## Grand Challenge Proposal Template

*Please complete the following sections per the RFP guideline.*

**Restrictions about submitting proposals:**

* Each proposal must be led by an MIT principal investigator. Co-Investigators and Key Personnel from other institutions are allowed and encouraged to collaborate on proposals.
* Investigators from other institutions can collaborate with an MIT investigator but cannot lead.
* Principal investigators (PI) and MIT Co-Investigators (CO-I) must follow the MIT PI Status requirements. Please see: https://couhes.mit.edu/policies-procedures/principal-investigator-status for MIT PI Status information.
* No individual can be a lead PI on more than one proposal.
* Experimentation on animals or animal tissues is not permitted, but use of previously developed animal cell culture models is permitted.
* Experimentation with human-derived embryonic cells is not permitted.
* The lead MIT principal investigator’s academic department will be responsible for submitting the proposal into the KC proposal system.  Lead MIT principal investigators or their department administrators should review the RFP instructions in advance of creating a KC proposal, found at <https://cbi.mit.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Instructions-for-DLCs.pdf>

Please feel free to reach out to [cbi@mit.edu](mailto:cbi@mit.edu) with any questions.

**Cover Page**

# Application for Support from The Coca-Cola Company for the Grand Challenge to Provide Alternatives to Sugar

# Request for Proposals

# Issue Date: January 2024

Name:

**Contact Information** (Please provide the following information for each Principal Investigator. Please list MIT PI and Co-Investigators only. All others are to be listed in Summary Proposal Information under Other Key Personnel.)

Title:

Department, Division, Center and/or Laboratory:

Telephone number:

Email address:

MIT room number:

## Summary Proposal Information

Title of proposal:

Requested period of performance: (Recommended not to exceed two years, 1 year preferred)

Requested start date: (Earliest start date August 15th, 2024)

Requested end date:

Total funding requested: (Attach the provided budget page in appended format)

Estimated budget for First Year:

Other Key Personnel (Name, project designation such as CO-I or collaborator, university. and department, title)

## Abstract (If selected these abstracts may be published, 200-word limit)

## 

# Research Proposal Narrative

1. **Objective & Specific Aims** *(no more than 1 page)*

Provide the background and significance of the proposed research.

This may include:

* Big picture relevance
* Problem the research will address (gap in knowledge / critical need)
* Hypothesis (why is this innovative)
* Specific Aims(what will be accomplished)

*Please enter information on starting on page 7*

1. **Background and Significance** *(no more than 1 page)*

Provide a description of known supporting information related to relevance, problem to be solved and innovative approaches to be used or developed.

This may include:

* Review of key findings from relevant literature
* Description of preliminary results
* A more detailed description of the short- and long-term benefits of the proposed research

*Please enter information on starting on page 7*

1. **Approach & Proposed Research:** *(no more than 4 pages)*

Provide a description for the overall approach, key features of the experimental design, and a tangible plan for accomplishing the specific aims.

This may include:

* Overall strategy
* Description of Tasks of each Aim or Sub-Aim
* Limitations
* Alternative methods / De-risking Strategies
* Key Controls
* Figures for helping to explain concepts or methods.

*Please enter information on starting on page 7*

1. **Required Tables and Figures:**

*Please enter information on starting on page 7*

* 1. **Table: Aims, Tasks, Timing, Responsibility**

To provide an understanding of how these Specific Aim will be accomplished, please also provide a table with:

* + A short description of tasks /subtasks (What will be done)
    - *Note: Full description should be provided in the Approach & Proposed Research section.*
  + Expected timeline for the tasks & milestones (When)
    - *Note: If a proposed project is over 1 year, there should be a yearly Go/NoGo decision point for the project included with a description of what defines success. Final language for the decision point will be negotiated before selected proposals are converted into research contracts.*
    - *Recommendation: The project duration of 2 years or less. Shorter exploratory projects that are 1 year in duration are encouraged and may be eligible additional funding upon completion.*
  + Responsibility: which lab(s) are involved in the task (Who)

**EXAMPLE:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Specific Aim1: [ Short Description] | Timeline  (months) | [Lab 1] | [Lab2] |
| Task 1: [ Short Description] | 1-6 | X | X |
| Sub-task 1.1: [Short Description] | 1-3 | X |  |
| Sub-task 1.2: [Short Description] | 3-6 | X | X |
| Milestone 1 | 6 |  |  |
| Specific Aim 2: [ Short Description] | 6-12 | X |  |
| Sub-task 2.1: [Short Description] | 6-7 | X |  |
| Sub-task 2.2: [Short Description] | 8-12 | X |  |
| Milestone 2 & 3: | 12 |  |  |

* 1. **Table: Milestone, GO/NoGo Decision, Deliverables, & Timing,**

To provide a concise description of what will be delivered at each milestone.

Milestone may include but are not limited to:

* Development of a key learning
* Completion of the development of a method or assays
* Production of material
* Completion of data collection and/or analysis
* Recommendation

**EXAMPLE:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Milestone No.** | **Deliverable Description** | **Due Date**  (Month of program) |
| 1 | [Description] | 3 |
| 2 | [Description] | 7 |
| 3 | [Description] | 12 |
| Go/NoGo \*\* | [Description of decision point, it must include a suggestion for definable metrics that indicates success] | 12 |
| 4 | [Description] | 18 |

\*\* The Go/NoGo Decision is for the project and not for Specific Aims, Task or Subtasks.

* 1. **Chart: Gantt Chart relating Aims, Tasks, Milestone, and Go/NoGo Point to timing**

To provide a clear view of the project timeline, we are requesting a Gantt chart with the Aims, Tasks, Milestone, and Go/NoGo Points.

**EXAMPLE:**

**A table with numbers and symbols

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**

# Research Proposal Narrative

1. **Objective & Specific Aims** *(no more than 1 page)*
2. **Background and Significance** *(no more than 1 page)*
3. **Approach & Proposed Research:** *(no more than 4 pages)*
4. **Required Tables and Figures:**
   1. **Table: Aims, Tasks, Timing, Responsibility**
   2. **Table: Milestone, GO/NoGo Decision, Deliverables, & Timing,**
   3. **Chart: Gantt Chart relating Aims, Tasks, Milestone, and Go/NoGo Point to timing**

## Other Required Information

## Resources

## Visiting Scientists (Name, employer, title) If none, please state “none”

## Research Team and Collaborations

## Potential Conflicts of Interest: Yes No

## Background IP: If none, please state “none”

## References

## Budget and budget justification (attach file(s) to the end of the proposal)

## Funding may be requested for up to a two-year period of performance, in six-month increments.