

FY27 Weill Cornell Medicine
Dean's AI to Advance Medicine Initiative Fellowship Program (FAIMI) – Research Projects

1. Program Description

Artificial intelligence is transforming nearly every aspect of medicine, including research, education, and clinical care. Weill Cornell Medicine is committed to becoming a global leader in the responsible development and deployment of AI technologies to accelerate our missions.

The FAIMI Program will support innovative projects that demonstrate strong potential to advance AI-enabled biomedicine. All departments, centers, institutes, and divisions across WCM are encouraged to apply.

Examples of responsive project areas include, but are not limited to:

- Agentic AI in research/healthcare workflows
- AI-enabled patient engagement and digital health
- AI-enabled precision medicine
- AI for clinical trials and evidence generation
- AI for healthcare operations and workflow optimization
- AI for reproducible biomedical science
- AI tools supporting biomedical research and scientific discovery
- Biomedical foundation models
- Clinical AI and decision support systems
- Generative AI and large language models for healthcare
- Multimodal biomedical AI
- Responsible AI, fairness, explainability, safety, governance, and evaluation

Projects should demonstrate a clear pathway toward future external funding, deployment, commercialization, or institutional impact.

2. Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria for research projects are listed below.

- Applicants must hold an MD, PhD, MD/PhD, or equivalent doctoral degree and seek additional research training under the supervision of a sponsor or sponsors with the intent of embarking on an independent research career.
- Applicants can be Senior Postdoctoral Fellows, Instructors or Assistant Professors, based full-time at Weill Cornell Medicine. Faculty members and staff with primary employment at affiliate institutions (including NYP, WCM-Qatar, HSS, MSKCC, Houston Methodist Hospital, Memorial Hospital and Burke Neurological Institute) are not eligible to apply.

For specific questions regarding eligibility or application materials for research project applications, please contact deans-ai-grants@med.cornell.edu.

3. Award Information

- **Amount:** Anticipated number of awards: 3/year with \$50,000 each
- **Funding period:** 12 months (1/1/2027-12/31/2027)
- **Application Due:** October 31, 2026. 11:59:50 PM US Eastern Time.

- **Notification:** December 15, 2026

Allowable Costs

Funds should be used for personnel effort support only. No indirect cost is allowed.

Support needs on data, compute, software should be clearly stated in the application. The review committee will investigate feasibilities for institutional subsidy.

4. Application Requirements

Applications should be submitted as a single PDF and include the followings.

- **NIH Biosketches:** NIH-format biosketches for all key personnel.
- **Current and Pending Support:** For the Principal Investigator.
- **Budget and Budget Justification:** Detailed budget for the one-year funding period.
- **Letter of Support:** One letter from the Department Chair, Division Chief, Center Director, or Institute Director stating the following:
 - The level of protected time for doing the project;
 - The significance of the proposed project;
 - Institutional support and available resources;
 - Alignment with institutional priorities.
- **Research Proposal (Maximum 5 Pages, single spaced, 1-inch margins, font no smaller than 11 pt):** The proposal should address:
 - Problem Statement: Describe the biomedical/healthcare challenge being addressed.
 - Innovation: Describe the novelty of the proposed AI solution and how it advances the current state of the art.
 - Project Plan: Provide a detailed description of the following:
 - Feasibility/Prior experience
 - Data sources
 - AI methodology
 - Evaluation Plan
 - Deployment or implementation plans (if applicable)
- **Expected Deliverables:** Describe anticipated outputs such as:
 - Preliminary data
 - Prototype systems
 - Publications
 - Software tools
 - Datasets
 - Pilot system
- **Milestones:** Provide quarterly milestones and measurable go/no-go criteria.
- **Team:** Describe the expertise and contributions of all project personnel.

- **Future Sustainability:** Describe plans for:
 - External grant submissions
 - Industry partnerships
 - Commercialization opportunities
 - Institutional implementation

5. Review Criteria

Research project applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria.

- **Significance and Impact**
 - Importance of the problem being addressed
 - Potential impact on biomedical discovery, clinical care, healthcare operations, population health and biomedical education.
- **Innovation**
 - Novelty of the proposed methods
 - For education projects
- **Scientific and Technical Merit**
 - Rigor of study design
 - Feasibility of execution
 - Appropriateness of methods
- **Team and Environment**
 - Expertise of the investigative team
 - Strength of collaborations
 - Availability of necessary resources
- **Translation and Sustainability**
 - Potential for future funding
 - Potential for implementation, deployment, or commercialization

6. Reporting Requirements

Awardees will be required to participate in an award panel in the Dean's AI lecture series after the project concludes to report the final outcome and discuss future plans.

7. Application Submission

Applications should be submitted electronically as a single PDF file to:

deans-ai-grants@med.cornell.edu.

File naming convention:

PI_LASTNAME_FAIMI_2027.pdf

Email subject should be “2027 FAIMI Application”.

8. Program Oversight

The FAIMI Program is administered by the Weill Cornell Medicine Dean’s AI to Advance Medicine Initiative. A multidisciplinary committee with expertise spanning artificial intelligence, clinical medicine, biomedical research, implementation science, entrepreneurship, healthcare innovation and education will peer-review applications.