Lied Pre-Clinical and Clinical Research Pilot Grant Program (FY 2020)

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Announcement Date: January 6, 2020
Letter of Intent Due Date: February 1, 2020 (5:00 PM CST)
Application Due Date: March 1, 2020 (5:00 PM CST)
Announcement of Awards: June 2020
Funding Start Date: July 1, 2020
https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/?s=Y8PNDJXC8C

The KUMC Research Institute (KUMCRI) is pleased to announce the availability of grant funds for pilot research conducted by KUMC faculty at the Kansas City, Wichita and Salina campuses. Funding is derived from Research Institute and Lied Endowment resources.

The program objective is to support new innovative ideas that will lead to externally funded awards. Emphasis is placed on projects incorporating translational and collaborative team science.

Applications will be scored according to NIH criteria, and awards will be based upon those scores, strategic priorities, and availability of funds.

Scope

The types of research supported include, but are not limited to:

- Basic biomedical and preclinical investigations related to health, disease, therapies and outcomes in animal models, in vitro preparations, or computational modeling and analysis.
- Preclinical studies that use human cells or other human biological materials, with the endpoint of understanding the biological basis of disease and/or identifying new therapies or biomarkers relevant to human health.
- Bench to bedside research leading up to and including first-in-human and/or clinical proof of concept trials evaluating new drug treatments, medical devices or diagnostics.
- Studies of effectiveness and/or implementation of clinical practices, and/or dissemination of clinical research findings.
- Community-based clinical research studies using human subjects, families, populations, and/or communities for testing new treatments or interventions, assessing health outcomes, etc.
- The science of translational research, i.e., methods and approaches that improve the process of conducting translational research.
- Studies that promote team science and address topics related to health issues from the perspectives of multiple disciplines.
Eligibility
Faculty at the University of Kansas Medical Center (Kansas City, Wichita and Salina campuses) are eligible to apply, according to the following guidelines:

- Applicants holding a tenure- or non-tenure-track faculty appointment at KUMC are eligible to independently submit extramural research grant applications.
- Adjunct and volunteer faculty with primary appointments at another university may be co-investigators but may not submit a proposal as Principal Investigator (PI).
- Proposals that promote collaborations among investigators from different disciplines, or are informed by and responsive to patient, family, caregiver and community engagement priorities, may receive special consideration.
- Proposals receiving partial project support from departments, centers, institutes or other funding sources (“matching” funds) may receive special consideration.
- Only one proposal will be accepted per PI. A PI on one proposal can be listed as a collaborator or co-investigator on other proposals, but not as a PI or multiple PI.
- This funding opportunity is intended to assist investigators with the greatest needs in advancing their careers. Accordingly, applications by junior investigators who are actively establishing research programs, or investigators reestablishing research programs, will receive higher consideration than those of senior investigators with established research programs.
- If a proposal includes a sub-contract no more than 20% can be awarded to the subrecipient.

Required Submission Items (in the following order)
The proposal should follow the NIH format and include the following PHS-398 (Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services) forms found at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html

1. **Face Page** (Page 1): Includes project title, and Principal Investigator/Program Director. Be sure, to include if you are applying under the “Junior Faculty” designation.
2. **Project Description/Summary, Relevance, and Performance Sites** (Page 2). State broad, long-term objectives and specific aims, performance sites, key personnel and other significant contributors. Address how the proposed work will lead to future extramural funding, and whether it advances team science and/or the science of translational research.
3. **Table of Contents** (Page 3)
4. **Detailed Budget** (Page 4):
   a. Requests may not exceed $35,000 direct costs (indirect costs are not awarded).
   b. Equipment should not exceed 10% of the total budget.
   c. **Facility or PI salary is not allowed**; research staff and student salary is permitted.
   d. Any cost share funds available to the project should be identified, and a letter of support by the unit leader committing the funds must be included.
   e. Travel is not permitted unless clearly needed to collect data, and documented in detail.
5. **Biographical Sketch**: For Key Personnel, use the current NIH format that includes an initial project-specific paragraph describing the investigator’s role in the project. Include past grant support, pending applications and current projects, and indicate committed effort.
6. **Research Plan**. Use Arial 11 font with at least 0.5 inch margins. The research plan may not exceed five (5) pages (excluding references) and should include the following:
   a. Specific Aims
   b. Research Strategy
      i. Significance
      ii. Innovation
      iii. Approach
   c. Indicate how data from this study will lead to extramural funding, and identify potential extramural funding agencies where applications will be submitted
   d. References (not included in the 5-page limit)
   e. Appendix (optional; not included in 5-page limit): Include measurement instruments and other ancillary items. Do not include additional data or information essential for review of
the proposal.

7. **Letter(s) of Collaboration and Support**: Letters should document collaborator effort committed to the project, resources provided, and any other substantive contributions including those of centers, cores or departments. Where matching funds are provided, a letter from the chair or director must specify the amount, purpose, and any conditions.

8. **Status of IRB or IACUC submission**: Please provide updated documentation on where the proposal is in the approval process.

### Review Criteria

Well-crafted proposals are given higher priority than those that are poorly written and difficult to understand. The KUMCRI Research Committee strongly recommends that new investigators take a grant-writing course prior to submission. The KUMCRI Research Committee also recommends that proposals be reviewed by mentors and colleagues.

Projects should be designed for completion in one year.

Review criteria for this RFA are similar to those used by Federal agencies such as the NIH, NSF and the Department of Education. In addition, the following specific criteria apply:

- Potential for future external funding
- Use of a team science approach
- Scientific, technical, or clinical **significance** and originality (**innovation**) of proposed research.
- Appropriateness and adequacy of the research design and methodology proposed to conduct the research (**approach**).
- Qualifications and research experience of the Principal Investigator and research team, particularly, but not exclusively, in the area of the proposed research (**investigators**).
- Availability of the resources (**environment**) necessary to perform the research
- Appropriateness of the proposed budget and duration in relation to the proposed research
- Efforts made to ensure that the methodologies are scientifically rigorous, reagents are validated, and results are reproducible.
- Provisions for the protection of human subjects
- Compliance with the Conflict of Interest Policy
- Focus on the science of translational research

### Peer Review

The KUMCRI Research Committee in conjunction with the Faculty Assembly Research Committee will seek peer review of proposals by qualified research-intensive faculty. Applicants may include the names and contact information of up to three (3) individuals who are qualified to serve as reviewers. Applicants also may submit the names of up to three (3) persons they wish to exclude as reviewers, although no assurances can be made. Final scores will be assigned by an Institutional Voting Panel, and the final determination on funding will be made by the KUMCRI Funding Council which includes members of the KUMCRI Research Committee, Faculty Assembly Research Committee, and various stakeholders representing KUMCRI funding programs. It is possible that successful proposals will be funded from multiple sources.

### Key Deadline Dates and Details

**Announcement Date**: January 6, 2020

**Letter of Intent (LOI)**: Required by February 1, 2020 (5:00 PM CST). **NO DEADLINE EXTENSIONS**

- **The LOI is mandatory**: applications failing to submit a LOI will not be accepted.
- REDCap will be used to upload LOIs. Please go to the following site to access REDCap ([https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/?s=Y8PNDJXC8C](https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/?s=Y8PNDJXC8C)). This will take you to the REDCap LOI submission form. Please read the instructions accompanying the LOI Application, fill out all of the required data fields, and then upload your LOI (MS Word, MS Excel, pdf). Make sure that your LOI describes the research project briefly (200 words or less) but adequately to facilitate identifying expertise needed for the review of your application. Please also make sure that keywords appropriately describe the work
Please contact Kelly Robertson at the KUMCRI if you have any questions or problems (krobertson@kumc.edu).

Submission of Application: by March 1, 2020 (5:00 PM CST). NO EXTENSIONS
- Once the LOI has been submitted through REDCap, an email will be sent to the KUMC email address listed in the LOI application. The REDCap link to the full application will be supplied in this email.
- Applicants should use this link to upload the requested information and the full application in the same manner as described above.

Announcement of Awards: June 2020

Funding Start Date: July 1, 2020

For questions or additional information, please contact the following individuals:
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