

## Dates

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**Internal Submission Deadline:** Friday, May 16, 2025

## Details

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<b>Administrator(s):</b>	Aneesh Ramaswamy (Owner) Aleksandar Zivic
<b>Category:</b>	Step 1
<b>Cycle:</b>	Triannual/Ongoing
<b>Discipline Subject/Area:</b>	Health, Health Science, Public Health, Biomedical Sciences, Biomedical Engineering
<b>Number of Applications Allowed per Applicant:</b>	Unlimited
<b>Number of Possible Awardees</b>	9
<b>Total Funding:</b>	\$450,000
<b>Funding Source(s):</b>	\$450,000 - Clinical and Translational Science Institute
<b>Award Range:</b>	\$10,000 - \$25,000
<b>Will any funds be matched?:</b>	No

## Description

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### The Pitt Un-Challenge: In uncertain times, we'll say yes to anything!

Give us your **un**conventional, your **un**charted, your **un**precedented ideas to improve health, yearning to be funded.

The Pitt **Un**-Challenge (PUnCh) is here to fund the boldest ideas to improve health - ideas that don't fit the usual mold. We're offering over \$1 million in total support, starting with \$450,000 for this first phase, to high-risk, high-reward projects that challenges the status quo of improving human health.

Our approach to fostering these solutions is similarly unusual: No tedious proposals. No red tape. Just your boldest idea, **a press release**, and the chance to make it real.

If you're ready to finally pursue that innovative idea that never fit into the traditional categories, we want to hear it.

Bring it **un**!

*Operated by the Pitt Office of Multidisciplinary Innovation in the Health Sciences, and the Pitt Clinical and Translational Science Institute.*

The primary goal of **Phase 1 awards** is to **validate the problem** - step outside of your comfort zone, conduct ethnography with new stakeholders, dive deep into market reports, consult with experts to demonstrate that the *specific* problem you are trying to solve is truly the impediment to improving human health. Awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000 will be made to support up to 6 months of work in this area.

The final deliverables after the Phase 1 award include a 2-minute Problem Pitch Video and Press Release describing the significance and urgency of the problem, and a Business / Mission Model Canvas that identifies the plan to support one of at least three different approaches to address the problem through research and development.

Successful completion of a Phase 1 award makes teams eligible for **Phase 2 - research and development awards** of up to \$150,000.

*Earliest Phase 1 awards may begin by July 1, 2025.*