ICC Center for Cybersecurity / Center for Computing Education Seed Grant Application

We are seeking seed grant proposals focusing on developing Innovative Applications of AI in Cybersecurity or Education. Applications are due December 1, 2026. Selected awardees will be notified within one month. The project period is January 1–June 30, 2027. Please submit your proposal by the deadline to Bo Chen (bchen@mtu.edu) and Yu Cai (cai@mtu.edu). We expect to fund a few seed grants under this call. Because funding is provided primarily by the ICC Center for Cybersecurity (https://www.mtu.edu/icc/centers/cybersecurity/) and the ICC Center for Computing Education (https://www.mtu.edu/icc/centers/computing-education/), eligibility to apply is limited to members affiliated with either of the two centers. Please prepare your application using the following template.

1. Applicant Information

Name:

MTU email:

ICC Center(s):

2. Project Information

Proposal Title:

All PIs and Co-PIs on the project:

Total project value:

Amount requested from this seed fund (max is $3000, but the final funding amount is determined by the award committee):

Total cost share (we encourage cost share from the startup or IRAD account of the PI and Co-PIs):

Summary of the proposed project (required, 500 words max):

How will this project contribute to the goals and mission of the ICC? Please also specify which external funding programs you plan to pursue after obtaining preliminary results from this seed grant (required, 250 words max):

3. Funding Agreement

The ICC's ability to fund requests depends primarily on IRAD return on externally-funded expenditures. Hence, upon receiving funding from the seed grant, it is expected that the PI/co-PIs will submit proposals through the ICC with a total proposed amount significantly exceeding that of the amount requested. Future funding requests will be denied if this agreement is not upheld.

Thank you for your application. All submissions will be evaluated based on merit, alignment with the vision and values of the ICC, the ICC Center for Cybersecurity, and the ICC Center for Computing Education, as well as the applicants' prior contributions to ICC, proposals submitted through the ICC, and overall research activity. Priority will be given to proposals that demonstrate strong potential to develop into externally funded projects or that foster collaboration within the Cybersecurity or Computing Education centers, or across both.