



**BIOHEALTH
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT**
UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTPELLIER



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

from the Long-Term Thematic Program

**" Highlighting the Exploration of living systems:
Analysis at high spatial and temporal resolution "**
PTL – HiLight

2026 Research Support by the University of Montpellier



The primary goal of the PTL HiLight is to **develop, integrate, and apply groundbreaking technologies and methodologies to advance our understanding of living systems**. This will be achieved by fostering a network of interactions and collaborations among members of the Bio-Health cluster.

In 2026, the theme supported by the PTL HiLight is **“Developing multiparametric approaches.”** The objective is to develop methods that measure multiple parameters from the same sample and reveal how these systems interact, providing an integrated view of a complex biological process, either within a single level of observation or across multiple observational scales.

This program is open to all research units within the Bio-Health cluster of the University of Montpellier (see the table at the end of the document).

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: TWO PROJECT CATEGORIES

The call aims to support two types of projects (max 3 years):

1. **YRP: Young Researcher Project** – Seed funding for an exploratory project led by a researcher with a permanent position hired within the past 8 years (*i.e.*, after January 1, 2018).
 - Maximum funding: €80,000
2. **CRP: Collaborative Research Project** – Ambitious, multidisciplinary research project involving at least 2 different research units of Montpellier BioHealth cluster and led by a researcher with a permanent position
 - Maximum funding: €300,000

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES (justified)

- Salaries: non-permanent researcher and/or technical staff (IE / IR) recruited within the BioHealth cluster, with less than 3 years of experience. Eligible salary ranges are specified in the budget table of the submission form.
- Operational costs: materials including equipment (unit cost > € 500 and < € 50 000), publication cost, missions
- Master’s internships

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Affiliation of the lead laboratory with the BioHealth cluster
- Alignment of the project with the specificity of the call
- Multidisciplinarity: Collaborations between research units of Montpellier BioHealth cluster or those involving development with a platform are mandatory for CRPs and encouraged for YRPs
- Independence of the young researcher from the team leader (for YRPs only)
- Originality and novelty of the methodological development
- Ambition of the project
- Feasibility
- Clarity of the proposal
- Quality of partners’ CVs: publications, funding, invitations to conferences...
- 2025 awardees (CRP and YRP) are not eligible.
- Recipients of ongoing ERC-type fundings or Impulscience grants are not eligible.
- In the event of multiple applications to the YRP program from the same institute, only one project per institute will be funded

APPLICANT COMMITMENT

- Follow the University's publication signature charter and mention the reference to HiLight PTL funding in all scientific productions and presentations (poster and oral communication)
- Include logo of the University of Montpellier and BioHealth cluster in all communications
- Submit a final report within three months after the end of the project

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Proposals must be submitted in **English** as a PDF file using the provided template. They should be sent via email to the HiLight PTL administrative manager, Laure Bourbon, at laure.bourbon@umontpellier.fr, by **15 April 2026 (1:00 PM, Paris time)**.

SELECTION PROCESS

Application deadline: **15 April 2026**, 1:00 PM, Paris time

Selection: April-June, 2026

Notification: July, 2026

Start date: January 2027

RESEARCH UNITS OF THE BIOHEALTH CLUSTER:

BCM	BioCampus Montpellier
BC2M	Biocommunication en Cardio-Métabolique
CEMIPAI	Centre d'études des maladies infectieuses et pharmacologie anti-infectieuse
CBS	Centre de Biologie Structurale
CRBM	Centre de Recherche en Biologie cellulaire de Montpellier
DEFE	Développement Embryonnaire, Fertilité et Environnement
DMEM	Dynamique du muscle et métabolisme
EuroMov DHM	EuroMov Digital Health in Motion
IDESP	Institut Desbrest d'Epidémiologie et de Santé Publique
IGH	Institut de Génétique Humaine
IGMM	Institut de Génétique Moléculaire de Montpellier
IGF	Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle
IMAGINE	Initial Management and prevention of acute orGan failures IN critically ill patiEnts
INM	Institut des Neurosciences de Montpellier
INTERTRYP	Interactions Hôtes-Vecteurs- Parasites environnement dans les maladies tropicales négligées dues aux trypanosomatides
IRCM	Institut de Recherche en Cancérologie de Montpellier
IRIM	Institut de Recherche en Infectiologie de Montpellier
IRMB	Cellules souches, plasticité cellulaire, régénération tissulaire et immunothérapie des maladies inflammatoires
LBN	Laboratoire Bioingénierie et Nanosciences
LPHI	Laboratory of Pathogens and Host Immunity
MMDN	Mécanismes Moléculaires dans les Démences Neurodégénératives
PCCEI	Pathogenesis and Control of Chronic and Emerging Infections
PhyMedExp	Physiologie et médecine expérimentale du cœur et des muscles
Sys2Diag	Modélisation et Ingénierie des Systèmes Complexes Biologiques pour le Diagnostic
TransVIHMI	Recherches translationnelles sur le VIH et les Maladies Infectieuses endémiques et émergentes
VBIC	Virulence bactérienne et infections chroniques

