PILOT AWARD APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Collaborative and Multidisciplinary Pilot Research (CaMPR) Awards

Phase I Planning Grant

2014-15
Phase I: Planning Grants for Collaborative and Multidisciplinary Pilot Research (CaMPR)

PHASE I APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2014

AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT: JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2015

The CaMPR program is one of five pilot award initiatives sponsored by the Irving Institute’s Pilot and Collaborative Studies Resource (PCSR). CaMPR’s goals are to:

1. support multi- and interdisciplinary research;
2. train and mentor a new generation of multidisciplinary, translational research investigators; and
3. expand and optimize the utilization of outstanding new and existing resources on CUMC.

OVERVIEW: With these goals in mind, the CaMPR pilot award provides a two-phase funding process to support the formation of newly-configured investigative teams aimed at addressing a significant health problem at the cellular, individual, or community level. In Phase I, four (4) planning grants of $15,000 each will be announced in January/February 2015, to assist in the formation and planning activities of novel, cross-disciplinary research teams involving both senior and junior faculty from at least two of the four CUMC schools. Faculty/Investigators from New-York Presbyterian Hospital (non-MD health professionals) or a school from the Morningside campus may also apply, providing collaborators are from a CUMC school. During each application cycle, only one submission is permitted per principal investigator. Winning Phase I teams will then have four (4) months to prepare a pilot grant submission for competitive internal review (due June 2015). In Phase II, the top two applications that best meet the CaMPR program goals will receive a one-year, $75,000 award to support pilot work with the clear goal of submitting an NIH or other extramural proposal. Instructions for the Phase II application will be provided at the time of the Phase I award.

Phase I. $15,000 Planning Grant Awards (applications due Monday, November 10, 2014)
The purpose of the Phase I award is to fund the planning of an innovative pilot study. NOTE: Proposals to test hypotheses or collect preliminary data are not eligible. Appropriate planning activities include: defining the health problem of interest, assembling the multidisciplinary investigative team, and identifying novel approaches/disciplines to address knowledge gaps. These activities should bring together faculty with expertise from diverse disciplines who have not previously been involved as co-investigators. Applicants are encouraged to include outside consultants with unique experience or expertise in innovative approaches not currently available at CUMC.

Applications for a Phase I planning grant may have a single or multiple principal investigator(s). Each team is limited to eight (8) members. Applications containing more than 8 investigators will be disqualified. Although senior leaders and Resource directors of the Irving Institute may be consulted during the preparation of the application, they should not be included as co-investigators or collaborators. For a list of these individuals please visit: http://www.irvinginstitute.columbia.edu/people/executive_leaders.html
SAVE THE DATE: Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend the CaMPR Planning Workshop, scheduled for Wednesday, October 1, from 11:30a – 12:30p in the Irving Institute Educational Center Classroom (PH-10-405A/B), 622 West 168 Street, Floor 10, Room 405A/B, New York, NY. Please register for this workshop.

APPLICATION DIRECTIONS:
1. All applications must be submitted through the web-based system, http://irvinginstitute.fluidreview.com/.

2. Applicants using FluidReview for the first time should create a new user account using their Columbia University email address. Returning FluidReview users should log into the system using their username and password. Each applicant will need to begin a new CaMPR pilot application submission using the following format for the submission title, “LAST NAME, First Name – 2014-15 CaMPR Phase I Application”.

3. Fill out all parts of the web-based Application Form (contact information for all team members, the project title, abstract, current funding sources, submitted applications, human/animal research approvals, 4-month budget, and budget justification).

   Budget: This one-time award is in the sum of $15,000. Your detailed budget should directly support your protocol. Each item must be justified in the budget justification section of the application form. Expenses may include salary, fringe, supplies, travel, and other general expenses (OTPS). Please note: These are unrestricted funds and do not include indirect costs. Please contact the Irving Institute’s finance director, Ms. Helena Rincón, hr2016@cumc.columbia.edu, with any budgetary questions.

4. Upload the body of the application as a single PDF that does not exceed seven (7) single-spaced, typed pages (11 or 12 point font required; Arial typeface preferred, excluding references). It should include:
   - Aims (1 page)
   - Public Health Significance of the Proposed Study (1 page)
   - Overview of Multidisciplinary Approach – Brief rationale (3 pages)
   - Phase I Planning Activities and Timeline (1 page)
   - Long-term Aims, including plans for future funding (1 page)

5. Upload NIH-style biosketches for each investigator including collaborators and/or consultants, including eRA Commons usernames: Maximum of 4 pages per investigator (including Other Support).

6. Submit the application by selecting the “Submit Your Application” button in the web-based application system, http://irvinginstitute.fluidreview.com/.

For additional information about CaMPR, including Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and examples of winning applications, please visit: http://www.irvinginstitute.columbia.edu/research_ops/faq_campr.html

NOTE: IRB/IACUC approval is not required at the time of application. However, if a candidate is awarded a grant and the project involves the use of data from human and/or animal subjects, an IRB/IACUC approval number must be forwarded prior to receipt of funding. In order to avoid any delays if funding is awarded, candidates are encouraged to apply and obtain IRB/IACUC approval in advance.
REVIEW PROCESS:
Reviewers will use a scoring system based on a 5-point scale and judge each application on the basis scientific merit, multidisciplinarity, planning activities, and alignment with goals and directions of CaMPR.

For any questions about the scientific content, please contact:
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For any questions about the application process and format, please contact:
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(212) 304-5692

NOTE: Qualified applicants should hold a full-time faculty appointment at the level of Assistant Professor/Research Scientist or above.

To learn more about the Irving Institute, please visit: http://irvinginstitute.columbia.edu

To access the Irving Institute’s web based application system, please visit: http://irvinginstitute.fluidreview.com/