



March 17, 2025

Dear Sheba ARC Team,

On behalf of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC), I am pleased to express our strongest possible support for Sheba ARC and the expansion of a new campus for innovation, research collaboration, and entrepreneurship in Massachusetts. Based on our conversations with the team, we anticipate this project will provide significant benefits, both to the company and the Commonwealth.

The MLSC is a state economic development agency exclusively focused on supporting and promoting the state's world-leading life sciences ecosystem. Sheba ARC—a nonprofit—and any of its associated for-profit companies aligned with this project may be eligible to access a variety of programs offered by MLSC and benefit from strategic capital investments we have made in innovation, workforce development, and public-private partnerships advancing research and development.

MLSC Tax Incentive Program

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center offers a suite of nine different tax incentives to help offset the significant capital requirements associated with developing and advancing new life science technology. The MLSC tax incentive program is an annual, competitive application. Awards are subject to the approval of the MLSC's Board of Directors and based on net new jobs created. Sheba ARC's proposed new operation aligns with our strategic objectives, including the promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship in the Commonwealth. Subject to board approval of reviewed and successful applications and compliance with the terms of a definitive award agreement, MLSC will commit to award Sheba ARC's associated forprofit companies aligned with this project \$20,000 in incentive tax credits per net new, permanent, full-time equivalent job created in calendar years 2026 – 2030, and retained for three years, up to 250 jobs.

Potential Public Investment: \$5 million

Other Massachusetts Life Sciences Center Programs that could potentially support a Sheba/ARC presence in Massachusetts:

Research Infrastructure

The design of the **Research Infrastructure** program is to provide grants for capital projects that support the life sciences ecosystem in Massachusetts by enabling and supporting life sciences research and development in the Commonwealth.

Up to \$10 million in capital dollars is available to support capital projects ranging from \$1.5 – \$5 million across the state for not-for-profit partners. Applicants will have to demonstrate how the requested infrastructure will benefit the entire life sciences ecosystem in Massachusetts.

Applicants must be a Massachusetts legally organized "not-for-profit" entity such as an academic/research institution, a hospital engaged in research, business incubator or accelerator, or other not-for-profit entity that would be eligible for capital funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to support projects with a prevailing public interest. Institutions that are exclusively

health care providers and/or requests for the purchase of equipment associated with standard healthcare would not be eligible for capital funding.

Potential maximum grant amount: \$5 million

Bits to Bytes

The MLSC launched <u>Bits to Bytes</u> to provide grants for scientific projects that generate and analyze large datasets to answer pressing life science questions, and to attract and train data scientists in the Commonwealth.

As the leading life sciences ecosystem, Massachusetts recognizes that the role of data sciences in life science innovation has rapidly evolved and has the potential to catalyze that innovation at unprecedented rates. Investment in generating well-annotated datasets and training data scientists for life science research is required to sustain Massachusetts's global leadership position in life science research and development.

The MLSC is investing up to \$5 million capital dollars to support equipment at other capital expenses at not-for-profit partners to support projects with a prevailing public interest. Each award will be approximately \$750,000 in funding to solve some of the most pressing life science questions using high throughput approaches generating large datasets.

Potential maximum grant amount: \$750,000

Women's Health Collaboration Program

The <u>Women's Health Collaboration Program</u> is part of the MLSC's <u>Women's Health Initiative</u>. This program supports collaborative projects that aim to improve the discovery, technical innovation, and/or analysis of datasets to answer pressing life science questions around women's health. It incentivizes translational projects that develop novel solutions to treat conditions that solely or disproportionately affect women or have a different presentation between genders. Project teams are to be comprised of not-for-profit applicants collaborating with at least one for-profit Massachusetts life science company. All not-for-profit applicants must be a Massachusetts legal entity such as an academic/research institution, a hospital engaged in research, a business incubator or accelerator, or other not-for-profit entity eligible for capital funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to support projects with a prevailing public interest. Institutions that are exclusively health care providers and/or requests for the purchase of equipment associated with standard healthcare delivery would not be eligible for capital funding.

Potential maximum grant amount: \$750,000

Novel Therapeutics Delivery

The Novel Therapeutics Delivery program fosters the development of novel technologies and techniques for the delivery of existing or innovative therapies by working at the intersection of engineering, biology, chemistry, and medicine. Specifically, it strives to capitalize and incentivize translational projects to address complex challenges in "therapeutic" delivery – from biomanufacturing, to targeted delivery, to biomaterials and more.

Up to \$5 million capital dollars are available for the current program round, with each award anticipated to be up to \$750,000 to support equipment and other capital expenses at not-for-profit partners.

Eligibility criteria include multiple factors, such as applicants must be a Massachusetts legally organized "not-for-profit" entity such as an academic/research institution, a hospital engaged in research, business incubator or accelerator, or other not-for-profit entity that would be eligible for capital funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to support projects with a prevailing public interest. Institutions that are exclusively health care providers and/or requests for the purchase of equipment associated with standard healthcare delivery would not be eligible for capital funding.

Potential maximum grant amount: \$750,000

Neuroscience Consortium

The Neuroscience Consortium funds pre-clinical neuroscience research at Massachusetts academic and research institutions. The MLSC in collaboration with Alzheimer Disease Research Center at Massachusetts General Hospital brings together company partners with researchers focused on understanding Alzheimer's and neurodegenerative diseases to further research and collaboration in the space. Companies that have participated in the Consortium include AbbVie, Biogen, Celgene, General Electric, Lundbeck, Merck, Novartis, and Sunovion Pharmaceuticals (Consortium Members). Nearly \$10 million has been committed by consortium members to fund research through this program.

The consortium thrives off both commitments from biotech companies and applications for innovative translational research. Every year Consortium Members pool their resources to fund the identification and validation of novel targets for the symptomatic treatment and modification of these chronic and debilitating neurological diseases. It is required all proposals be anchored in recognized human disease genetics and pathophysiology, or within pathways of known relevance to human disease, and should be translational, rather than exploratory, to support projects with a prevailing public interest.

Additional future programming, changes to existing initiatives, and funding opportunities expanding support for entrepreneurship and innovation in Massachusetts are expected to become available within the next two years, at which point we would be happy to engage in further discussion on how to best leverage state resources to support Sheba ARC and its significant potential contributions to the life sciences ecosystem and regional economic development.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information or assistance in ensuring Sheba ARC is able to successfully make their next home here in the world's leading life sciences ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Kirk Taylor, M.D.

President and CEO, Massachusetts Life Sciences Center