, and/or technologies that will unlock the development of new medical countermeasures for global health security. In addition, the fund will support early investigators through a fellowship program and will enrich the overall Frontier Fund portfolio through ecosystem building with key stakeholders, including the broader BARDA DRIVe network. The Frontier Fund grant program will run from 2024-2028.

Frontier Fund Program Summary

The Frontier Fund is a USD 17.5 million non-dilutive grant program managed by GHIC with funding provided by BARDA DRIVe. The grant program will extend for four years (2024-2028) and will issue awards through sponsored-research agreements. These awards are designed to be nimble and flexible with minimal constraints to maximize exploratory and innovative research outputs. The scope of the Frontier Fund will span a diverse portfolio of research areas—including laboratory science, materials science and engineering, social sciences, and market research—if the proposed research project will result in breakthrough solutions that have the potential to solve persistent problems in health security.

The **goal** of the Frontier Fund is to support early-stage research that will contribute and/or lead directly to the invention of new platforms, tools, or technologies to address unmet needs and/or overcome prevailing research bottlenecks in global health security. In addition, by issuing targeted awards, the Frontier Fund will intentionally build and foster a community of investigators who are committed to pushing the boundaries of what is possible in global health security research across diverse and complementary research domains.

If these goals are achieved, the **outcomes** of the Frontier Fund are: 1) the generation of research outputs, data, and intellectual property that will lead to new public and/or private initiatives, including the discovery of new health security innovations and medical countermeasures, and 2) the establishment of research networks and a pipeline of investigators who will play leading roles in defining and pushing the global health security research agenda well into the future. The anticipated **impact** of the Frontier Fund is the creation of a critical mass of influential investigators who will drive the global health security research agenda in a sustainable and long-term way to be responsive to any future health security threat.

The **approach** of the Frontier Fund is to establish three funding pillars to capture investigators at different stages of career growth. First, funding will be provided to support two different scales of research for established investigators—a larger scale of funding called the “Innovation Showcase” to support consortiums of investigators and more targeted funding called “Research Initiatives” to address known research bottlenecks in health security. Second, early investigator fellowships will provide awards to early- and mid-career investigators who have bold and/or innovative ideas that are higher risk but have the potential to be high impact. In addition, the Frontier Fund will issue postdoctoral fellowships to support research across a wide range of disciplines that contribute to global health security research and innovation. Finally, the third area of funding will focus on ecosystem building, where the Frontier Fund will bring together funded investigators at all levels as well as a broad range of key stakeholders to advance a research agenda for global health security.

Research Scope

Stage of research

The Frontier Fund aims to support early-stage translational research that is focused on solving or overcoming bottlenecks in global health security. The Fund will prioritize the most promising ideas and will engage with a diverse mix of stakeholders to solicit new ideas and solutions. Preliminary data is not required for a successful proposal, but it will be important to showcase a feasible plan to deliver on the proposed idea. If not already established, details on proposed plans to access enabling resources, collaborations, and partnerships will support the application. The Fund will prioritize awards that are unlikely to attract institutional venture financing at their current stage. The proposed projects can span from demonstrating a conceptual advance (proof of concept) to proposing practical solutions that can be readily advanced into product or platform development.

Portfolio and Research Domains

The Frontier Fund aims to create a balanced portfolio to address near, medium, and long-term priorities that are of central importance to global health security. Accordingly, we are unlikely to fund similar proposed ideas or platforms unless there are strongly differentiating components. The Fund will support a diversity of research topics across a range of disciplines, including but not limited to laboratory sciences, social sciences, market research, and material sciences. Examples of research areas are provided below—these examples are meant to guide and not dictate the scope of anticipated research proposals. Prioritization will also be given to platforms, technologies, approaches, and ideas that have benefit to other R&D sectors as an indicator of potential for broad impact, which include but not limited to oncology, neurogenerative diseases, cardiovascular disease, one health, and others.

Examples of responsive research areas:

- Innovations to apply gene therapy to infectious diseases to achieve durable or rapid protection
- Development of new nanomedicine for targeted tissue delivery
- Synthetic biology to rapidly scale interventions for microbial disease
- AI/ML for disease prediction and/or antibody discovery
- Regenerative medicine for rapid tissue recovery
- Protein design to improve thermostability and fidelity of diagnostic reagents
- Improved microfluidics for scalable diagnostics and systems vaccinology
- Innovations for air filtration or sterilization to increase scalability and access
- Health systems innovation, including economic impact analysis and market research
- Social science research to increase access to and participation in scientific research of vulnerable populations that are disproportionately impacted by pandemic disease threats such as avian influenza
- Development of preclinical models that reflect pathogenesis in humans for key biothreats, such as AMR and other emerging infectious diseases

Award Terms and Conditions

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include investigators who are part of research institutions, non-profit organizations, universities and related academic institutions, focused research organizations, and other entities with the infrastructure and enabling resources to support innovation and early-stage research. Entities not based in the United States are eligible. US government institutions are not eligible to receive funding but can be part of collaborations and enabling partnerships.

Institutional Indirect Rates

The cap for indirect rates for the Frontier Fund is set at 15% and higher indirect rates required by the institution are subject to further negotiation.

Sponsored Research Agreement Terms

GHIC will distribute funding following execution of award agreements between GHIC and the recipient applicant. Funding will be distributed as milestone-based payments following completion of agreed upon project deliverables and subject to research progress. Foreground intellectual property generated using funding from the Frontier Fund will be subject to a conditional license option to GHIC and a right for GHIC to designate a licensee. General terms include:

- The funding recipient and GHIC will agree to a Global Access Plan (including, e.g., timeline to out-license or otherwise commercialize the IP, or other commitments regarding development or commercialization), which they will review and update as development progresses.
- If the Global Access Plan is not met, GHIC will have the right to negotiate a license to foreground IP.
- Out-licensing terms will include the Global Access Plan commitments and conditional license option.

Post-award monitoring

Applicants will be required to submit an annual report detailing progress against proposed objectives, milestones, and outcomes. Annual or quarterly project presentations may be requested in addition to the annual report, subject to agreements with the Program Lead. Annual reporting components will include the following sections:

- Summary of research progress (1-2 pages)
- Table documenting completed objectives and milestones (1 page)
- Proposed next steps, including documenting any changes to proposed milestones and project outcomes based on research outputs and findings (2 pages)
- Table of publications relevant to the research project (1 page)
- Summary of patent filings and anticipated IP (1 page)
- Summary of related research projects submitted and funded by other sources (1 page)

Frontier Fund Program Structure

The Frontier Fund will distribute funding using three main channels: awarding grants, investigator fellowships, and ecosystem building. The duration of the awards and fellowship will span between 2-4 years depending on the proposed project scope and scale of investment. The focus of the awards is to support breakthrough research, particularly those that are high-risk, but have the potential for high impact. We have three general categories for describing breakthrough research:

- Paradigm changing ideas: unconventional or novel approaches, tools, platforms, or technologies that propel the field forward or opens a new area of health security innovations
- Solve known bottlenecks: address existing challenges that limit the utility, scale up, or efficacy of existing innovations
- Generate enabling resources: generate resources or data that are broadly beneficial and enabling to the field

The breakthrough research ideas should be focused on early-stage research and will optimally lead to the development of new inventions, tools, platforms, and resources that are beneficial to global health security. We recognize that innovative and high-risk research is often non-linear and our intention is to support bold and new ideas. In this context, although project proposals must include anticipated milestones, outputs, and outcomes, these can be updated and adapted based on emerging data from the field and through execution of the research project, subject to discussions with the Program Lead.

Research Awards

The Frontier Fund will issue two scales of funding for research awards, a larger scale of funding called "Innovation Showcase" and more targeted awards called "Research Initiatives." ***All applications for these funding mechanisms will be by invite-only***, but non-invited proposals and ideas can be sent to the Program Lead for consideration. The proposals will be responsive to defined project areas, which will be detailed as addendums to this document. The project area will remain open to receive applications and proposals on a rolling basis until the Program Lead determines the funded projects meet the needs of that project area for the Frontier Fund portfolio.

Innovation Showcase

This project scale is meant to fund collaborative networks or consortium-led demonstration projects focused on developing resources, technologies, and/or platforms that lead to major breakthroughs. These awards are envisioned to support large projects that bring together leading experts with complementary expertise to achieve major breakthroughs or to generate data and resources that are broadly enabling for the field. The consortium must include a director or lead, a strong history of effective collaboration, a strong track record of research outputs, and evidence of successful training of young investigators. Consortium members are not limited to the United States. *Anticipated number of projects: 1 to 2 projects. Project funding size: USD ~4 million per project (inclusive of institutional indirect costs).*

Research Initiatives

These awards are targeted to principal investigators (PI) who are experts with a track record of productivity and innovation. These awards are envisioned to be medium to small scale in scope with faster timelines and targeted outputs. *Anticipated number of projects: 4 to 16 projects. Project funding size: USD ~0.5 to 1 million per project (inclusive of institutional indirect costs).*

Investigator Fellowships

The Frontier Fund will issue two types of fellowships to support early career investigators who have bold ideas that might be too high-risk to fund without an established track record. The goal of the fellowships is to build a pipeline of investigators committed to global health security research and innovation and to link these investigators to established investigators funded by the Research Awards to support collaboration, mentorship, and broader networking. The fellowships will be selected through an application process, which will evaluate candidates based on the merits of the research proposal, publication track record, personal statements, and recommendation letters. Details of the application and selection process are provided in the addendum. Guidance and non-financial resources will be provided to fellowship recipients who are interested in creating startup companies based on their funded research projects.

Overall, two types of fellowships will be awarded:

Early Investigator GHS Fellowship

The Fund will issue early investigator awards to support early career investigators (within < 5 years completion of a postdoctoral research position or within < 10 years completion of a PhD). The candidate must have an investigator appointment at a research institution and provide a bold research proposal that is feasible to execute with the resources and timelines available. Preliminary data is not necessary if a strong concept is proposed with a convincing plan for project delivery. *Anticipated number of awards: up to 4. Project funding size: USD ~0.5 million per project (inclusive of institutional indirect costs).*

GHS Postdoctoral Fellowship

The Fund will issue awards to postdoctoral researchers (< 3 year after completing a PhD) who are interested in pursuing research topics relevant to global health security and have compelling ideas to pursue as part of their postdoctoral training. The candidate must provide a strong research proposal and up to three research labs where they would be best positioned to pursue their research. Fellowship recipients are encouraged to pursue research careers in and outside of academia. *Anticipated number of awards: up to 8. Project funding size: USD 0.25 million per project (inclusive of institutional indirect costs).*

Ecosystem Building

The Frontier Fund will work with BARDA and other key stakeholders to create a global health security research agenda, which will highlight the major gaps and the opportunities for high-impact research that will lead to the development of new health security innovations and the development of medical

countermeasures. The outcome is to create a research strategy that will galvanize the field, attract scientific talent who are interested in taking on major challenges, and catalyze cofounding from other sources around important and intersectional research topics.

The Fund will convene all funded investigators in annual retreats to share research updates and to create new collaboration opportunities among funding recipients. The Fund will also facilitate connections with BARDA's larger ecosystems and programs, including the EZ-BAA program and the accelerator network, and GHIC's network of venture partners.

Research Awards Selection Criteria

Following an invitation to submit a proposal, the Research Awards (Innovation Showcase and Research Initiatives) will be reviewed by the Program Lead, GHIC, and BARDA. Selection of the award for funding will be measured against the following criteria:

1) Breakthrough research: magnitude, quality, and likelihood of achieving a breakthrough solution(s) that will contribute or lead directly to health security innovations or medical countermeasure development
2) Novelty: is the proposed idea differentiated from other proposed approaches; is there limited investment because of the high-risk of the project
3) Broad benefit: can the idea be applied or adapted to benefit with other health sectors; how broadly applicable is the idea or platform
4) Vision: what is the future direction or long-term plan for the innovation or idea and how will the data generated using this funding be used or directed to secure continued funding from other sources
5) Portfolio strategy: we will aim to avoid funding duplicative or similar ideas to capture a diverse portfolio of investigators and research ideas
6) Translational potential: proposals and project ideas will be considered in their potential to directly and/or indirectly lead to the development of new innovations or medical countermeasures

Proposals might be returned for revisions with feedback and inputs from the Program Lead, GHIC, and/or BARDA before proceeding with award execution.

Research Awards Application

Applicant Information

1. **Investigator information**
   - Institution information
     - Name and address
     - Points of contact for grants and administration
   - Investigator NIH biosketch and/or list of previous awards, publications, and patents

2. **Budget request**
   - High-level budget breakdown by direct and indirect costs for the following categories (provide totals only for each):
     - Salaries/personnel requested
     - Supplies
     - Subcontracts
     - Consultants
     - Other costs (describe)

3. **Data availability and open access commitments**
   - How will the data be made widely available and what existing data infrastructure will be used to make data available

4. **Letters of support**
   - Include any letters of support from collaborators or institutions

Research Awards Proposal Template

1. **Executive Summary / Abstract (1-2 pages):** overview of the proposed research project or idea, including its significance (why is it important), objectives (what are you aiming to achieve), and potential impact (what change would come about if the project is successful.

2. **Introduction / Problem Statement (1 page):** setup context and propose the research question, hypothesis, platform or technology idea; what bottleneck are you aiming to address and what is the relevance to global health security

3. **Anticipated outcomes / Significance / Impact (1 page):** what outcomes will the idea and/or proposal achieve; provide perspectives on the significance of the proposal and the anticipated impact

4. **Summary of aims (1 page):** what are the proposed aims (and sub-aims if needed) to address the problem statement

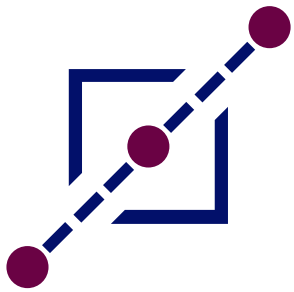
5. **Approach and methodology (3-4 pages):** for each aim/sub-aim, provide details on experimental approaches, include preliminary data if available to support feasibility, provide evidence or rationale for how and why the aim would be achieved

6. **Anticipated outputs and IP management (1 page):** what material or conceptual outputs and/or IP will be generated through completion of this proposal

7. **Anticipated pitfalls / Risks (1 page):** what are the risks or anticipated pitfalls for the proposed approach and what are potential approaches to mitigate those risks; what will we learn from if the idea or project fails to achieve its aims

8. **Project timelines and milestone payment plans (1 page):** anticipated start and end dates for each proposed aim or objective; dates for anticipated milestones and the required funding for each milestone stage

Addendum



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Addendum – Research Initiative Topics

Project Topic 1: Extending the durability of protection elicited by vaccination

Eliciting robust and durable immunity through vaccination remains a critical challenge in global health security. Vaccines are instrumental in preventing morbidity and mortality associated with infectious disease outbreaks as was demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic. All vaccines elicit robust immune responses (e.g., serum antibodies) in the immediate post-vaccination period. The duration of protection, however, can vary greatly from vaccine-to-vaccine and may depend on the type of vaccine administered. For example, vaccines for measles (live attenuated), Hepatitis A (inactivated), and Yellow Fever (live attenuated) confer nearly life-long immunity. Vaccines for Tetanus (toxoid), Diphtheria (toxoid), Pertussis (whole cell/acellular), and Meningococcus (polysaccharide-protein conjugate) generate long-term immunity (>10 years protection) following the primary series, but booster immunization is recommended to ensure optimal protection against disease. By contrast, some vaccines – namely, COVID-19 and influenza – confer only short-term protection against disease, with waning immunity and diminished vaccine effectiveness observed ~3-5 months post-vaccination. This shorter duration of protection could be due to differences in immune memory, pathogen evolution, or both. Ultimately, the inability of some vaccines to confer durable immunity results in segments of the population with inadequate protection against disease and higher risk for morbidity and mortality, which subsequently imposes logistical and financial strain on public health agencies, immunization programs, and healthcare systems. Identifying strategies to extend the duration of protection conferred by vaccination is essential to ensure long-term protection against disease, reduce the frequency of vaccination, maintain high levels of population immunization coverage, and strengthen the overall effectiveness of disease control and prevention efforts.

The mechanisms that underlie the generation of durable immunity via vaccination are complex. An interplay of numerous factors (i.e., pathogen characteristics, host response, vaccine type and route of administration, etc.) likely contribute to achievement of this goal. Notwithstanding, the ability to engineer the immune system to generate robust and durable responses to vaccines remains a major and important bottleneck for the field of vaccinology and global health security. Opportunities for innovation in this area are vast and multifaceted.

Examples of research topics on extending duration of protection that are in scope for this program:

- Develop new classes of adjuvants, including mucosal and oral adjuvants
- Evaluate novel formulations against varying routes of administration
- Use advanced genetic and molecular gene editing tools to engineer B cells
- Conduct studies to compare transcriptomics of B cells subsets following immunizations with short versus long duration of protection
- Develop and evaluate novel protein nanoparticle or other protein designs
- Develop approaches to enhance the trafficking of plasma cells to bone marrow compartments
- Development of novel vaccine platforms or approaches that lead to long-term memory that can be recalled upon antigen exposure

Project Topic 2: Higher throughput antibody isolation and discovery

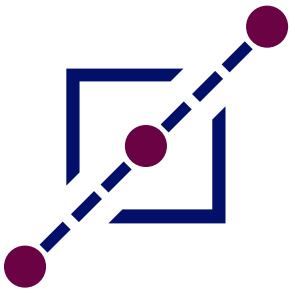
There are many platforms and technologies to isolate and/or sequence monoclonal antibodies, which has led to improvements in vaccine design and the development of antibody countermeasures for treatment and prophylaxis. Increasing the speed and throughput of these platforms will further support and accelerate the development of medical countermeasures—this speed is crucial during health crises, such as during pandemics, where time-sensitive responses are essential. The isolation and characterization of monoclonal antibodies is often used to assess the quality of vaccine responses and to identify neutralizing epitopes that can be optimally presented in the design of vaccine antigens. In addition, isolated monoclonal antibodies can also serve as leads for the development of therapeutic and prophylactic products as well as enable the rapid development of antibody-based diagnostic tests. This capability is especially important for emerging infectious diseases and in low-resource settings where timely diagnosis can greatly influence the effectiveness of a pandemic response. Finally, the ability to quickly identify and sequence antibodies from individual patients or donors might enable the ability to detect virus outbreaks, identify pathogens, and/or support the development of personalized vaccines. Increasing the throughput and speed of antibody isolation, discovery, and sequencing is integral to enhancing global health security—faster and more efficient approaches ensure that new therapies and diagnostics can be developed rapidly in response to emerging health threats and is crucial for managing outbreaks, improving treatment outcomes, and maintaining public health preparedness.

Examples of research topics that are in scope:

- Novel automated systems and robotic platforms that can significantly increase the speed and efficiency and reduce the costs of antibody isolation and functional evaluation processes.
- Advances in high-throughput screening technologies that enable the rapid testing of vast libraries of antibodies against various antigens; includes platforms relevant for monoclonal antibodies and multispecific antibodies
- Novel approaches to increase throughput of antibody cloning, expression, purification, and/or functional screening/evaluation
- Platforms that improve the efficiency, scale, and/or reduce the costs of recovering natively paired heavy and light chain sequences.
- Novel approaches to screen rapidly and reliably for antibody specificities
- Microfluidic platforms and single-cell analysis techniques that enable the isolation and characterization of individual antibody-producing cells.
- Machine learning algorithms that can identify antigen-antigen binding based on paired antibody repertoire data.
- Machine learning algorithms that can provide an accounting of infectious disease history based on the memory B cell repertoire.
- Platforms for high-throughput and low-cost antibody discovery from different B cell subtypes

Global Health Security

Early Career Investigator Fellowship



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Addendum - Global Health Security Early Career Investigator Awards

The Global Health Security Early Career Investigator Awards aim to support and enable investigators at the outset of their careers to undertake and explore innovative and impactful research projects that address critical challenges in global health security. This award program is designed to nurture bold and transformative ideas or projects that would be considered too "high-risk" for early investigators and is meant to support data generation that would lead to sustained funding from other funding sources. With a program duration of two to three years, recipients will receive flexible funding with relatively light reporting requirements. Award recipients will also have access to a larger network of investigators, stakeholders, and resources that will nurture their career growth and help establish them as influential research leaders in global health security.

Deadlines

- First round:
    - Open: August 1, 2024
    - Close: October 1, 2024
    - Announcement: November 1, 2024
    - Funding start: January 1, 2025
- Second round:
    - Open: January 1, 2025
    - Close: March 1, 2025
    - Announcement: April 1, 2025
    - Funding start: May 1, 2025

Eligibility

- *Applicants*: early-career investigators who have completed their doctoral degrees within the past ten years and are affiliated with academic or research institutions.
- *Geography*: open to researchers affiliated with institutions in most countries, promoting a diverse and global perspective on health security challenges.
- *Institutions*: open to applicants from academic institutions, research institutes, nonprofit organizations, focused research organizations, and other related or similar institutions.

Scope

- Research area: projects should align with global health security priorities, addressing issues such as infectious disease outbreaks, bioterrorism, antimicrobial resistance, and health system resilience. A wide range of disciplines (immunology, microbiology, virology, material science, market research, etc.) are in scope.

Funding

- Funding Amount: Up to $750,000 in total costs over two or three years.

Selection Criteria

- Review process: proposals will be reviewed by GHIC and BARDA DRIVe. External review might be utilized if needed.
- Criteria for selection:
    - *Innovation*: does the project propose a new approach, method, or technology to solve an existing problem
    - *Translation potential*: how will the project lead to or unlock health security innovations or medical countermeasure development
    - *Relevance*: alignment with global health security priorities
    - *Growth potential*: investigator potential to be a prominent research leader in the field
    - *Feasibility*: what is the likelihood of successful completion of the project; what do we stand to learn from the project

Application

- Research proposal (template provided below)
- CV or biosketch (< 5 pages)
- Statement of career and scientific leadership goals (< 2 pages)

Early Investigator Proposal Template

1. **Executive Summary / Abstract (< 1 page):** overview of the proposed research project or idea, including its significance (why is it important), objectives (what are you aiming to achieve), and potential impact (what change would come about if the project is successful.

2. **Introduction / Problem Statement (< 1 page):** setup context and propose the research question, hypothesis, platform or technology idea; what bottleneck are you aiming to address and what is the relevance to global health security

3. **Anticipated outcomes / Significance / Impact (< 1 page):** what outcomes will the idea and/or proposal achieve; provide perspectives on the significance of the proposal and the anticipated impact

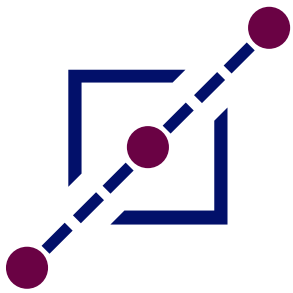
4. **Approach and methodology (< 3 pages):** provide details on experimental approaches, include preliminary data if available to support feasibility, provide evidence or rationale for how and why the aim would be achieved

5. **Anticipated pitfalls / Risks (< 1 page):** what are the risks or anticipated pitfalls for the proposed approach and what are potential approaches to mitigate those risks; what will we learn from if the idea or project fails to achieve its aims

6. **Project timelines and milestone payment plans (< 1 page):** anticipated start and end dates for each proposed aim or objective; dates for anticipated milestones and the required funding for each milestone stage

Global Health Security

Postdoctoral Fellowship



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FrontierFund@ghicfunds.org

Addendum - Global Health Security Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Global Health Security Postdoctoral Fellowship is designed to support outstanding investigators who have recently completed their graduate programs. This fellowship aims to provide emerging scholars with the resources and opportunities to join leading research labs and engage in advanced research that addresses critical challenges in global health security. Over the course of two to three years, fellows will receive supportive funding, mentorship and networking opportunities to advance their research projects and develop as leaders in global health security. The primary objective of this fellowship is to nurture early-career researchers to pursue innovative and impactful research in global health security by supporting their integration into top research labs.

Deadlines

- First round:
    - Open: August 1, 2024
    - Close: October 1, 2024
    - Announcement: November 1, 2024
    - Funding start: January 1, 2025
- Second round:
    - Open: January 1, 2025
    - Close: March 1, 2025
    - Announcement: April 1, 2025
    - Funding start: May 1, 2025

Eligibility

- Applicants: recent graduates who have completed their doctoral degrees within the past three years and are affiliated with academic or research institutions.
- Geography: open to researchers affiliated with institutions in most countries, promoting a diverse and global perspective on health security challenges.
- Institutions: open to applicants from academic institutions, research institutes, nonprofit organizations, focused research organizations, and other related or similar institutions.

Scope

- Research area: projects should align with global health security priorities, addressing issues such as infectious disease outbreaks, bioterrorism, antimicrobial resistance, and health system resilience. A wide range of disciplines (immunology, microbiology, virology, material science, market research, etc.) are in scope.

Funding

- Funding Amount: Up to $250,000 in total costs over two or three years.

Selection Criteria

- Review process: proposals will be reviewed by GHIC and BARDA DRIVe. External review might be utilized if needed.
- Criteria for selection:
    - *Relevance*: alignment with global health security priorities
    - *Innovation*: does the project propose a new approach, method, or technology to solve an existing problem
    - *Growth potential*: investigator potential to be a prominent research leader in the field
    - *Feasibility*: what is the likelihood of successful completion of the project

Application

- Research proposal (template provided below)
- CV or biosketch (< 5 pages)
- Statement of career and scientific leadership goals (< 1 page)
- Two letters of recommendation (1-2 pages/each)

Postdoctoral Fellowship Proposal Template

1. **Executive Summary / Abstract (~0.5 page):** overview of the proposed research project or idea, including its significance (why is it important), objectives (what are you aiming to achieve), and potential impact (what change would come about if the project is successful.

2. **Introduction / Problem Statement (~ 0.5 page):** setup context and propose the research question, hypothesis, platform or technology idea; what bottleneck will you address and what is the relevance to global health security

3. **Anticipated outcomes / Significance / Impact (< 1 page):** what outcomes will the idea and/or proposal achieve; provide perspectives on the significance of the proposal and the anticipated impact

4. **Approach and methodology (< 2 pages):** provide details on experimental approaches, include preliminary data if available to support feasibility, provide evidence or rationale for how and why the aim would be achieved

5. **Anticipated pitfalls / Risks (~ 0.5 page):** what are the risks or anticipated pitfalls for the proposed approach and what are potential approaches to mitigate those risks; what will we learn from if the idea or project fails to achieve its aims

6. **Project timelines and milestone payment plans (~ 0.5 page):** anticipated start and end dates for each proposed aim or objective; dates for anticipated milestones and the required funding for each milestone stage