

## Attachment 4: Successful IMAT Awardees Interview Guide

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*My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I'm a member of the project team working with the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to evaluate the Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies (IMAT) Program. NCI is conducting a full-scale evaluation of the IMAT Program. I work for \_\_\_\_\_, a research and evaluation firm in \_\_\_\_\_, charged with the task of conducting this evaluation. We greatly appreciate your willingness to answer a few questions about the IMAT Program and the technology funded by the IMAT award.*

*We realize that your time is valuable, so let's get started.*

### Your Technology Prior to Grant Award

*The first few questions are intended to help us understand the origins of your technology and relationship with other existing technologies.*

**How was the idea for this technology generated? (e.g., was it part of any of your earlier grants?)**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**How did the technology/research you proposed relate to earlier technologies?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Please describe the advantages of this technology/research compared to existing technologies.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**[When you applied for the grant] What did you envision as the eventual outcome of this technology (e.g., how it could be used)?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

### Grant Application Process<sup>1</sup>

*The next few questions are related to the grant application process.*

<sup>1</sup> The evaluation team will prepopulate information where possible using existing data sources such as the individual's summary statement.

**Describe your experience framing your idea into the context, themes and structure of the IMAT program. Was the process easy or challenging?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Would you have pursued development of this particular technology without IMAT funding?**

Yes       No

**[If yes] What mechanisms or funding sources would you have pursued/used?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**[\*\*If R21 and/or R33\*\*] Did/would you prefer the coupled application process to the current uncoupled application process? Why or Why not?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Please provide any thoughts on your experience in submitting your application to the IMAT program related to clarity of the solicitation.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Please provide any thoughts on your experience in submitting your application to the IMAT program related to the quality of the review process.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Please provide any thoughts on your experience in submitting your application to the IMAT program related to appropriateness of the IMAT program structure and your research goals.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## **Your Technology During Grant Award**

*The next few questions are related to the technology/research you developed during the grant period.*

**Please describe your technology in terms of the novel platforms and chemical methodologies you developed (i.e., what was the new measurement capability that you introduced and what were the new components you developed to make it possible) during the grant period.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Please describe how you advanced the research/technology from the start of the grant to the end of the grant (e.g., did you make specific discoveries that accelerated progress on your project aims?).**

*[Information will be pre-populated from annual progress reports where possible to reduce respondent burden.]*

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**How did the research environment at your organization or institution (e.g., institutional support, other related research activities) impact the development of your technology during the grant?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## **Interactions**

*The next few questions are related to interactions with other researchers outside your organization or department.*

**During the grant period, do/did you use your technology to pursue new research with other departments or centers at your organization?**

Yes       No

**[If so] With whom? [specify name, department, current institution]**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Have you, or did you, collaborate with other organizations outside your current organization to advance the technology during the grant?**

Yes       No

**[If so] With whom? [specify name, department, current institution]**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**[If so] Did these collaborative relationship exist before the IMAT grant?**

Yes  
 No  
 Some, but not all

**Please describe up to three (3) of your most useful collaborative relationships in terms of advancing your technology.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**How were these collaborative relationships initiated?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Do any of your collaborations include colleagues from other disciplines?**

Yes       No

**[If yes] Please specify the relevant disciplines:**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**The annual IMAT PI meeting is intended to be a forum to talk with colleagues and NIH staff to help advance your work and technology. Did you attend the annual PI meeting during your grant period?**

Yes  
 No

**[If yes] What would you recommendation for making the annual PI meeting more useful or productive?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## **Application and Dissemination of the Research/Technology During and After Award**

*These questions are intended to help us identify ways in which your technology is being applied or disseminated.*

**Did you achieve all of the aims specified in your IMAT grant?**

Yes

No

**[If not] What were the challenges you experienced?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Would technical assistance have been useful to you?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Could you describe some ways in which you have been able to apply your research/technology since grant award?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Are you aware of an impact that your activities have had on other researchers in the field?**

Yes

No

**[If so] Please describe.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## Other

*There are three broad and concluding questions left for you.*

**How could NCI further assist investigators in developing or disseminating their research/technologies?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Do you have any additional comments or concerns related to the IMAT program that we did not cover today? [If so] Please explain.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Do you have any questions or concerns related to this interview or the evaluation of the IMAT program?**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

*Thank you for the time and input today.*