

Wyss Center project requirements

Project funding

Wyss Center funding will support projects that can make full use of the Center's capabilities and resources including the use of the Wyss Center neuroscientists, engineers, regulatory experts and the staffed research platforms based at Campus Biotech in Geneva.

Reporting

The Wyss Center requires quarterly assessment reports of project activity and expenditure to demonstrate progress.

Every six months, a project advancement review will be conducted which will include a written report and an oral presentation detailing project results and laying out the project plan for the next six months.

Funding will only be continued upon successful completion of predefined milestones. It is critical that milestones are realistic and achievable. Proposed milestones should be discussed with the Center Directors to confirm that they are aligned with Center expectations.

Location

Projects from anywhere in the world will be considered as long as they clearly demonstrate how the project will use the Wyss Center facilities and expertise, and how a contribution by the Wyss Center will significantly accelerate the translation of a neurotechnology for human benefit.

Human resources

The platforms are staffed with technical experts and the Wyss Center directly employs professional staff, including neuroscience, engineering, regulatory, clinical, legal and business personnel, to support projects.

It is understood that additional staff may be necessary to provide specific expertise.

Where this is the case, every candidate must meet with a representative of the Wyss leadership (directors, assistant director, or CTO) in person before they are hired. The project director and the Wyss directorship must agree on the appropriateness of the candidate for their role in the project.

Graduate students: Except in unusual circumstances funding will only be available for senior, experienced graduate students capable of dedicating full time effort to the project.

Projects involving human participants (clinical trials)

All projects must adhere to the highest ethical standards for human participant protection.

The Wyss Center must be made aware of any issues related to protection of participants in your trial throughout the course of your project.

If applicable, you must:

Submit a copy of ethical committee and other regulatory approvals as well as approved protocols, clinical trial documents, and consent forms for your work.

Submit the names, titles and a letter of support from any clinicians who provide medical oversight of your study.

Projects involving animals

All projects must adhere to the highest ethical standards for animal welfare.

The Wyss Center must be made aware of any issues related to ethical approval of your project.

If applicable, you must:

- Submit a copy of ethical committee and other regulatory approvals as well as approved protocols and documents for your work.

The Wyss Center upholds the guiding principles underpinning the humane use of animals in scientific research known as the three Rs:

- Replace the use of animals with alternative techniques, or avoid the use of animals altogether.
- Reduce the number of animals used to a minimum, to obtain information from fewer animals or more information from the same number of animals.
- Refine the way experiments are carried out, to make sure animals suffer as little as possible. This includes better housing and improvements to procedures which minimise pain and suffering and/or improve animal welfare.

Commercial relationships

The Wyss Center supports the development of neurotechnology solutions from concept as far as entry into commercialization.

You must inform the Wyss Center of any commercial commitments or relationships currently in place or planned, and the Wyss Center must participate in your exit process be this joint ventures with a company, sale, or venture funding as a startup.

Publications

All publications and presentations involving Wyss funding (including any research done by graduate students and postdocs while working on Wyss Center funded projects) must acknowledge support from the Wyss Center for Bio and Neuroengineering.