

CADC Convergence Pilot Projects for Interdisciplinary Research

Request for Applications

September 12, 2016

In an effort to encourage interdivisional collaboration in the exploration of novel ideas, the Center for Advanced Digestive Care (CADC) solicits requests for one-year pilot projects. The primary goal of this competition is to stimulate multidisciplinary pilot projects in the field of digestive disease that will ultimately lead to competitive extramural grant applications. A second year of funding is possible, but will be determined after a progress report for the first year is submitted and the funding will be competitive with new submissions.

Eligible applicants

Proposals must focus on advancing the science or clinical and translational care of digestive diseases. We will place an emphasis on collaborative research proposals bringing together different disciplines in a coordinate manner focusing on novel, unfunded projects in basic, translational, or clinical digestive disease research.

Funding

Awards will range from \$50,000-\$100,000 and the funding level will be based on appropriate budget justifications. Funds may be used to cover personnel, supplies and capital but may not be used for travel or PI salary support. There are no indirect costs. The funding period is anticipated to be December 15, 2016 – December 14, 2017. Once a project is evaluated for its scientific content and recommended for funding, funding will be contingent on the investigator obtaining IRB approval for human subjects protocols and IACUC approval for studies involving vertebrate animals.

As a condition of funding, it is expected that a brief progress report is provided with annotation of any publications or other funding that was obtained as a result of this pilot support.

Application content

- 1) Cover Page with the project title and a list of all personnel
- 2) Research Proposal in NIH format (4 page limit): Aims, Significance, Innovation, and Approach. Preliminary data should be included if available.
- 3) References (not included in the Research Proposal page limit); 1 page limit.
- 4) Extramural Funding Plan: brief plan (no more than 1/2 page) for submission of an application for continued, extramural support of the project. Plan should include project title, funding agency, grant type, and anticipated date of submission. Plan should highlight how seed funding will enhance the likelihood of success for extramural funding.
- 5) Budget (itemized), and Justification
- 6) NIH formatted biosketch for PI

Application format

Follow format and font specifications as outlined below. Applications that do not follow instructions will be deemed non-responsive to this RFA.

- Use Arial typeface and a font size of 11 points only
- Use one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages of the RFA
- Number pages consecutively throughout the application

Application deadline

Applications should be submitted as a single e-mail attachment in PDF format to Bridget McClure <brm2028@med.cornell.edu> by Sunday, November 6th at 11:59 pm EST. The subject line of your e-mail should read ***“Request for CADC Pilot Project Funding”***. A confirmation e-mail will be sent when your submission is successfully received.

Review Criteria

Projects will be evaluated on the basis of scientific merit feasibility, and potential for subsequent extramural funding. The applications will be reviewed by a committee of impartial experts who have no real or perceived conflicts of interest with the proposed research.

For proposals requesting the use of vertebrate animals

If vertebrate animals are involved in the pilot project you are proposing, please address each of the five points below. If all or part of the proposed research involving vertebrate animals will take place at alternate sites (such as project/performance or collaborating sites), identify those sites and describe the activities at those locations.

The five points are as follows:

1. Provide a detailed description of the proposed use of the animals for the work outlined in the Research Design and Methods section. Identify the species, strains, ages, sex and numbers of animals to be used in the proposed work.
2. Justify the use of animals, the choice of species, and the numbers to be used. If animals are in short supply, costly, or to be used in large numbers, provide an additional rationale for their selection and numbers.
3. Provide information on the veterinary care of the animals involved.
4. Describe the procedures for ensuring that discomfort, distress, pain, and injury will be limited to that which is unavoidable in the conduct of scientifically sound research. Describe the use of analgesic, anesthetic, and tranquilizing drugs and/or comfortable restraining devices, where appropriate, to minimize discomfort, distress, pain, and injury.
5. Describe any method of euthanasia to be used and the reason(s) for its selection. State whether this method is consistent with the recommendations of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines on Euthanasia. If not, include a scientific justification for not following the recommendations. If the involvement of animals is indefinite, provide an explanation and indicate when it is anticipated that animals will be used.