



**Center for
Vision Research**
Carney Institute for Brain Science

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Center for Vision Research (CVR), part of the Carney Institute for Brain Science, has funds to facilitate innovative vision research in a variety of ways:

- Pilot grants for new projects and collaborations
- Temporary support of postdoctoral fellows
- Visiting speakers
- Special training courses for graduate students and postdocs

Applications for funding will be peer reviewed on a rolling basis beginning March 1, 2020. All applications (single pdf) should be sent to: CVR@Brown.edu. Please use the subject line "Spring 2020 CVR Funding Opportunities"

PILOT GRANTS

Vision research eligible for CVR pilot grants is broadly defined, including topics such as molecular and cellular mechanisms, visual perception, brain physiology, computational models, and artificial systems. The goal is to seed and facilitate innovative research projects that might not otherwise be carried out because they are perceived to be too risky or outside the goals of more traditional research grants. Funds are generally not available to support ongoing research projects. Collaborations with faculty not presently members of CVR are fine. Interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged.

CVR pilot research projects must aim to generate preliminary data that will form the foundation for a future research grant proposal. Pilot funds can be used for supplies, equipment, and non-faculty salaries. Grants may not be used entirely for technician support.

The proposal should include the following:

- The title of the project
- The specific aim of the project
- A one-page description of the vision research to be conducted. Include an explanation of how the project is distinct from current grants and ongoing research in the lab and what plans there are to submit an external grant proposal based on the pilot project's results
- An itemized budget
- Biographical sketches for project leaders and key individuals

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

Support for postdoctoral fellows is available to bridge a short lapse in funding or to facilitate completion of a project. Support is typically for one to a few months. Nominations of candidates who bridge different departments are fine. Nominations should be in the form of a 1-2 page letter from the post-doctoral supervisor. The letter should include information on the candidate's training and research plans, as well as what sources of future funding are being pursued. Please include the monthly and total cost of support for the postdoctoral fellow. Nominations should also include the CVs of both the nominator and the candidate.

Visiting Speakers and Workshops

Funds are available to bring vision scientists to campus. "Vision scientist" is broadly defined to include perception, brain mechanisms, computational work, computer vision, and clinical studies. Visual art with a connection to science may also be appropriate. Requests should include a description of the speaker's research and how a visit would benefit the broader vision community at Brown or one or more particular labs. Support is also possible for multi-speaker workshops that might appeal to the Brown community of vision researchers.

A proposal to bring one or more speakers to campus should include:

- Speaker name(s)
- Title or subject area of talk
- The audience it is anticipated the talk(s) would attract
- Estimated expenses for travel, food, and lodging

Graduate Student and Postdoc Training

If a graduate student or postdoc's vision research would be facilitated by attendance at a specialized training course or workshop, CVR may be able to support attendance. To apply, the student or postdoc should submit a description of the course or workshop and an explanation of how it would play an important role advancing their research. Also detail the expenses that compensation is requested for.