FAQs for UoM applicants for the FAPESP-UOM Joint Call for Proposals

Q 1. What is SPRINT and is this different to the previous FAPESP-UoM call for applications?

The São Paulo Researchers in International Collaboration (SPRINT) scheme is a program designed to further promote international collaboration by consolidating a number of FAPESP’s international seed funding calls with foreign institutions. The University of Melbourne commenced association with FAPESP on this scheme in 2014.

Q 2. What is the maximum funding available?

The maximum funding you can apply for from the University of Melbourne is $20,000 for a project spanning 2 years. Your colleague(s) in Sao Paulo can also apply for the equivalent of up to $20,000 in Brazilian Real (as per the exchange rate at time of application) to support their activities over the same period.

Q 3. How is the funding to be split?

Funding will be allocated over 2 years with a maximum of $10,000 available in each year ($10,000 for 2 years = $20,000 total for the UOM applicant). Equal distribution of funding is not required.

Q 4. Do project have to run for 2 years?

No. Projects of shorter duration will be accepted but applicants would only be eligible for the maximum yearly funding of $10,000 from the University (and likewise its equivalent from FAPESP for the Brazilian collaborator).

Q 5. What costs can I include?

You can requests costs to cover research-related mobility expenses.

Q 6. Can I include staff costs?

No. Staff costs are not an eligible item.

Q 7. Who fills in the application documents?

UoM researchers complete the UoM application form available online: http://research.unimelb.edu.au/work-with-us/funding/internal/fapesp and enter the submission into Themis for Head of Department approval. Your Brazilian collaborator submits a corresponding application to FAPESP following FAPESP’s guidelines. Both the UoM and FAPESP applications should have an identical (maximum 5 page) Project Proposal (section I. of the application form).

Q 8. Do I need to include a Collaboration Agreement?

A Collaboration Agreement is not required at time of application. Not having an Agreement will not be a factor in assessment of applications. However, if you are successful, you will need to establish an Agreement in a timely way to ensure funding is available for your Brazilian collaborator. Melbourne Research can assist you with this agreement.
Q 9. Do I need to have a track record of collaboration with my collaborator?

As this is a seeding program there is no need for you to have a track record with the proposed collaborator or Brazil in general. Likewise, established collaborations are not excluded although there must be a clear commitment by you and your collaborator(s) to add further value to collaborative activities.

Q 11. What are the key selection criteria?

Although both the University and FAPESP will have their own criteria for selection successful proposals it is the expectation that all projects will lead to further collaboration including applications for external funding in Australia and Brazil.

Q 12. Are Honorary researchers eligible to apply?

No. Only researchers who are currently employed by the University are eligible to apply.