



RESEARCH GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Basic/Translational Research

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The UCLA AIDS Institute, Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), Pendleton Foundation, and other private sources are accepting applications for seed grants to fund basic and translational studies with special emphasis on collaborative and multi-disciplinary studies.

Funding level: **\$30,000**
(Pending renewal of the Center for AIDS Research Grant)

Due Date: **April 15, 2008**

The project period will be one year, with the earliest start date of June 1, 2008

Investigator Eligibility

- Applicants must have a full-time UCLA faculty appointment.
- Previous seed grant awardees may reapply with NEW projects.

Funding Criteria

- The Institute is accepting basic and translational research proposals in AIDS areas that include studies on viral gene expression, host cell interactions, immune responses to HIV, mechanisms for development of AIDS lymphomas, the investigation of the 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.
- Grants must fall into one of the following categories or will not be considered:
 1. Funds for junior AIDS investigators newly recruited to the UCLA faculty (less than 36 months at UCLA) or without previous RO1 support (or equivalent).
 2. Multi-disciplinary projects that involve novel collaborations involving two or more faculty members from clearly distinct disciplines. The application must demonstrate that:
 - Each party's contribution to the collaboration comes from expertise in distinct disciplines without overlapping areas of research or technical know-how.
 - A substantial contribution is made by each party in the collaboration (for example, simple provision of reagents or advice by one party would not qualify)
 - The work could not be performed effectively without the collaboration.
 3. Bridge funding for existing projects, which will have lost ongoing grant support prior to the start date of the proposed AIDS institute grant, and for which a competing renewal application is planned.

Applications not meeting these criteria will be returned without review.

- Although IRB approval is not required prior to application, release of funding will be contingent on receipt of IRB approval for proposed project.
- No indirect costs may be included.
- Grants will be reviewed by a peer-review committee.
- Progress reports and end of project reports will be required.

Core facilities are available, on a recharge basis, in these areas: virology, cytometry, mouse/human chimera, gene and cellular therapy, biostatistics, mucosal immunology, clinical research facilitation and consultation.

Instructions

Applications must be submitted using standard PHS 398 format; applications must adhere to format and instructions as given in the PHS 398 Instruction Files. (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>)

Specifically, the following forms must be submitted:

- Form Page 1: Face Page
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp1.doc>
- 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.**

Some grants are funded by private foundations or individuals who have an interest in supporting innovative research projects. In addition, 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.

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>
***Note: In addition to the modular budget, please provide a detailed breakdown and budget justification for personnel.**
 - Biographical Sketch Format Page
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc>
 - Resources page
<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/resources.doc>
 - Continuation Page
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/continuation.doc>
The continuation page is to be used for the Research Plan, which must follow the format in Section C.7 of the 398 Instructions. Unlike NIH grants, Sections A-D of the Research Plan may be no more than **5** pages.
 - In order to not burden the Biostatistics Core for preparation of seed grant applications, in-depth biostatistical analysis will be required only for those seed grants that are deemed likely to be funded. Following review, for those seed grant applications deemed appropriate for further biostatistics support, that support should be limited to no more than five hours.
 - Letters of Reference (Post Doc/Graduate Student Applicants only)
 - Preceptor's Letter of Nomination endorsing candidate and research proposal
 - Two letters of recommendation from professional references
 Letters must accompany this application
 - A one-page cover letter should be included, indicating the grant program to which the application is directed.
 - **All applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with the CFAR Consultation Core (Director Gail Wyatt, gwyatt@mednet.ucla.edu) or the appropriate AIDS Institute Associate Director prior to submitting an application.**

Nine copies of the application must be delivered by post or in person to the UCLA AIDS Institute office (10940 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90024) no later than 4:00 pm on April 15, 2008.

Questions can be directed to Jina Lee at 310-794-7209 or aidsinst@ucla.edu.