



2024 ACS Green Chemistry Institute Pharmaceutical Roundtable Research Grant for Data Science and Modeling Tools to Advance Green Chemistry & Engineering

The [ACS Green Chemistry Institute Pharmaceutical Roundtable](https://gci.acs.org) (GCIPR) is a partnership between the ACS Green Chemistry Institute® and companies in the pharmaceutical and allied industries committed to integrating the principles of green chemistry and engineering into synthesis and production. Current members are AbbVie, Amgen, AstraZeneca, Bayer, Biogen, Biohaven, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Lilly, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd., Gilead, GlaxoSmithKline, Ipsen, Johnson & Johnson, Merck & Co., Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Neurocrine, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Sanofi, Takeda, UCB Pharma, Vertex, and the ACS Green Chemistry Institute. Associate members are Ampac Fine Chemicals, Asymchem, Axplora, Bachem, CatSci, Codexis, Hikal, Hovione, InnoSyn, PharmaBlock, Pharmaron, Polypeptide, PHT International Inc., Porton, Sai Life Sciences, Solara Active Pharma Sciences Ltd., STPharm, and WuXi AppTec. Affiliate members are Corteva Agriscience, FMC and Zoetis.

The ACS GCI Pharmaceutical Roundtable is seeking a one-year R&D commitment to assist the Roundtable's green chemistry initiative to advance green chemistry and engineering with data science and modeling tools. Proposals are invited from public and private institutions of higher education worldwide. This collaborative project is intended for a student within the selected Principal Investigator's research group. One grant is planned to be awarded and the total award is limited to \$80,000 for a grant period of 12 months. Interested PIs are required to provide a written proposal describing the investigator's capability to carry out the Roundtable's proposed research. Deadline for receipt of proposals is **May 17, 2024, at 5 p.m. EST**. All submissions must be made in our application portal: <https://gci.acs.org>. The Principal Investigator with the selected proposal will be notified by **September 1, 2024**. It is expected that research will commence in the principal investigator's lab no later than **October 2024** and last 12 months.

Requirements for Submission

Proposals will only be accepted from public and private institutions of higher education. The grant is not limited to institutions in the United States. Proposals must be submitted in our application portal <https://gci.acs.org> through the appropriate institutional office for external funding. For international submissions, if there is no comparable office, submit a PDF of a letter signed by an appropriate university official recognizing the terms of the grant.

Detailed Project Description

Predictive *in silico* tools have the potential to revolutionize the way scientists approach chemical challenges and accelerate the identification of sustainable technology. These tools can be used to identify new and more sustainable chemical processes and materials. For example, machine learning models can be trained on large datasets of chemical reactions to identify patterns and relationships between reaction conditions and outcomes that enable more efficient and sustainable production of active ingredients throughout the industry. This grant seeks to support research that advances green chemistry and engineering with data science and modeling tools.

Some opportunities in this space were highlighted in a recent perspectives article (Org. Process Res. Dev, 2023, 27, 11, 1868-1879).

Project Goal

The research would lead to the development of computational tools that empower users to effectively design, implement, and evaluate green processes with reduced process mass intensity, waste, health and safety impact, and other aspirational improvements. Innovative proposals for new tools, technology and models will be considered and could include topics such as:

- Predictive tools for designing greener or safer reagents, processing conditions, or reaction outcomes, including retrosynthetic and reaction optimization tools and models.
- AI platform technologies that have wide application across the pharmaceutical industry or have been used in the development of a drug on significant scale, including tools that aid manufacturing and unit operations.
- *In silico* approaches that minimize/reduce experimentation to arrive at superior reaction conditions.

The research can be focused on the development of algorithms and/or software tools. All inventions that innovatively leverage machine learning/data science and other computational modeling techniques are in scope. The research should be applicable to a wide range of chemical reactions or processes within the pharmaceutical enterprise and related industries, ensuring its versatility for various green chemistry challenges. Additional considerations, such as a user-friendly interface, ease of adoption, and accessibility for numerous stakeholders should be included and will be considered.

Project Timeline

It is expected that one year of research support will be sufficient to provide progress toward intended goals.

Proposal Format

Please be prepared to provide the following information in the application portal:

1. Name and email of grant officer
2. Name, title, phone, email and address of the Principal Investigator
3. Project Title
4. Research Group website
5. PDF of Proposed Plan of Work (*2 pages, 12 pt font, 1-inch margins*)
 - Objectives: Briefly state the project objectives
 - Project Approach: Include specific aims and investigations planned
 - Proposed milestone deliveries with brief description of the manner in which the researcher intends to achieve them
 - Brief description of the PI's research facilities and summary of the student's (undergraduate, graduate student and /or postdoc) capabilities to perform the proposed work

- References (does not count toward your page limit)

Note: The PI should list any existing background intellectual property and/or collaborations they are aware of that might limit the freedom to operate any of the results arising from any research funded by ACS GCIPR. The priority of the Roundtable is to encourage research utilizing reaction conditions that are commercially available with the freedom to use.

6. PDF of Detailed Estimated Budget: The total amount requested would include all direct costs, student assistantships, etc. The total award is limited to \$80,000 for a grant period of up to 12 months.
 - Institutional overhead costs (indirect costs) should not be more than 10% of the total budget.
 - Post-doctoral associate salary and benefits are supported.
 - Student stipend and benefits are supported. Proposals for support of advanced graduate students are highly favored.
 - PI salary supplements will not be supported.
 - Laboratory supplies and instrument use charges are supported.
 - No funds may be allocated for travel, equipment purchase or repair, or administrative support.
7. Curriculum Vitae of Project Team Members: Please submit a curriculum vitae of each project team member (up to two pages per team member, combined into one document). This does not count toward your page limit.

Report Requirements

- Progress reports or updates are due monthly or bi-monthly from initiation of research and will be discussed in arranged web-conferences. Reports will be shared with the member companies of the Roundtable.
- Reports are to include research milestones/significant outcomes, summary of progress to date noting any deviations from the proposal, and research plans for upcoming months.
- A final comprehensive report is due one month after the end of the grant period. This report must be submitted as a PDF document electronically to gcipr@acs.org. In addition, the content of the report should be targeted for publication in a peer-reviewed technical journal. The paper will be co-authored by the principal investigator and student(s) performing the work with the guidance of member companies of the ACS GCIPR.

Intellectual Property, Publication Acknowledgement, and Terms of the Grant

- The primary purpose of this grant is the public dissemination of research through publication.

- Every patent, United States or foreign, that results from research funded (in part or in its entirety) by the ACS GCIPR Research Grant shall be immediately dedicated to the public, royalty free.
- Publication of results is expected within 6 months of work completion.
- Each publication prepared in connection with the ACS GCIPR Research Grant shall make acknowledgement in the following manner: “This manuscript was developed with the support of the American Chemical Society Green Chemistry Institute Pharmaceutical Roundtable (www.acsgcipr.org). The ACS GCI is a non-profit organization whose mission is to catalyze and enable the implementation of green and sustainable chemistry throughout the global chemistry enterprise. The ACS GCI Pharmaceutical Roundtable, composed of pharmaceutical and related industries, was established in 2005 to encourage innovation while catalyzing the integration of green chemistry and green engineering in the pharmaceutical industry. The activities of the Roundtable reflect its member's shared belief that the pursuit of green chemistry and engineering is imperative for business and environmental sustainability.”
- Acceptance of a Roundtable Grant will be conditional upon agreement by the grantee institution that in the event the Principal Investigator is unable for any reason to conduct the research proposed, the funds, if previously paid by the Roundtable, shall, upon demand, be returned in full to the Roundtable, and further, that in the event the PI is unable for any reason to continue with the research after it has commenced, this grant shall be terminated forthwith and the unexpended and unencumbered balance of any funds theretofore advanced shall be returned to the Roundtable.
- The grantee institution, by acceptance of this grant, provides assurance that support normally provided by the institution for research of the faculty member will not be diminished.
- Applicants may have only one research grant with the ACS GCIPR at a time. In order to close a grant, the ACS GCIPR must receive and approve the required reports.

For additional information:

Website: www.acsgcipr.org

Email: gcipr@acs.org