



RESEARCH GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Multidisciplinary Collaboration: HIV/AIDS-BASIC

The UCLA Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), AIDS Institute and the UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) are accepting Letters of Intent for seed grant proposals to encourage multidisciplinary collaborations in innovative, unmet, and/or emerging areas of research. Applicants are invited to submit proposals focused in AIDS-related areas that include studies on viral gene expression, host cell interactions, immune responses to HIV, mechanisms of AIDS lymphoma growth, pathogenesis of opportunistic infectious agents, mechanisms of AIDS dementia, drug and vaccine development, gene therapy, studies of viral RNA expression and DNA levels in infected patients and mechanisms of HIV-1 drug and immune resistance, microbicides and mucosal immunology, and stem cell related approaches to HIV/AIDS. **The goal of these grants is to encourage collaborations between multiple disciplines and CTSI institutions and to develop preliminary data for future submissions of program projects or equivalent.**

Funding level: A single, multi-disciplinary project will be funded up to a maximum of **\$200,000** direct costs.
Project period: 2 years (earliest start date, July 1st 2012).

Deadlines

Letters of Intent: **4pm May 1, 2012**
Full Proposal: **4pm June 4, 2012.**

Investigator eligibility

Investigators applying for seed grants must be:

- Faculty (Assistant Research Biologists Step 2 and higher), at UCLA, an affiliated institution, or collaborating community-based organization.
- Junior investigators OR established scientists who want to develop a new research area.

Funding criteria

- Proposed research must involve collaborations between at least 2 faculty members in different disciplines or different fields of study. The role of each collaborator must be clearly outlined.
- Applicants should describe all preliminary data supporting the project.
- Proposals should outline clearly how research funded by the seed grant can be translated into a larger collaborative project, such as a program project or equivalent.
- Only US-based projects will be considered.

Instructions for letters of intent (2 page maximum)

Letters of intent will be reviewed by the AIDS Institute/CFAR and CTSI leaders and applicants notified of the results within 7 days.

Include the following:

- Brief summary of the proposed research project
- Roles of the collaborating investigators
- Brief summary of your experience conducting similar research
- Total amount of funding requested
- How this award would facilitate future submissions of program projects or related types of grants.

Instructions for full proposals

Submit using standard NIH PHS 398 format; (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>)

Specifically, the following forms must be submitted:

- A one-page cover letter, indicating the grant program to which the application is directed.
- Form Page 1: Face Page
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp1.doc>
As this is an internal grant, boxes 12 and 13 are not required.
- Form Page 2: Description, Performance Sites, Key Personnel, Other Significant Contributors, and Human Embryonic Stem Cells
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp2.doc>

***Note: Unlike NIH grants, provide the abstract in lay language.**

We will maintain a file of good applications that are not funded in the event that we identify a source of funding matching the research in the future. These sources may include private foundations/individuals.

The format of the lay abstract should follow these headings:

- Approach
- Significance and Innovation
- Why this proposal would not be funded by conventional funding sources, such as NIH.
- Form Page 4: Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp4.doc>
- Form page 5: Budget for second year and budget justification:
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp5.doc>
Use continuation page for page 2 of budget justification.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/continuation.doc>
- Biographical Sketch Format Page
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc>
- Resources page
<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/resources.doc>
- Research Plan
Use the continuation page template (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/continuation.doc>) for the Research Plan. Follow the format in Section 5.5 of the 398 Instructions, unless otherwise indicated:
 - **5.5.2 and 5.5.3** Specific Aims and Research Strategy –The page limit for both sections combined is 5 pages total.
For the Research Strategy, clearly state the significance of the studies with sufficient methodology and statistical analysis to allow evaluation of feasibility.
 - **5.5.4** Inclusion Enrollment Report
 - **5.5.5** Bibliography and References Cited/Progress Report Publication List
 - **5.5.6** Protection of Human Subjects
 - **5.5.7** Inclusion of Women and Minorities
 - **5.5.8** Targeted/Planned Enrollment Table
 - **5.5.9** Inclusion of Children
 - **5.5.10** Vertebrate Animals
 - **5.5.11** Select Agent Research
 - **5.5.12** Multiple Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) Leadership Plan

- **5.5.13** Consortium/Contractual Arrangements
 - **5.5.14** Letters of Support (e.g., Consultants)
 - **5.5.15** Resource Sharing Plan(s)
- CFAR core facilities are available, on a recharge basis, in these areas: virology, cytometry, humanized mouse, gene and cellular therapy, biostatistics, mucosal immunology, and clinical research facilitation (IRB and patient registry). For contact information, please see <http://aidsinstitute.ucla.edu/site.cfm?id=32>
 - Applicants whose LOIs are accepted are entitled to up to 5 hours of free biostatistical consultation from the CFAR Biostatistics core. In-depth biostatistical analysis will be required only for those seed grants that are deemed likely to be funded.

Requirements for successful applicants

- Provide field of specialization, their NIH Commons ID and IRB and/or IACUC numbers, if applicable, before funds are released.
- Credit the UCLA AIDS Institute, UCLA CFAR, NCCR and NCATS and cite grant numbers UL1TR000124 and 5P30 AI028697 in publications that result from this award.
- Report the following information to the UCLA CTSI and CFAR by Nov. 30th each year: (1) all publications that resulted from CTSI-supported research, with PubMed ID; and (2) all PHS and non-PHS federal support that contributed to the CTSI-supported research. This information should be sent to esondergaard@mednet.ucla.edu.
- Agree to have projects monitored and mentored by the AIDS Institute. A mentor/monitor from the CFAR Consultation Core/Development Core will be assigned to each grant to ensure that it moves along on schedule and that progress is made toward submission of a larger multi-year grant to an extramural funding agency.
- Submit timely progress reports and end of project reports.

Submission Instructions

LOI: Email to UCLA AIDS Institute aidsinst@ucla.edu by 4pm, May 1st 2012. Questions on eligibility can be directed to Dr. Jerome Zack jzack@ucla.edu 310-825-0876

Full Proposals: Email (pdf format preferred) to UCLA AIDS Institute aidsinst@ucla.edu **by 4pm June 4th 2012**. Emails will be sent the following day, confirming receipt. Questions on formatting can be directed to Program Manager Jina Lee aidsinst@ucla.edu