### Innovation Funding Sources for Nursing Faculty/Researchers and/or Nursing Student Innovators

*Please continue to check back to this webpage as we will update this Funding Source list as new resources are identified*

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<th>Funding Source</th>
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<td><strong>Internal to UM</strong></td>
<td><strong>Frankel Innovation Initiative</strong> $20 million fund supporting the research and development of life-saving therapies at Michigan Medicine. Fund targets projects led by UM faculty that have the potential for rapid clinical application and groundbreaking impact. Will fund 5-7 projects annually. Open to UM faculty across campus.</td>
<td><a href="https://innovation.medicine.umich.edu/funding-mentorship/frankel/">https://innovation.medicine.umich.edu/funding-mentorship/frankel/</a></td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>Applications due in April Funding begins in July</td>
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<td>Innovation in Action (IA) Innovation in Actin is a campus-wide, interdisciplinary UM student competition giving student teams the opportunity, tools, people and room to take on some big world challenges. It’s a 5-month experience, with the program culminating in a final showcase. Judges will award prizes of $10K (1st prize),</td>
<td><a href="https://innovationinaction.umich.edu/journey/">https://innovationinaction.umich.edu/journey/</a></td>
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<td>√</td>
<td>Apply in September Training workshops start in October</td>
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<td>Source</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Applications Available From</td>
<td>Final Judging Showcase/Awards in</td>
<td>Call Out For Award is Usually the End of January: Applications are Due in April: Awards are Announced on the Dean’s Research Day</td>
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<td><strong>Medvec Nursing Innovation Award</strong></td>
<td>This award was established to support UMSN Graduate students in the development and application of innovations for nursing practice that can improve health care delivery, quality of care, patient outcomes, and population health. The purpose of the award is to allow graduate students at UMSN, in partnership with healthcare systems and communities, to address critical issues of health and healthcare delivery integral to nursing practice. Current UMSN MSN and DNP graduate students are encouraged to apply for this $2000 award.</td>
<td>Applications are available from Danielle Garner-Jones at <a href="mailto:dmgi@umich.edu">dmgi@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>Calls out for Award is usually the end of January: Applications are due in April: Awards are announced on the Dean’s Research Day</td>
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<td><strong>Michigan Business Challenge (MBC)</strong></td>
<td>The Michigan Business Challenge is a campus-wide, multi-round business plan competition where student teams have the opportunity to win cash prizes totaling $100,000 and gain feedback from the business community. Teams progress through various rounds pitching to panels of judges.</td>
<td><a href="https://zli.umich.edu/programs-funds/michigan-business-challenge">https://zli.umich.edu/programs-funds/michigan-business-challenge</a></td>
<td>Calls out for Award is usually the end of January: Applications are due in April: Awards are announced on the Dean’s Research Day</td>
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### Mcubed

Mcubed stimulates innovative research and scholarship by distributing real-time seed funding to multi-unit, faculty-led teams.

Faculty from at least two different campus units can form a collaborative trio, or “cube,” and request either $60K or $15K to advance their idea right away.

**Website**: [http://mcubed.umich.edu/](http://mcubed.umich.edu/)

- Open, as funds are available.
- Check website for funding cycles.

### Michigan Biomedical Venture Fund (MBVF)

This fund invests in biomedical start-ups with UM licensed intellectual property in the domain of therapeutics, devices, diagnostics, or health IT.

The fund awards $50K-$300K to biomed startups.

Most applicants need to have successfully completed an existing UM translational program like MTRAC, I-Corps, etc. See website for other requirements.

**Website**: [https://innovation.medicine.umich.edu/michigan-biomedical-venture-fund/](https://innovation.medicine.umich.edu/michigan-biomedical-venture-fund/)

- Applications accepted on a rolling basis.
- It is highly recommended that you contact the program manager before applying.

### Mi-Kickstart

An early-stage funding opportunity that accelerates the transfer of technologies from Michigan’s higher ed institutions to the private sector for commercialization.

Awards offer funding in the $21K-$42K range with awarded projects requiring a cost share from the investigator/institution.

**Website**: [https://innovation.medicine.umich.edu/funding-mentorship/mi-kickstart/](https://innovation.medicine.umich.edu/funding-mentorship/mi-kickstart/)

- Semi-annual RFP
- Proposals due on 2/1 and 8/1
| **MTRAC for Life Sciences Hub** | Michigan Translational Research and Commercialization (MTRAC) for Life Sciences for Innovation Hub is a statewide program supporting translational research projects in life sciences with high commercialization potential, that will positively impact human health. All UM schools are eligible to submit projects for funding consideration.

This is a program for mid-stage commercialization projects.

Mi-TRAC Awards offer funding in the range of $100K-$250K, with all awarded projects requiring a cost share from the investigator/institution. | https://innovation.medicine.umich.edu/funding-mentorship/mtrac/ | ✓ | Call for Proposals deadline in September
Awards granted in January |
| **Zell Lurie Commercialization Fund** | The Zell Lurie Commercialization Fund (ZLCF) is a student-run early-stage investment fund with the primary goal of identifying promising young startups in the University of Michigan community and surrounding areas and helping them build great companies.

The fund is actively seeking entrepreneurs seeking pre-seed funds to turn big ideas into exceptional companies.

Investment amounts: $25-$50K. | http://www.zli.umich.edu/zell-lurie-commercialization-fund | ✓ | Email for info on funding deadlines: zlcfquestions@umich.edu |
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Ann Arbor SPARK</td>
<td>SPARK is an economic engine in Southeast Michigan whose services include incubating and accelerating start-ups, among others. Their team can help navigate the funding and incentive programs available for qualified businesses from a variety of different sources.</td>
<td><a href="https://annarborusa.org/">https://annarborusa.org/</a> Funding page: <a href="https://annarborusa.org/entrepreneurial-services/funding/">https://annarborusa.org/entrepreneurial-services/funding/</a></td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>ANA Nursing Innovation Awards</td>
<td>The ANA Innovation Awards include a $25,000 individual nurse award and a $50,000 nurse-led team award for a product, program, project or practice that improves patient outcomes and safety, and exemplify nurse-led innovation. These funds will provide support in translational research, development, prototyping, production, testing and implementation over the next year.</td>
<td><a href="https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/innovation-in-nursing/ana-innovation-award/">https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/innovation-in-nursing/ana-innovation-award/</a></td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>Applications open in November and are open through mid-January</td>
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<td>Betty Moore Fellowships for Nurse Leaders &amp; Innovators</td>
<td>This is a fellowship for nurse scientists 5-10 years post-PhD. The program provides fellow $450,000 over three years to develop their leadership and bring to fruition an innovative project. Fellows will also participate in a leadership and innovation development program.</td>
<td><a href="https://health.ucdavis.edu/nursing/NurseLeaderFellows/howtoapply.html">https://health.ucdavis.edu/nursing/NurseLeaderFellows/howtoapply.html</a></td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td>Application process for 2020 closed 2/20 Check website to see if offered in future years</td>
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<td><strong>J&amp;J Nurse Innovate Quickfire Challenges</strong></td>
<td>The Johnson &amp; Johnson Nurses Innovate QuickFire Challenge series invites nurses worldwide to submit ideas for new devices, health technologies, protocols or treatment approaches. The nurse innovators with the best ideas will receive up to $100,000 in grant funding and access to mentoring/coaching from experts across the J&amp;J Family of Companies to help bring their ideas to life.</td>
<td><a href="https://labs.jnjinnovation.com/nurses-innovate-quickfire-challenges">https://labs.jnjinnovation.com/nurses-innovate-quickfire-challenges</a></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Application dates vary by the QuickFire Challenge (e.g., Maternal/Newborn Health, Perioperative Care, Oncology, etc.)</td>
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<td><strong>J&amp;J Nurse Innovation Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>The Johnson &amp; Johnson Nurse Innovation Fellowship aims to strengthen the leadership and entrepreneurial skills of inspired and innovative nurses. In the two-year program, fellows will receive individualized mentoring and will complete action learning projects, strengthening their leadership, entrepreneurial and innovation skills. All RN’s with at least 3 years of experience, currently working in health services, or organizations related to public health, research or health policy are welcome to apply.</td>
<td><a href="https://nursing.jnj.com/innovate-with-us/nurse-fellowship">https://nursing.jnj.com/innovate-with-us/nurse-fellowship</a></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>2019-2020 Cohort closed. Check website for announcement s for next Cohort application period</td>
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<td><strong>Michigan Women’s Foundation</strong></td>
<td>This foundation is committed to helping empower women in business.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.miwf.org">www.miwf.org</a></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td><strong>Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation Innovative Nursing-Driven Funding Programs</strong></td>
<td>Their support of women entrepreneurs is highlighted on their website but they do provide capital to fund or to start a qualified business.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Applications have different application dates contingent on which program applying for See website</td>
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|  | • The Hillman Emergent Innovation Program  
• The Hillman Serious Illness and End of Life Emergent Innovation Program  
• The Hillman Innovations in Care Program  
• The Hillman Innovation Dissemination Program  
These programs are detailed further on the Hillman website and in the “Other Resources” section of this funding Guide. |  |  |  |
| **Venturewell e-Team** | The E-Team program supports multidisciplinary student-led teams who | [https://venturewell.org/e-team-grant-program/](https://venturewell.org/e-team-grant-program/) |  | No specific deadlines |
| Grant Program | are aiming to bring their innovation out of the lab and into the market. Over $700,000 is awarded each year to early-stage student scient and tech startups who are on the path to launching innovations with a social, health or environmental impact. Stage 1 funding: $5,000 Stage 2 funding: $20,000 | Venturewell Faculty Grants provide up to $30,000 to help fund and support faculty and innovative ideas to create new or transform existing courses and programs to help students develop novel, STEM-based inventions or gain the necessary entrepreneurial skills needed to bring these ideas to market. They seek proposals for areas that will support the emerging generation of inventors and innovators and the ecosystems critical to their success. | https://venturewell.org/faculty-grants/ Guidelines: https://venturewell.org/wp-content/uploads/Faculty-Grants-guidelines%20-%202.pdf | √ | No specific deadlines |
Other Funding Resources:

**Michigan Small Business Development Center**  
[https://sbdcmichigan.org/](https://sbdcmichigan.org/)  
Director: Charles Penner  
Phone: 734.477.8762  
Email: sbdc@wccnet.edu  
Operates out of Washtenaw Community College

Offers many services including business consulting, business plan development, market research, financial management, technology commercialization, strategic planning and more.

In terms of raising capital, their specialists help to inform on the range of funds available to innovators and they help with analyzing financials and annual budgeting.

**Small Business Administration**  
[https://www.sba.gov/](https://www.sba.gov/)  
Director: Charles Penner  
Phone: 734.477.8762  
Email: sbdc@wccnet.edu  
Operates out of Washtenaw Community College

Services/Resources are organized around:

- **Planning your business** (e.g., market research and competitive analysis, writing your business plan, calculating start-up costs, funding your business, etc.)
- **Launching your business** (e.g., choosing a business structure, choosing a business name, registering your business, getting federal and state tax ID numbers, applying for licenses/permits, etc.)
- **Managing your business** (e.g., managing your finances, paying taxes, staying legally compliant, marketing and sales, etc.)
- **Growing your business** (e.g., getting more funding, women-owned businesses, merging/acquiring businesses, etc.)
- Services include online courses/resources around key topics like:
Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation Innovative Nursing-Driven Funding Programs and New RFP’s (Innovations in Care Program, Emergent Innovation & Serious Illness and End of Life Innovation Programs)

A pipeline for nursing-driven innovation
The Rita & Alex Hillman Foundation supports nursing-driven initiatives that serve vulnerable populations, including the economically disadvantaged, racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ people, rural populations, people experiencing homelessness, and others. Through a suite of interconnected programs, the Foundation has created a pipeline for innovation by offering support for work at different phases of development:

- The **Hillman Emergent Innovation Program** and the **Hillman Serious Illness and End of Life Emergent Innovation Program** seek to jumpstart promising ideas at their earliest stages of development.
- The **Hillman Innovations in Care Program** supports mature programs with strong preliminary evidence.
- The **Hillman Innovation Dissemination Program**, which helps successful programs with an established evidence base to scale nationally, accepts proposals by invitation only.

More on the Hillman Innovations in Care Program
Launched in 2014, the **Hillman Innovations in Care (HIC) Program** is one of the Foundation’s defining initiatives and seeks applications from nursing-driven, evidence-based, patient- and family-centered initiatives that challenge conventional strategies, improve health outcomes, lower costs, and show potential for national replicability. The HIC program offers two three-year grants of up to $600,000 each.

For full details of the HIC program, please click [here](#).

More on Hillman’s two Emergent Innovation programs
RAHF offers two grantmaking programs for emerging ideas: the **Hillman Emergent Innovation (HEI) Program** and the **Hillman Serious Illness and End of Life Emergent Innovation (HSEI) Program**. Both seek bold, early stage, or untested interventions that address health challenges faced by vulnerable populations and award as many as five one-year grants of $50,000 each.
For full details, please click here for the HEI program and here for the HSEI program.

Who should apply
The Foundation believes that transformative ideas are as likely to come from community health clinics as they are from major academic research centers and welcomes applications from organizations across the spectrum of care and from practitioners with a range of backgrounds (including nurse clinicians, researchers, postdocs, and adjunct faculty).