REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) FY19 PILOT AWARDS

Supported by the Miami CFAR and Institute of AIDS and
Emerging Infectious Diseases (State of Florida)

Deadlines/Award Timeline
- Speed Review (Optional) **April 4th, 2018**
- Letter of Intent (LOI) due **April 23rd, 2018 by 5pm** (Note: Although not required, the LOI allows us to assess the responsiveness of the RFA and to help identify potential reviewers)
- Pilot Grant Applications due **May 1st, 2018 by 5pm**
- Funding decisions will be announced by May 2018

Purpose

The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) and Institute of AIDS and Emerging Infectious Diseases are now accepting applications for pilot projects in HIV/AIDS research. The purpose of this program is to stimulate new research and collaborations between basic and clinical researchers for generation of supporting preliminary data to increase competitiveness for extramural HIV/AIDS funding. Areas of interests include: AIDS-Associated Malignancies, HIV Prevention and Drug Abuse/Health Equity, HIV and Women, Cure/Reservoirs, Vaccines and Immunology, NeuroAIDS and Co-morbidities and Co-infections. Applications for translational research and emerging concepts will be accepted.

Funds Available/Award Period

Awards of approximately $50,000 each (direct costs only) will be given, with a 1 year project period (approximately June/July 2018-May/June 2019).

Eligibility

Investigators at the rank of Assistant Professor (in the research or clinical tracks) or above are eligible to apply. CFAR gives priority to junior investigators, investigators new to HIV/AIDS and established investigators proposing projects representing a new area of study for them. State of Florida focuses on high impact research that can be completed in a short amount of time, regardless of senior or junior status.   Collaborative projects are encouraged and defined as those involving two or more investigators from different disciplines, and/or different departments. Behavioral science investigators are encouraged to collaborate with clinical and basic scientists. Post-doctoral associates may apply if they have three or more years of experience and are working towards a transition to faculty status. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. We strongly encourage applicants to strengthen their application by including a UM collaborator. Previous CFAR or State awardees are eligible to apply as long as there is no scientific overlap of any projects.

Speed Grant Review Program

The goal of the Speed Grant Review Program is to provide investigators applying for a CFAR/State pilot award with a critique that will increase the likelihood of obtaining funding. Attendees will receive one-on-one feedback on their Specific Aims page from up to 3 University of Miami faculty. Reviewers will be NIH funded researchers with experience as NIH/CDC/PCORI reviewers and with a background in HIV research.

The Speed Grant Review will be held on **April 4th, 2018 t**o enable participants to apply the critique to applications being submitted on **May 1st, 2018**.
- Participants should be investigators planning to apply for a CFAR/State pilot award.
- Participation in this program is voluntary but strongly encouraged for junior and mid-level investigators and those senior investigators new to the area of HIV research.
- Participants should submit a single page draft of their proposed specific aims prior **(due to Patricia Wahl by March 21st, 2018)** to the Speed Grant Review Program for review.

- Each applicant will have 20 minutes of feedback on their application per reviewer; following the 1st reviewer, the applicant will move to the next reviewer.

Speed Grant Review Program Duration (2 hours)
- Introduction of the CFAR mentoring program to Applicants and Reviewers (20 mins)
- Speed review (approx. 1.5 hrs)
- Summary (10 mins)

Space is limited so please contact Patricia Wahl (305-243-3345) pwahl@med.miami.edu **no later than Thursday, March 15th, 2018** if you are interested in participating.

For application information and instructions, go to http://cfar.med.miami.edu/developmental-core/pilot-grants.
Please contact Patricia Wahl (305-243-3345) pwahl@med.miami.edu if any questions**.**

Additional Information
Mentoring is a critical component of the success of the pilot projects. CFAR and State Pilot awardees (assistant professor level, post doc level and any investigator new to HIV/AIDS) are required to have a mentor and include a letter of support from their mentor in their application. The letter will need to detail exactly how the mentor intends to support the pilot awardee. In addition, both mentors and mentees are required to participate in many of the activities organized by the CFAR mentoring program (i.e. speed review, mentoring seminars and workshops) and complete evaluations of the mentoring relationship as specified on the CFAR website http://cfar.med.miami.edu/developmental-core/mentoring-program.

Each applicant will be required to meet with the Biostatistics Core before their final application is submitted in order to review statistical analysis methods. In order to schedule an appointment, please see the Instructions to Application.

CFARs are not allowed to fund clinical research studies that include randomization to one or more low risk interventions to evaluate the effects of those interventions on health-related biomedical or behavioral outcomes Please read over https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-015.html for details.

All funded projects (CFAR and State) are required to use at least one CFAR Core. Please visit the CFAR website http://cfar.med.miami.edu to familiarize yourself with these cores.

THE MIAMI CENTER FOR AIDS RESEARCH

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