



The Maryland Stem Cell Commission

Request for Information Shared Resource Facility

Introduction

The Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF) was established by the Maryland General Assembly, under the Maryland Stem Cell Research Act of 2006 (the Stem Cell Act), to promote state-funded human stem cell research and medical treatments through grants to public and private entities and to grow the biotechnology community in Maryland.

The goal of this RFI is to collect information on the need for and viability of shared resources that could facilitate the advance of stem cell research and expand the number of institutions (academic and industry, not-for-profit, for-profit) doing stem cell research within the state of Maryland.

Information Requested

The following points list some of the information the MSCRF is seeking. The MSCRF would appreciate responses to any or all of these points, plus any other issues relevant to potential shared resources.

1. What shared resources would be useful to Maryland stem cell researchers? (Note: examples of potential shared resources include, but are not limited to physical facilities, materials to be shared, services facilitating stem cell research, etc. - e.g. generation of new stem cell lines, storage banks for stem cell lines, administrative support for gaining federal approval of materials generated, etc.)
2. How would you envision a shared facility operating?
3. How much funding would be necessary to establish such a resource, and what might be potential sources of such funding?
4. Would you use shared resources based outside of your own institution? How do you envision shared facilities could be used by investigators at different Maryland institutions, and on what terms? What advantages and/or disadvantages might be associated with sharing resources across institutions?
5. What existing shared resources relevant to stem cell research are available within your institution?
6. What existing shared resources relevant to stem cell research are available that are shared between your institution and other institutions?
7. Would your business or academic institution be interested in hosting a shared facility?

Submission Deadline

Information Receipt Deadline: February 2, 2009

Method of Submission

Information must be submitted electronically as a single PDF file to Maryland Stem cell Research Fund at TEDCO at the following address: mscrinfo@marylandtedco.org.

All submissions should also include the following information:

Name, address, telephone number and email address of the individual and organization submitting the information and his/her affiliated organization, institution or company. Please inform us if you prefer that your name and/or affiliation not be publicly acknowledged..

Use of Information Submitted

Respondents will not receive feedback on the information letters submitted.

The Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission will review and evaluate the merit of the information received under this RFI in an open to the public meeting.