



# APPLYING FOR THE GCI PROOF-OF-CONCEPT FUND

## WHAT IS IT?

The GCI Proof of Funding (POC) scheme is to support researchers within the **medtech** field who are employed by the University of Melbourne across different faculties to translate their research into viable commercialisation projects or start-ups. It is intended to help cover the gap between intellectual property disclosures and spin-out or licensing, where there is a compelling case for enhancing the commercial potential of a foreseeable product or service. The GCI POC Fund can also be utilised to secure matching funds against appropriate grant funding schemes.

## HOW DOES IT HELP EARLY-STAGE DEVELOPMENT?

The fund aims to bridge the gap between the identification of new intellectual property in fundamental research, and demonstrating its potential to external partners.

Successful applicants may use the additional funds to:

- Prototype development and/or validation
- Technology scale-up and/or validation studies
- *In vivo* proof-of-concept studies in relevant disease models for therapeutic opportunities
- Software coding and documentation to enable field trials or alpha/beta testing
- External advice on customer and market analysis, business planning, technical and/or competitive analysis to support the commercial potential of the opportunity
- Labour: contract staff employed for a specific purpose

## WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

The GCI Proof of Concept Fund is designed for **medtech** projects from any discipline that:

- Aim to develop a novel product or service (for profit or social venture)
- Are based on underlying research
- Are unable to access other sources of funding, and
- When proof of concept development is the next logical step

## AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

To be eligible for funding you will need to be:

- Employed by the University, and undertaking research where the University has at least 50% ownership in the intellectual property (IP) being developed
- Your project is medtech relevant
- Have disclosed, or be ready to disclose, the IP to the University

## I'M ELIGIBLE! WHAT'S NEXT?

Enquiries and EOIs to be sent to GCI Centre Manager at [nguyen.m@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:nguyen.m@unimelb.edu.au).

Open for applications from **Tuesday 23 April until 5pm, Monday 20 May 2024.**

For more information and to apply, please refer to: <https://clarkinstitute.unimelb.edu.au/research-support-initiatives/gci-proof-of-concept-funding-scheme>

