OVERVIEW

Purpose: The CCTS Pilot Grant Program serves a vital function in advancing translational research by funding a combination of broad translational and multidisciplinary projects and targeted priority areas as identified by the CTSA Program.

Eligibility

a) P.I. Eligibility: Principal Investigators must be clinical, research, or tenure track UIC faculty or Senior Scientists at UIC. Although adjunct faculty cannot serve as PIs, they may serve as named investigators, collaborators, or key personnel. Post-doctoral fellows may also serve as key personnel but cannot be PIs.

b) Invitations to Apply for Pilot Grants: Letters of intent are required and will be reviewed. Only applicants who have submitted a letter of intent and who are invited to apply for the full pilot or planning grant will be eligible.

Award Amounts & Duration

Pilot grants are up to 2 years in duration ($30,000 each year, with second year funding contingent upon progress made during year 1) and focus specifically on activities such as conducting preliminary research to inform study design, demonstrate feasibility of research protocols, pilot test novel methodologies, or initiate and establish new interdisciplinary research.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A Letter of Intent is required for consideration in Phase 1 from all applicants and must be submitted electronically at https://awards.ccts.uic.edu/.

The LOI is due no later than Friday, August 27, 2021 at 5:00 pm CST

Login information

- If you are a first time user: Click the “Register” button in the top right corner of the page.
- On the next page, enter your UIC NetID and select the “Register” button below your NetID.
- After successfully registering your account, log back into the system by clicking “Proceed to log in”.
- For registered users, log into the training portal using your UIC credentials (via Shibboleth)
- Upon login, on your “My Projects” homepage, you will see Available Funding Opportunities: CCTS Pilot Program 2021-2022.
- Select this option to access the LOI application form.
- You will receive a confirmation email upon submission.
- If you have any questions or need to delete an incorrect or incomplete submission, please contact Julie Kong (jckong@uic.edu).

The electronic LOI submission form requires the following fields:

- The names and affiliations of all investigators
- Previous CCTS funding
- Type of research (i.e., pre-clinical, clinical, public health, or a combination) and 3 project keywords
Using the LOI form link, please provide:

- Lay language description of the specific aims and research plan (maximum of 200 words)
- Statement of how this proposed project may extend collaborations or develop new areas of research for the investigators (maximum of 800 words)

**IMPORTANT: IRB & IACUC Approval**

IRB and/or IACUC approvals are not required at the submission stage. Those invited to submit a full application in Phase 2 must adhere to the following requirements:

- If animal or human subjects research is involved in Year 1 of the project plan, investigators should aim to have IACUC and/or IRB approval by the funding start date of January 16, 2022.
- Proof of IACUC and/or IRB approval should be included in the Phase 2 application OR the PI should provide evidence of pending review.
- Investigators who are still in the planning stage of their protocol are encouraged to submit a Development/Center/Training Grant Application [form is located under “IRB Initial Application Review” tab](#). These applications include plans for the development of specific human subjects research studies, but those studies will only be initiated after some preliminary projects are completed (e.g., development of instruments or compounds, or prior animal studies).

Following an initial review of the letters of intent, applicants may be invited to submit full proposals. Anticipated notification during the last week of September 27, 2021.

Any questions about the application process can be directed to Julie Kong (jckong@uic.edu).