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

Phase I Application Due Date
Monday, September 12, 2011

Award Announcement
Monday, November 14, 2011

The CaMPR program is one of three 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 C/T 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 on or around November 14, 2011, 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. In addition to the collaboration across schools, proposals from teams of basic science and clinical investigators will be viewed as more competitive. Winning Phase I teams will then have four (4) months to prepare a pilot grant submission for competitive internal review (due March 2012). 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, September 12, 2011)

The purpose of the Phase I award is to fund the planning of an innovative pilot study. 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, or are embarking on new, unrelated collaborations. Applicants are encouraged to include outside consultants with unique experience or expertise in innovative approaches not currently available at CUMC.

SAVE THE DATE: Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend the CaMPR Planning Workshop, scheduled for Wednesday, July 20, 2011, from 1:00 – 2:30p in the Irving Institute Conference Room (PH-10-204), 622 West 168 Street, Floor 10, Room 204, New York, NY.
Applications for a Phase I planning grant may have a single or multiple principal investigator(s). A brief proposal of no more than seven (7) total pages is due by the close of business on Monday, September 12, 2011, with the expectation that the selected collaborative planning teams will be announced on November 14, 2011. In addition to the application, an NIH-style biosketch for each investigator must be included, along with a simple budget. (Please note: These are unrestricted funds and do not include indirect costs. The proposed budget may include salary, fringe, supplies, travel, and other general expenses (OTPS). Please contact the Irving Institute’s finance director, Ms. Jo-Ann Espaillat, je14@columbia.edu, with budgetary questions.)

The application should begin with a cover page that includes the names, academic titles, departments and schools of each cross-disciplinary research team member, and the title of the research project. Each team is limited to eight (8) members. Although senior leaders 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

For additional information about CaMPR, including Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and examples of winning applications, please visit: http://www.irvinginstitute.columbia.edu/resources/pcsr2.html

**APPLICATION FORMAT:**
Please use the following headings to structure the CaMPR Phase I proposal, and be sure to limit the total number of pages to 7:

- 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)
- Budget – may include salary, fringe, supplies, travel, and other general expenses (OTPS)

The application must be merged into one document and emailed no later than 5:00p, Monday, September 12, 2011, to Ms. Michelle McClave (mm3098@columbia.edu), the Irving Institute’s Communications Coordinator. Applications submitted in a format other than the one provided herein cannot be considered for funding.

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

For more information about all the CTSA Resources, please visit our web site at: irvinginstitute.columbia.edu