



RESEARCH GRANT OPPORTUNITIES UCLA CCHARC/NARLA Seed Grants

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Innovative Strategies for Treatment and Prevention of HIV Infection

The UCLA AIDS Institute and the UCLA California Collaborative HIV/AIDS Research Center-Network for AIDS Research in Los Angeles (CCHARC-NARLA), is accepting applications for seed grants to fund research in areas that touch on the theme of the NARLA Center, i.e. the development and evaluation of novel strategies for treating and preventing HIV infection.

Funding level: Up to \$40,000

Deadline for receipt of Letters of Intent: March 14, 2008

Applicants whose *Letters of Intent* are favorably reviewed will be invited to submit a formal proposal. Formal proposals will then be due by **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 faculty appointment at UCLA or be an investigator at a NARLA site (e.g. UCLA, APLA or Friends Research Institute).
- As specified by policies of the Universitywide AIDS Research Program, awards cannot be used to pay the salary of faculty who have a full-time equivalent (FTE) position supported by State funds.

Funding Criteria

- UCLA CCHARC-NARLA is a CHRP-funded research center with its theme to support the development and evaluation of innovative strategies for the treatment and prevention of HIV infection in HIV-infected and at-risk populations in the Los Angeles area.
- Seed grant application for funding by NARLA will be restricted to research that fits the theme and goals of NARLA, with an emphasis on multidisciplinary and collaborative research that may involve the NARLA research sites (preferred by not required).
- Applications will be received from UCLA faculty investigators and investigators from all NARLA sites (see above).
- Funded investigators will be required to submit abstracts and to attend the annual CHRP investigators' meeting and the UCLA AIDS Institute's research meetings. They will also be asked to present at NARLA meetings and site visits.
- Funded investigators are also required to submit publications to the NARLA Administrative Office in the CARE Center and to keep the office informed of any subsequent grants received as a result of work done as part of the seed grant.
- These seed grants may also allow new pilot projects to be initiated both at UCLA and at NARLA sites that may lead to larger, separately funded collaborative research projects conducted by the Network.
- Seed grants may also advance research in areas associated with each of the 2 ongoing major research projects funded as part of this grant. The two current proposed projects are: Project 1: Hematopoietic Stem Cell/Gene Therapy (HSCGT) for HIV Treatment and Project 2: Acceptance and Enrollment in Research Registry for Rectal Microbicide. An example of this later type of seed grants may be conducting pilot research similar to that of Project 1 and 2 in different, but smaller groups of HIV infected or at-risk individuals, such as Asians and Native Americans.
- The submitted applications will be reviewed and scored by an independent review committee.
- 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 requested.
- Progress reports, an end of project report and financial accounting 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 for letters of intent

Letters of intent must be no longer than 2 pages, and must include the following:

- Name and contact information of principal investigator
- Title and brief summary of the proposed research project
- Brief summary of your experience conducting similar research
- How the research project fits the theme of NARLA
- Total amount of funding requested

Letters of intent must be received no later than **4:00 pm** on **March 14, 2008**. They can be sent via post *or* email to:

Ronald Mitsuyasu, M.D., Director
 UCLA CARC
 9911 W Pico Blvd, Suite 980
 Los Angeles, CA 90035
 rmitsuya@mednet.ucla.edu

Questions can be directed to Dr. Ronald Mitsuyasu, rmitsuya@mednet.ucla.edu, 310-557-1893

Instructions for formal proposals

Applicants must first submit a Letter of Intent before being invited to submit a formal proposal. These instructions are provided here for reference only.

Applications must be submitted using standard PHS 398 format; applications and 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://grants.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 7 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.
- A one-page cover letter may also be included.
- **All applicants are 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, for assistance if needed.**

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 jinallee@mednet.ucla.edu.

Program questions can be directed to Dr. Ronald Mitsuyasu, rmitsuya@mednet.ucla.edu, 310-557-1893.