DATE: September 7, 2017  
TO: Wyoming University and Community College faculty and researchers  
FROM: Drs. Scott Seville, Program and Outreach Core Director  
SUBJECT: Call for applications- Collaborative Bioinformatics Grant Program  
DEADLINE: extended to **5:00 PM October 13th, 2017**

I. GENERAL: The Wyoming IDeA Networks for Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) Program requests proposals from Wyoming Community College and University of Wyoming researchers to the INBRE Wyoming Community College- University of Wyoming Collaborative Bioinformatics Grant Program. The goal of this program is to support bioinformatics-focused projects that engage University and Wyoming Community College researchers and students in bioinformatics research, education, and training. The project should engage undergraduate students and faculty at the community colleges in order to facilitate the development of undergraduate training and education in bioinformatics. Collaborations should involve the community college personnel in conjunction with the UW INBRE bioinformatics core and may involve additional personnel at UW. The maximum amount requested for a two year (maximum) project cannot exceed $15,000 in the first and $20,000 in the second year. The second year of funding is dependent on continued funding of the Wyoming INBRE competitive renewal proposal by the NIH National Institute for General Medical Sciences and adequate project progress/meeting the year 1 project goals-specific aims.

Prior to preparing a proposal interested faculty must discuss the proposed activity with either Drs. Nic Bluoin (nblouin@uwyo.edu) or Vikram Chhatre (vchhatre@uwyo.edu) to discuss feasibility and resources available through the Wyoming INBRE Bioinformatics Core to support the project. Proposals must include a letter of acceptance from the Wyoming INBRE Bioinformatics Core. General pre-application inquiries regarding research areas and feasibility of application can be directed to Drs. Nic Bluoin (nblouin@uwyo.edu), Vikram Chhatre (vchhatre@uwyo.edu), Scott Seville (sseville@uwyo.edu), or David Fay (davidfay@uwyo.edu).

Due to limited resources an individual may not submit more than ONE collaborative bioinformatics proposal. All funds for the first year of the project must be encumbered by end of the current INBRE fiscal year April 30, 2018. Carry over of unspent funds is not permitted for INBRE projects.

II. DEADLINE: The deadline for receipt of proposals is **5:00 PM October 13th, 2017**. Please e-mail your application as a pdf file to Dr. Scott Seville (sseville@uwyo.edu), INBRE Program Director/Outreach Core Director, and Dr. Florence Teulé (fteule@uwyo.edu), INBRE Program Coordinator. **Late applications will not be considered.**
III. ELIGIBILITY OF PROJECT INVESTIGATORS: Each proposal must have a Wyoming Community College faculty member and a University of Wyoming faculty member as Principal Investigators. Note that Dr. Blouin or Dr. Chhatre can serve as the University of Wyoming faculty member but other UW faculty are also eligible. All faculty members at the University of Wyoming and Wyoming Community Colleges with a regular or special appointment are eligible to apply. If you have not had previous grant writing experience, it is recommended that you have a senior member of your department, or department chair, serve as your mentor and review your proposal prior to submission. Faculty that submit a proposal in response to the current INBRE Collaborative Grant RFP are eligible to apply for the Bioinformatics Collaborative grant as well.

IV. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS: Recipients of SPREM/SEED Grants are required to:

1. Submit project updates when requested and results of support via the Wyoming INBRE reporting database and/or the Annual Progress Report. Details will be provided.
2. Attend and participate (students and faculty) in Wyoming INBRE-supported events including the spring term Wyoming INBRE Conference and Wyoming Undergraduate Research Day.

V. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS
Prior to writing the proposal the applicant(s) must consult with Drs. Nic Blouin and Vikram Chhatre to confirm the research is feasible and there are adequate resources within the INBRE Bioinformatics Core and/or at UW to support the project.

Proposals must be prepared according to the format outlined below. Clear, direct, concise statements are encouraged. Proposals exceeding stated page limits will be rejected without review. Proposals should clearly address how proposed project meets INBRE goals and relates to the identified thematic foci. All forms must be completely completed; if a field does not apply insert NA.

A “Just in Time” policy will be in effect for proposals requiring regulatory committee review or special authorization. Proposals that involve or utilize research animals, biohazards, or human subjects will not be required to submit the respective forms with the grant proposal. However, if these categories apply and the proposal is funded, you will be required to submit the appropriate forms (e.g., IACUC or IRB) to sseville@uwyo.edu for submission to NIGMS for administrative approval of project before the project can begin.

VI. FORMAT FOR PROPOSALS
All required sections must be compiled into a single pdf document. Forms and instructions can be found at: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html

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<th>Section</th>
<th>Page Limits</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Cover Page</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Include project title, names of Principal Investigators w/ institutions and emails, name and email of institutional grants coordinator or other grant administrator and their signature</td>
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2. Project Summary/Abstract, Relevance, Performance Sites | 1 | Proposed project abstract not to exceed 350 words
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3. Budget and justification | No Limit | Itemized annual budgets for permitted expenses. CC faculty can request up to ½ month summer salary in the budget. Use attached budget form with separate page for justifications for each line item
4. Other Support | 1+ | List of current INBRE supported projects for each investigator with students involved; other grant funded projects and activities
5. Project Description | 5 | SPECIFIC AIMS/PROJECT GOALS, PROJECT DESCRIPTION, and projected IMPACT on institution/program infrastructure, academics, students and faculty.
6. Collaboration Description/Approval | 1 | 1 page description of community college collaboration and details of the role of both the UW and college faculty members. Page 2 is letter of approval from Wyoming INBRE Bioinformatics Core.
7. Protection of Human Subjects; Inclusion of Women and Minorities; Targeted / Planned Enrollment Table; Inclusion of Children; Vertebrate Animals | | While bioinformatics proposals are not likely to involve direct use of vertebrate animals or human subjects, if they do, IACUC or IRB approval and documents will be required.
8. Summary of previous work on project. | 2 | Only for continuing projects.

Appendices will not be accepted.

**Review Criteria:**

1. Significance to INBRE Bioinformatics training and Wyoming INBRE goals: Is the project bioinformatics focused, related to biomedicine and does it meet the goals of this program? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will student education/training, student and faculty understanding, and use of bioinformatics be advanced?

2. Training: Is the plan for involving and training undergraduate students feasible, does it involve application and training in bioinformatics, and does it involve them directly in the process of science? Does it help students make connections with opportunities for further training as they pursue their baccalaureate or graduate degree?

3. Approach: Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well reasoned, and feasible and appropriate to the aims of the project and the available bioinformatics resources? Do the applicants acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics? Is the project supported by the Wyoming INBRE Bioinformatics Core and is the letter of support included in the packet?

4. Innovation: Is the project original and innovative in teaching/learning bioinformatics at the college level and does it efficiently and effectively enhance collaboration between CC and
UW researchers and students?

5. Investigators: Are the investigators appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigators and other researchers and students? Does the investigator team bring complementary and integrated expertise to the project (if applicable)?

6. Future Plans: Explain how the research activities funded by this collaborative grant will promote bioinformatics education and research by faculty and students at the community college and describe plans to sustain the project developed using this funding mechanisms.