PRECISION MEDICINE PILOT AWARD APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
2018
Applications are being accepted for one-year, one-time only pilot studies in precision medicine up to $100,000 each ($50,000 awarded by the Irving Institute and $50,000 provided by the Principal Investigator’s home department). Awards will be made for research proposals focused on approaches to tailor medical care (prevention, diagnosis, and/or treatment) to the individual patient. Studies may include use of biomarkers, genomic data, aggregated clinical data, and/or patient-reported data to develop personalized medical care. Proposals may also be based on individualizing methods to effectively educate and communicate with patients. Studies are expected to include collaborations between investigators from disparate areas and at least two different departments. Projects that would lead to implementation of results into electronic health records and decision support tools are also encouraged. These pilot grants are intended to support feasibility studies that will establish a basis for applying for further research funding. As such, pilot grants are expected to turn into successful grant applications within one year. Up to 5 pilot studies will be selected for funding.

ELIGIBILITY:
Applicants must have a full-time Columbia University faculty appointment at the rank of an Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor. Preference will be given to applications from junior investigators.

Departmental matching funds ($50,000) are required. Applicants to this program must first contact their department chair to determine the level of interest in co-sponsorship.

NOTE: We cannot accept any application that does not have the prior, written approval of the department chairperson. Departments may wish to conduct their own, intra-departmental competition before approving submission of proposals to this program. Departments may cost-share funds for more than one applicant. Moreover, more than one award recipient may come from the same department, provided that departmental funds are available and pre-approved.

BUDGET: A total of $50,000 per pilot grant will be awarded by the Irving Institute, and the Principal Investigator’s home department must provide an additional $50,000 in matching funds.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:
Applications must include investigators from at least 2 different departments. Each team is limited to six (6) members. Applications containing more than 6 investigators will not be considered.

APPLICATION DIRECTIONS:
1) Complete all sections of the Application Form (contact information for all team members, project description, research funding, budget description, regulatory approval and research areas, signatures of approval).
2) Prepare detailed project description (4 page maximum excluding references, minimum 11 point font) as follows:
   • Background and Specific Aims – Page 1;
   • Preliminary Findings and Innovation – Page 2;
   • Methods – Pages 3 and 4 (1st half);
   • Future Plans and Direction – Page 4 (2nd half).
   • References.
3) Provide the following supporting documents:
   • Statement of Facilities and other Resources.
   • NIH-style biographical sketch for each investigator (5-page limit, including Other Support).
   • Letter from the department chairperson indicating support of the application.
4) Merge all documents into a single PDF file and submit by 5:00pm EDT on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 to: avf2117@cumc.columbia.edu, with the subject heading “LAST NAME, First Name - 2017 Precision Medicine Pilot Application”.

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NOTE: All projects involving human subjects research that are chosen for potential Irving Institute pilot funding, are conditionally selected until IRB documentation is submitted and NIH-NCATS prior approval is received. IRB approval is not required at the time of application, but submission to the IRB must be completed within thirty (30) days of notification of potential Irving Institute pilot funding. In addition, conditionally selected programs must submit NIH-NCATS mandated prior approval of human subject research documentation to Irving Institute administration within thirty (30) days of notification of potential funding. Documentation of IRB and or IACUC approval, if applicable, must be submitted to the Irving Institute before dispersal of funds.

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

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL RESULT IN THE PROPOSAL BEING RETURNED TO YOU, WITHOUT REVIEW

DO NOT INCLUDE APPENDICES

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00pm EDT, Wednesday, November 1, 2017

ANTICIPATED FUNDING START DATE IS APRIL 1, 2018

ALL AWARDS ARE CONDITIONAL PENDING IRB AND NIH-NCATS PRIOR APPROVAL