

UNM JOINT HSC+Main Limited Competition Announcement

Dear UNM Researchers,

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting pre-proposals for the [Brain Research Foundation Scientific Innovations Award](#) (SIA). The SIA Program provides funding for innovative science in both basic and clinical neuroscience. This funding mechanism is designed to support creative, exploratory, cutting-edge research in well-established research laboratories, under the direction of established investigators. Only one nomination is allowed from the University of New Mexico.

The program aims to support projects that may be too innovative or speculative for traditional funding sources but have a high likelihood of producing important, high-impact findings. Studies should be related to either normal human brain development or specifically identified disease states. This includes molecular and clinical neuroscience as well as studies of neural, sensory, motor, cognitive, behavioral and emotional functioning in health and disease. The grant proposal must detail a new research project that is not funded by other sources. This grant is not to be used as bridge funding.

Sponsor: Brain Research Foundation

Opportunity Title: Scientific Innovations Award

Sponsor Due Date: 06/02/2026 (invited full application is due 9/22/26)

Award Range: \$150,000 (direct costs) for a two-year grant

Number of Submissions Allowed from UNM (HSC and Main): One

Solicitation: https://www.thebrf.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/2027_SIA_Guidelines.pdf

Eligibility: Candidate must be a full-time associate professor or full professor, with major NIH or other peer-reviewed funding in the past three years

Limited Comp. Instructions: Please submit a preproposal (up to 2 pages) and NIH Biosketch by **NOON on May 6, 2026** in UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). *This sponsor considers Main Campus and HSC a single institution. The same submission process will be used for applications from Main Campus and HSC.*

The 2-page preproposal narrative should include:

- Description of the proposed project which should highlight the innovation of the project, its uniqueness to the PI, and how it will substantially change an area of research.
- Details on how funding could lead to successful grant applications with NIH or other funding entities.
- Closing paragraph that explains how this research will develop, i.e. next steps.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact limited@unm.edu or HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu.