Winter Application Enhancement Awards (FY 2020)
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Announcement Date: December 1, 2019
https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/?s=EHT4LXY8PJ

The KUMC Research Institute is pleased to announce the availability of Application Enhancement Awards for research conducted by faculty members of the University of Kansas Medical Center at Kansas City, Wichita and Salina.

The objective of the Application Enhancement Award is to improve the likelihood that an application previously submitted to an external funding agency will be funded upon resubmission. These competitive awards provide short-term support to those who have submitted grants to national organizations that were approved on the basis of scientific merit but did not receive priority scores within the funding range. This interim funding is intended to assist investigators in obtaining data needed to enhance the success of a revised application. Decisions on funding are expected approximately 3 weeks after submission of the materials indicated below.

Eligibility Requirements

All faculty at the University of Kansas Schools of Medicine, Health Professions, and Nursing are eligible to apply, if their applications meet the following criteria:

- Applications for the enhancement award will only be accepted for pending grant applications with annual direct costs exceeding $100,000 and with durations of 2 years or greater. The applicant must be the Principal Investigator on that application submitted to the external agency.
- Application Enhancement Awards may be used to support either resubmission of an application (e.g., an NIH A1 application) or a new application developed in response to the critique of a prior application.
- The applicant commits to submitting a revised application to the same and/or another funding agency within 18 months of the onset of this award.
- Only one application for the enhancement award per grant submission is eligible. An investigator who has received prior Research Institute funding is allowed to apply for this enhancement award, but only for a different research project.
- A commitment to return all remaining funds to the Research Institute in the event that the revised application is funded, or immediately upon accepting a position at another university during the tenure of this award.

Required Submission Items (In the following order)
1. A **cover letter** containing an explicit statement regarding plans for resubmission. Provide specific information regarding the title, the type of award to be applied for, the funding agency, and the date when the revised application will be submitted. This letter should contain, in lay terms, the objective of the research, the hypotheses to be tested, and the potential significance of the findings.

2. The complete **Summary Statement or Critique** released by the peer review committee/study section of the respective funding agency, indicating committee membership. Only a single Summary Statement for a single grant application will be considered. This Summary Statement must have been released within the 12 months immediately preceding this application for enhancement support.

3. A **point by point response** to the criticisms raised by the peer review committee/study section. This *document should not exceed one single-spaced page in length with Arial 11 point font*. Each response should begin with a brief restatement of the relevant criticism followed by a succinct and explicit statement as to how the application will be amended to address that concern.

4. A **detailed itemized budget and budget justification** indicating a valid purpose/rationale for enhancement funds in the context of revising and improving the application. State how the enhancement award research funds (up to $20,000) will be used to enable the investigator to address the criticisms listed above and obtain crucial additional data. Stating that funds will be used to conduct experiments to simply ‘strengthen the application’ is not sufficient justification. We do not fund faculty (PI) effort.

5. An **‘Other Support’** section in which all funding sources available to the investigator (internal and external, including startup and endowment accounts) are indicated. For each active and pending grant application, list title, the type of award, the principal investigator, years of support, direct and indirect funds for the current year and for the duration of the award, and research objectives. Any overlap with the current proposal must be indicated. For other resources (e.g., school accounts for start-up or other funds, accounts containing F&A returned to the investigator, etc.), list balances at the time of the application.

6. **Funding history** of all completed major awards received during the investigator’s tenure at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Use the same format as in #5.

7. The **original application** that was submitted to the funding agency.

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**Prioritization Criteria**

The following criteria will be taken into account when ranking these enhancement award applications:

- Level of merit assigned by the Peer Review Committee/Study Section. This will be based on priority score, percentile ranking, descriptors of research merit, and the Peer Review Committee’s/Study Section specific remarks regarding the research quality contained within the Summary Statement narrative. Unscored applications are not automatically excluded; however, the Summary Statement must indicate that the application has significant merit and the case for funding such an application must be compelling.

- Justification that the enhancement funds will lead to a significant improvement in the application and in its probability for success.
● Adequacy of the responses to the concerns raised in the Summary Statement, including strong alignment of the requested funds with the studies needed to address the stated concerns.

● Need for funding. While need alone is not sufficient to justify enhancement support, priority will be given to applications where trained personnel are in danger of termination as a result of a funding hiatus.

● Prior major funding of the same or similar research program that is now in hiatus. Where possible, priority will be given to an ongoing program.

● Funding history, including duration of funding and the cumulative total of direct and indirect costs brought into the University of Kansas Medical Center by the investigator.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

To apply for Winter Application Enhancement Awards, the above items must be received through the REDCap database (see below) as a single PDF to the Research Institute office by January 6, 2020 by 12:00 PM (noon) (CST). The REDCap site will be active up to this deadline date and time, and will then be inactive thereafter. Therefore, there will be no extensions to this deadline.

NOTE:
Investigators are to submit their applications online through our REDCap database, https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/?s=EHT4LXY8PJ. This database will also require you to answer some questions pertinent to your application.

For questions or additional information, please contact Kelly Robertson at (913) 588-5436 or e-mail at krobertson@kumc.edu