



# RESEARCH GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

## Clinical Research

UCLA Clinical Research Seed Grants



The UCLA AIDS Institute and Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), and other private sources are accepting applications for seed grants to fund collaborative clinical studies relevant to HIV. Special consideration will be given to new investigators, high-risk, high-benefit projects and new research direction projects.

**Funding level:** \$30,000

**Deadline for receipt of Letters of Intent:** Friday April 2, 2010

Applicants whose *Letters of Intent* are favorably reviewed will be invited to submit a formal proposal. Formal proposals will then be due by **May 7, 2010**.

*The project period will be one year, with the earliest start date of June 15, 2010.*

### Investigator Eligibility

- Faculty (Clinical Instructor series and higher), at UCLA, affiliated institution, or grant-recognized collaborating community-based organization (e.g. NARLA)
- An emerging scientist OR an established scientist who wants to move into a new area of clinical research
- Note that dissertation research is not eligible for this RFA.

### Funding Criteria

- The Institute is accepting clinical research proposals in AIDS areas that include studies on the clinical manifestations of HIV and its associated diseases, their treatment or complications of therapy, clinical observational studies, retrospective or prospective clinical outcomes research, treatment interventions or epidemiology studies with a clear clinical focus. Basic laboratory studies, preclinical investigations and social or group observational or interventional studies are not supported by this RFA.
- 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 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
- Total amount of funding requested

Letters of intent must be received no later than **4:00 pm** on **April 2, 2010**. They can be sent via post or email to:

Ronald Mitsuyasu, M.D., Director  
UCLA CARE Center  
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](mailto: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>  
(As this is an internal grant, boxes 12 and 13 are not required)
- 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: A budget justification is required only if there are unusual expenses involved.**
- 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 5.5.3 of the 398 Instructions. Unlike NIH grants, Sections A-D of the Research Plan may be no more than 3 pages. **Clearly state the significance of the studies with sufficient methodology and statistical analysis to allow evaluation of feasibility.**
- 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](mailto:gwyatt@mednet.ucla.edu)) or the appropriate AIDS Institute Associate Director prior to submitting an application, for assistance if needed.

**An electronic copy of the application (pdf format preferred) must be sent to the UCLA AIDS Institute ([aidsinst@ucla.edu](mailto:aidsinst@ucla.edu)) no later than **4:00 pm** on **May 7, 2010**.**

**Emails will be sent out the following day confirming receipt.**

Questions can be directed to Jina Lee at 310-794-7209 or [jinalee@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:jinalee@mednet.ucla.edu).  
Program questions can be directed to Dr. Ronald Mitsuyasu, [rmitsuya@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:rmitsuya@mednet.ucla.edu), 310-557-1893.