

CaMPR-BASIC

COLLABORATIVE and MULTIDISCIPLINARY PILOT RESEARCH

award for

Basic Science and Clinical/Translational Investigators

2012

2012 Irving Institute CaMPR-BASIC Pilot Award Application

With demands to bring new medical cures to the public faster and less expensively, and in light of ever-shrinking research funding sources, the importance of team science is now stronger than ever. In 2006, the Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (Columbia's Clinical and Translational Science Award, CTSA) was charged with helping bridge basic and clinical/translational research to bring effective, efficient strategies into medical practice.

In the interest of building such research teams at CUMC, **applications are being accepted** for a new and novel pilot award initiative—the CaMPR-BASIC program. CaMPR-BASIC derives from our original CaMPR awards program, now in its sixth year, which provides funding opportunities to support the formation of newly-configured investigative teams from different disciplines aimed at addressing a significant health problem at the cellular, individual, or community level.

The original CaMPR program was created by the Irving Institute to: (1) support multidisciplinary research; (2) train and mentor a new generation of multidisciplinary research teams; and (3) expand and optimize the utilization of CUMC's outstanding research resources. Up until now, CaMPR investigators have been almost exclusively based in clinical departments.

CaMPR-BASIC takes the next step towards the development of multidisciplinary teams by offering support for collaborations between researchers from basic science departments from either the CUMC or Morningside campus and clinical/translational investigators on the medical campus.

Applicants to CaMPR-BASIC are required to **form a NEW collaborative team consisting of two Principal Investigators at the level of Assistant Professor**: one from a basic science department and one from a clinical department. A faculty member from the Irving Institute Executive Leadership will be assigned to each selected investigative team to apply for funding and will provide vital mentorship roles, not just for reasons of scientific relevance, but to provide guidance to the PIs relevant to collaboration and translation. If appropriate for the research project, a consultation with the Irving Institute's Regulatory Resource will be required. Additional information about the Regulatory Resource can be found at:

<http://irvinginstitute.columbia.edu/resources/ethics.html>

ELIGIBILITY. The Basic Science PI must hold an Assistant Professor appointment at the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons in one of the following departments: Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Biomedical Informatics, Microbiology and Immunology, Pathology and Cell Biology, Pharmacology, Physiology and Cellular Biophysics, Genetics and Development, and Neuroscience. Assistant Professors in departments at the Morningside Campus, e.g., the Department of Biomedical Engineering, the Department of Chemistry, or the Department of Biology, are also eligible.

The Basic Science PI may choose a clinical investigator from any of the four CUMC schools for the role of the Clinical PI. *The new collaborative team may not have produced any publications together nor shared research funding in the past.*

Research focus should be on PILOT STUDIES that will lead to independent, external funding. These awards are not intended to supplement or overlap with on-going funded research, nor are they meant to support research teams already in existence. The project will be focused at the pre-clinical level, with relevance to a clinical problem. The goal of the program is to bring clinical focus and experience to the pre-clinical research,

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i.e., to ensure that the cell or animal model is appropriate, that the target molecule is specific, and that the pre-clinical approach has potential for significant translation to humans.

Two (2) pilot grants of \$40,000 each will be awarded to the most promising collaborative teams whose research proposal best exemplifies the program goals by embarking in a new direction to address a common problem from both the basic and the clinical/translational research perspectives.

Award Amount: \$40,000

Term of Award: One (1) Year

Funding Start Date: February 1, 2013

Eligibility: U.S. citizenship or permanent residency status is not required.

DEFINITION OF CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

RESEARCH DIRECTED TOWARD HUMAN DISEASES

RESEARCH SHOULD INVOLVE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- DIRECT CONTACT WITH HUMAN SUBJECTS, INCLUDING THERAPEUTIC TRIALS, STUDIES OF GROUPS OF PATIENTS OR CLINICAL OUTCOMES;
- LABORATORY STUDIES OF HUMAN BODY FLUIDS, TISSUES, CELLS OR DEVICES;
- STUDIES IN CELLS OR ANIMAL MODELS OF A DISEASE IN WHICH A THERAPEUTIC APPROACH AND/OR MECHANISM OF DISEASE IS BEING INVESTIGATED.

Evidence from each PI's Department Chair/Research Dean in support of this new research collaboration is *mandatory*.

FIND A COLLABORATOR. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the Irving Institute's **CUSP** tool (Columbia University Scientific Profiles) to seek out potential collaborators in disciplines other than their own and find CUMC investigators who share a common research interest. For example, an investigator interested in 'diabetes' can do a simple word search at:

<http://irvinginstitute.columbia.edu/cusp/>

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APPLICATION PROCESS. CaMPR-BASIC involves a two-phase or two-step application process. Phase I consists of a Letter of Intent due on **Friday, October 26, 2012**. All submitted Phase I Letters of Intent will be reviewed, then the teams selected to move forward in the application process will be notified and required to submit a Full Application by **Monday, December 3, 2012**. Only the teams that are selected to apply for the Phase II Full Application will be eligible to compete for *one of two \$40,000 pilot awards*. The Full Application guidelines for Phase II have been included in this packet to assist in the development of a competitive Phase I Letter of Intent. Please be sure to follow the requirements outlined in the Phase I Letter of Intent section of this document.

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PHASE I: LETTER OF INTENT

- 1) Submit a Letter of Intent by **Friday, October 26, 2012**.
 - a. The Letter of Intent will serve as Phase I of the application process. It should provide the initial basis for the review of both the scientific merit of the proposed study and feasibility of the newly-formed interdisciplinary team. The Letter of Intent should include:
 - i. Project title and team member contact information (1 page)
 - ii. Brief abstract (no more than 300 words)
 - iii. Specific Aims, Rationale, and Brief Description of experimental approach (1-2 pages). Describe the new research collaboration and proposed work in terms of what public health challenge it addresses. In addition, describe how this new collaboration will benefit both PIs, as well as the greater CUMC community.
 - iv. NIH-style biosketches and contact information for team members.
 - b. Applicants are required to **discuss their intent to apply to this program with their Department Chair/Research Dean well in advance of application submission. Signatures of approval from both investigators' Department Chair/Research Dean are required** on the Title Page.
 - c. Up to four teams with the most compelling Letters of Intent will be selected to submit Phase II Full Applications.
- 2) **Convert the entire Letter of Intent packet into a single PDF file that must be submitted electronically no later than 5:00pm, Friday, October 26, 2012, to:**

Michelle McClave
Communications Coordinator
Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
Email: mm3098@columbia.edu

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PHASE II: FULL APPLICATION (ONLY TO BE SUBMITTED AFTER PHASE I SELECTION IS ANNOUNCED)

- 1) Prepare all parts of this Phase II Full Application (including contact information; current funding sources; grant applications submitted or under review; 12-month budget; budget justification; and a reaffirmation of approval from your department chair/research director. Attach the Study Protocol and NIH-style biosketches for all team investigators, including eRA Commons usernames. (For your convenience, application templates are appended to this document.)
- 2) The Study Protocol may not exceed five (5) single-spaced, typed pages (11 or 12 point font required; Arial typeface preferred), excluding references. The Protocol will be judged on the basis of each team's response to the following questions and should include:
 - a. Goals: What are you planning to do?

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- b. ***Rationale:*** Why is it worth doing? Justify the specific strengths of the investigative team (i.e. describe the specific roles of the lead investigators). How is the proposed work interdisciplinary? What is innovative about your collaboration?
- c. ***Methods:*** How will the study be conducted?
- Include a discussion on statistical analysis, e.g., size, power, controls, analysis of data.
 - We strongly encourage applicants to seek consultation with relevant Irving Institute Resources prior to submission of this proposal (e.g., Design & Biostatistics, Regulatory and Ethics, Community Engagement, Biomedical Informatics). *Note that requests for Irving Institute Resources to help with grant submissions MUST be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the proposal due date; otherwise, a request for consultation could be delayed or possibly denied.* Requests must be made online at the following URL: <http://irvinginstitute.columbia.edu/>. Our Service Request form can be found by clicking any one of three buttons on our Web site – **RESOURCES, RESEARCH or LINKS**, and then selecting **SERVICE REQUESTS**. To access these services and log in your request, a Columbia UNI, password and eRA Commons Username are required.
 - Delineate needs for staff, facilities and/or services of the Irving Institute that will be requested/used/needed for carrying out the proposed work
- d. ***Future Plans:*** What is the next step after receiving pilot funding?
- What specific grant application(s) do you plan to submit and when? Provide a detailed plan and timeline for grant applications to the NIH, private foundations, or other external funding sources. *This response will be heavily weighted.*
- e. ***References:*** No more than fifteen (15).
- f. ***NIH-style biosketch for each investigator:*** Maximum of 4 pages per investigator (including Other Support).
- 3) Budget: This one-year, one-time award is in the sum of \$40,000. Your detailed budget should directly support your protocol. Each item must be justified in the budget justification section of the application. Expenses may include salary, equipment, computer costs, etc., but the justification must be clearly stated.
- 4) Reviewers will use a scoring system based on a 5-point scale and judge each application on the basis of scientific merit, multidisciplinaryity, potential impact of the pilot findings, and potential of the junior investigator for independent research career.
- 5) For any questions about the application content, please contact the Director of the Irving Institute's Pilot and Collaborative Studies Resource, Dr. Nancy Reame, at nr2188@columbia.edu or (212) 305-6761.

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NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN THE PROPOSAL BEING RETURNED WITHOUT REVIEW.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS WITH SENIOR FACULTY MEMBERS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION. IN ADDITION, A SIGNATURE FROM BOTH PIs' DEPARTMENT CHAIR/RESEARCH DEAN MUST BE INCLUDED.

DO NOT INCLUDE APPENDICES.

PILOT AWARD WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN FEBRUARY 2013.

FUNDING WILL BE AVAILABLE ON FEBRUARY 1, 2013.

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PROJECT TITLE:

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSAL: (use only space provided below – minimum 11 point font)

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ALL CURRENT SOURCES OF RESEARCH FUNDING (include begin/end dates and total direct costs)

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PENDING APPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH FUNDING (include proposed begin/end dates and total direct costs)

12-MONTH BUDGET (FEBRUARY 1, 2013 to January 31, 2014)	
SALARIES with FRINGE:	
SUB-TOTAL	\$
EQUIPMENT:	
SUB-TOTAL	\$
ALL OTHER EXPENSES:	
SUB-TOTAL	\$
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	\$

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DETAILED BUDGET JUSTIFICATION: (use only space provided – minimum 11 point)

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SIGNATURES OF APPROVAL

- A.** I certify that the information presented in this proposal is, to the best of my knowledge, complete, accurate, and developed according to practices commonly accepted within the scientific community.

Signature of PI #1 – Basic Sciences

Date

Signature of PI #2 – Clinical/Translational Research

Date

- B.** I have reviewed this application and recommend that it be submitted. Furthermore, I hereby take responsibility for ensuring that the necessary space, personnel, and facilities which are mentioned in the application pertaining to my Department will be available for this project should it be funded.

Signature of Research Dean (PI #1 – Basic Sciences)

Date

Signature of Department Chair (PI #2 – Clinical)

Date