REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Program (GMaP) Pilot Award

Release Date: July 7, 2022
Due Date: September 7, 2022

Pilot Funding in Cancer and Cancer Health Disparities

The Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Program (GMaP) Region 5 (AK, WA, OR, CA, HI, American Samoa, Guam) is focused on advancing cancer and cancer health disparity research and training in our region by supporting the next generation of cancer researchers.

The GMaP Region 5 program is pleased to announce the availability of pilot funds to generate feasibility data for larger research/education projects for early stage investigators in GMaP Region 5 focused on Cancer and Cancer Health Disparities (CHD) research. Pilot projects must fall into at least one of the following categories: (1) Population-based Research, (2) Basic Science Research, or (3) Clinical/Translational Research.

Award Information

- Applicants may request up to $10,000 (total costs).
- Pilot funding supports a 12-month funding period only (October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023)
- Application is due September 7, 2022
- Projects are not renewable and investigators can only be PI on one project.
- Allowable expenses include:
  - Research materials (e.g. project specific supplies, participant stipends, etc.)
  - Research assistants/lab technicians; Consultant fees
  - Core services (e.g. manuscript costs, translation, surveys, graphics, animal models, behavioral measurement and population science, bioinformatics, fluorescence microscopy and cell imaging, flow cytometry, human tissue repository and tissue analysis, etc.)
  - Mileage (e.g. mileage related to this pilot project data collection & dissemination, etc.)

- Non-allowable expenses include:
  - Indirects – It is our expectation, due to the small nature of the funding, that institutions will waive indirects for these pilot funds.
  - Overhead
  - Faculty or administrative staff salary
  - Training (e.g. statistical training, other)

1 Investigators are considered early stage investigators (ESI) if he/she is within 10 years of completing his/her terminal research degree or is within 10 years of completing medical residence (or equivalent).
2 Investigators are considered a new investigator if he/she has not previously competed successfully for a substantial NIH independent research award.
Graduate student tuition
  o Equipment (over $500)
  o Conference Travel (or mileage not related to data collection, etc.)

Eligibility Requirements

- Investigator at an institution within GMaP Region 5.
- Investigator must be early stage (ESI)\(^1\) or New\(^2\) investigator.
- Investigator must intend to apply for funding via one of the CURE mechanisms or similarly competitive, extramurally funded NIH/NCI research project within the next two years (see https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crhd/diversity-training/cure).

Proposal Submission

- An electronic copy of the proposal application should be sent as a PDF file attachment by 11:59 pm PST on September 7\(^{th}\), 2022.
- Proposals must be in at least one of the following categories of focus: Population-based Research, Basic Science Research, or Clinical/Translational Research.
- Proposals should support Cancer and CHD research projects and have the potential to lead to peer-reviewed external funding and publications.
- Proposals must include a one-page career and professional development plan for the ESI, including timeline for application to CURE mechanism or other competitive, extramurally funded mechanism.
- Proposals must include a NIH biosketch.
- Proposals must include a letter of support/recommendation from ESI’s mentor or department chair (one-page limit).
- Proposals must include a Scope of Work (maximum 2 pages) and a detailed budget and justification. Clearly state total costs of this project and describe how funds requested will be allocated within one-year timeframe. Include Federal ID number for site.

Review Criteria and Process

Accepted applications are evaluated for the following:

- Scientific merit
- Potential for the proposal to lead to peer reviewed external funding and publications and competitive extramural funding (e.g. R01, R03, K series, etc.)
- Appropriateness of the career development plan
- Research methods and plans for data collection and analysis are scientifically sound and well-reasoned
- Scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success

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Do the PI and research team have the training and experience needed to carry out the proposed research?
Feasibility to complete work in the proposed time
Appropriateness of budget for the proposed work

The GMaP Region 5 Internal Coordinating Committee (ICC) will conduct a peer-review of the pilot funding applications. The ICC Review Committee members are a diverse group of faculty from GMaP Region 5 partner institutions representing all disciplines of Cancer and Cancer Health Disparities Research. NIH scoring scale will be used, and the scores will guide the selection of awardees.

Awardees’ Obligation

The GMaP Region 5 pilot funding award carries several important obligations and responsibilities. Specifically, award recipients agree to the following:

- Awardees must have appropriate institutional regulatory approvals before funds will be allocated. IRB approvals are not required at the time of submission.
- Awardees must submit, at the six month mark, a three page progress report. This report is submitted via email and describes: 1) pilot project progress and results, 2) budget spent to date and plan for remaining spending, and 3) a description of any challenges experienced and plans to mitigate.
- Awardees must submit, no later than 90 days after the completion of the project, a three-page report. This report is submitted via email and describes: 1) pilot project progress and results, 2) all publications and funding resulting from the project, and 3) future directions (research and career).
- These funds are for one year. It is expected that the grantee will completely utilize the full amount of funding during the one-year term of the award.
- Awardees must acknowledge GMaP Region 5 in any publications or presentations related to their award.

Questions and Submission

Please email any questions and/or the completed Pilot Funding in Cancer and Cancer Health Disparities application, proposal, and budget to the GMaP Region 5 Regional Coordinating Director Sara Cole at scole2@fredhutch.org.

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