

MBBI Spring 25 call for Major and Discretionary Grant Proposals

The Robert H.N. Ho Mind, Brain, and Behavior Initiative (MBBI) provides opportunities for Colgate faculty, staff, and students interested in topics related to mind, brain, and behavior to enhance their own work and their connections with colleagues from across campus. MBBi support is intended for a broad range of projects led by faculty and staff from any department, program, or division at Colgate.

The MBBi Executive Advisory Committee here solicits proposals seeking funding for scholarly and curricular programmatic work connected to mind, brain, and behavior (see [our guidance document on what sorts of projects might be a good fit for MBBi funding](#) and [a list of the projects we've granted funding to in the past](#)). Both smaller (up to \$3,000) discretionary grants and larger (up to \$20,000 or more) major grants are available, as described in the guidelines below. This round of funding will support projects starting in spring, summer, or fall 2025.

Who may apply for MBBi grants?

We welcome proposals from **individuals and groups from all divisions at Colgate**. Past awardees hail from the Library, Psychology, PERA, Biology, ITS, Mathematics, Music, Economics, and Neuroscience. We encourage proposals **both from single individuals and from groups of faculty and staff that span disciplines**.

What kind of work does MBBi support?

Proposals may be for ongoing research projects, recurring activities, or one-off events. The key is that the proposal would enhance **scholarship, teaching, or student involvement related to mind, brain, and behavior**. We've funded many sorts of projects in the past, including conducting laboratory research, hosting a symposium of outside speakers, staging a play, training and mentoring student researchers, traveling internationally to conduct trials, and purchasing and exploring the capabilities of cutting edge equipment. Here are some broad categories that your project may fall into:

- Research that involves Colgate faculty or staff (and may also involve students) exploring questions relating to mind, brain, and behavior, broadly defined. Projects that involve collaboration across different disciplines are particularly encouraged, but innovative projects within a single discipline are encouraged as well.
- Reading groups, teaching tables, or curricular development around topics related to mind, brain, and behavior.
- Mind, brain, and behavior-related travel opportunities for small teams to attend national conferences, visit leaders at other institutions, or capture the latest developments in the field and bring back innovative ideas and approaches for use at Colgate.
- Visits to Colgate by a distinguished scholar or scholars for all-campus lectures and faculty/student interactions. The scholar(s) would ideally visit Hamilton for multiple days and engage in conversations with Colgate faculty, staff, and students to allow for interactions that significantly impact idea-sharing, scholarship, and/or teaching in fields related to mind, brain, and behavior.

How does one apply for an MBBi Discretionary Grant?

We review proposals for discretionary funding with budgets less than \$3,000 on a rolling basis. You can submit proposals at any time by email with the subject heading "MBBI discretionary grant submission" to MBBi chair Ben Lennertz (blennertz@colgate.edu). In this email, provide a brief (~1 page) description of the proposed project, activity, or event(s). Include the project rationale and

potential outcomes, an approximate time frame, an explanation of the connection to mind, brain, and behavior, and the names of those organizing the project and others who may be impacted by or benefit from the project. Also provide a detailed budget indicating how the requested funds will be used. We normally make funding decisions on discretionary grants within two weeks of submission.

How does one apply for an MBBI Major Grant?

The deadline for proposals for major grants with budgets greater than \$3,000 is January 24, 2025. Please email proposals to Ben Lennertz (blennertz@colgate.edu) with the subject heading "MBBI major grant submission". Attach to that email a document with the following components:

- Project title and name(s) of applicant(s)
- Project description (maximum of four pages)
- Statement of connection to mind, brain, and behavior (maximum of one page; again, see [guidance document](#))
- List of project collaborators, including faculty, staff, and students, with a brief indication of their role in the project
- CV or resume of applicant(s) and major contributors to the project
- Proposed project budget that clearly indicates expenses for any travel, housing, living expenses, supplies, services, equipment, student wages, or other costs associated with the project. Please also disclose if you are also seeking funding for the same project from other sources, as well as if this is an application for partially funding the project and are seeking the remaining funding elsewhere. (Applicants can download and use the [Research Council budget template](#))

We anticipate that the total budget for most proposals will be less than \$20,000 and that the funding for the project will be used by August 31, 2026, but high-impact proposals with larger budgets or longer time horizons are encouraged as well. Past awardees, as well as others, are encouraged to submit a proposal. We will communicate funding decisions in March 2025.

Please reach out to Ben Lennertz (blennertz@colgate.edu) or any [member of the MBBI executive advisory committee](#) if you have questions.