Ariadne Labs Spark Grant Program

Request for Proposal

Date of Issue: Friday, February 26, 2021

Ariadne Labs is pleased to announce the kick-off of the application process for the **Ariadne Labs Spark Grant Program for 2021 - 2022.** Ariadne Labs is committed to the pursuit of simple, innovative healthcare solutions that save lives and reduce suffering, and our Spark Grant program is an important generator of new ideas and projects that enable expansion of our mission. This year the Ariadne Labs Spark Grant Committee is offering new options for spark grant funding. Please read the options carefully to determine which is the best option for your idea.

Ariadne Labs Spark Grants
The goal of the Ariadne Labs Spark Grant program is to support early-stage projects of new *interventions* or new *capacities* for solving major problems in healthcare delivery. Each grant project will be actively advised by the Ariadne Labs' Innovation experts, aligned with the methodology of the Ariadne Arc, and integrated into Ariadne Labs' multidisciplinary team approach.

Eligibility: Ariadne Labs Core Faculty and Associate Faculty with Harvard University academic appointments are eligible for this grant.

Option A. Opportunity Identification
- **Time**: 3-6 months (maximum of 6 months)
- **Budget**: up to $60,000 of direct costs.
- There are two options for this track:
    - **Focus 1**: Background Research (Qualitative research, quantitative research, and/or literature/guideline review
        - Required output: Research Paper with practical implementation next steps
        - We invite you to submit ideas that will help advance understanding of gaps in healthcare. Particular attention will be given to those problems that Ariadne Labs is well positioned to address. The research paper *must address* how the gap you identified would be approached through further innovation and design with Ariadne Labs in the future.
        - Key questions to focus on would be:
            - How is this gap novel, important, and urgent?
            - How can it be addressed in a manageable way with a simpler solution or set of innovations?

■ What would it take to put the next steps together?
■ How does this work align with current Ariadne Labs priorities, resources, and methodology?

- **Focus 2**: Human-centered design intensive
  - <u>Required Output</u>: Prototype ready for testing
  - We invite you to submit ideas that build on existing know-do gaps in healthcare. In this case we want to see a clear understanding of the problem and opportunity including identification of a clear early output or outcome to change with a new or improved prototype of a solution.
  - This solution can range anywhere from from a data visualization, new workflow, checklist, communication guide, or other innovative tool.
  - A key focus will be how this prototype would align with Ariadne methodology (Ariadne Arc) and resources (platforms and programs) to ensure an effective early deployment and test as a next iterative step.
  - Another important area to explicitly mention in the application is how this work aligns with Ariadne Labs priorities, resources, and areas of clinical/public health focus.

Option B. Test a solution with promise for scale and spread
- **Time**: Up to one year
- **Budget**: maximum of $100,000 of direct costs
- <u>Required output</u>: data indicating usability and feasibility of the solution
- We invite you to submit models for healthcare improvement that have worked on a smaller scale but have promise to expand them to more patients, people, and populations.
  - For this track we will look for existing early pilot data for early evidence of feasibility and utility in one population.
  - This option is for ideas or solutions that are ready to align with Ariadne resources to take a next, bolder step to test their utility.
  - A clear set of outputs and outcomes must be identified, and a methodology for testing must be developed.
  - Clear indication on how this test would intersect with existing Ariadne clinical/public health areas of focus, and Arc methodology, is necessary.

The application process for both options consists of two rounds: letter of interest and full application (dates and full process below).

If you are interested please submit a 1-2 page Letter of Interest, including preliminary budget numbers and explicit alignment with Ariadne methodology, to Ariadne Labs. The directions and template are below and **due by Monday March 1 at 5pm ET.** Please email all LOIs to sparkgrants@ariadnelabs.org. The Innovation team is available if you would like to workshop ideas or have any questions.

Application Process

Activity	Date
Letter of Interest Due	Friday, March 26th at 5pm ET
Application Candidates Chosen	Friday, April 9th
Full Application Due	Friday, May 6th at 5pm ET
Final Interview	May 2021
Award Notification	June 2021
Spark Grant Project Kickoff	August/September 2021

LOIs will be reviewed by the Ariadne Labs Spark Grant Committee. Candidates will then be invited by April 9th to submit a formal (5 page) application, including timeline, deliverables, and budget due Friday, May 6th at 5pm ET. Final selected candidates will be asked to participate in phone interviews to discuss their applications in early May before grants awarded in May. Spark Grant projects will kick off in late-Summer or early-Fall of 2021.

Letter Of Interest

Directions:
Please use the template on the following page for your LOI to streamline the process. Please limit your LOI response to 1-2 pages, anything beyond two pages will not be considered. You can remove the section directions but please label the sections.

Submit the completed LOI, as well as any questions, to sparkgrants@ariadnelabs.org.

Spark Grant Application Criteria

Ariadne Labs Spark Grant applicants are assessed along four primary criteria. Please consider these criteria as you develop your Spark Grant application and participate in our selection process.

Project Clarity	Potential Impact
- Identifiable problem and hypothesis on solution - Clear sense of where to start - Logical, high level project plan - Metrics to assess progress	- Aligned with Ariadne Labs' mission - Scaled of patient population - Near-term and long-term impact - Potential for paradigm shift in patient care outcomes
Feasibility	Leadership
- Degree of change needed to improve patient outcome - Potential for stakeholder support - Resources required for project - Potential for additional funding	- Depth of program understanding - Relevant skills and experience - Ability to lead and manage projects - Alignment with Ariadne Labs' approach and community

Spark Grant LOI Template- March 2021

Project Title	
Proposed By	
Harvard School Affiliation	
Home Institution	
Option (A1, A2, B)	

Problem: What is the major problem in healthcare delivery you plan to address (including patient population that will be affected)?

History: Please include a brief history of your work and how it informs the project you plan to accomplish at Ariadne Labs.

Objectives: How do you plan on achieving the goal of your project? Consider the focus of the grant you are applying for and how you will deliver on the requested output.
- A-1: Qualitative, quantitative, or background research: Research Paper
- A-2: Human-centered design intensive: Prototype ready for testing
- B: Test a solution with promise for scale and spread: data indicating usability and feasibility of the solution

Alignment: How would this work align with Ariadne Labs' methodology (Ariadne Arc) and resources (platforms and programs)? Please see our website (www.ariadnelabs.org, and specific links) for more information on the Arc and the resources available at Ariadne Labs.

Needs: Please include a preliminary idea of any staff or resources you will need and any that you already have, and an estimate of the total project budget. Please note Spark Grants can only cover salaries up to the NIH cap. (Ariadne Labs Innovation Platform is available to help estimate costs, email sparkgrants@ariadnelabs.org).

Risks/Challenges: What do you foresee as being the biggest obstacle(s) that could affect the outcome or adoption of your objectives?

Additional Information: Is there any additional information that we should know?