



Pilot Projects Submission Deadline is Sept. 8, 2011

OVERVIEW and ELIGIBILITY

The Rockefeller University Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) solicits requests for pilot projects to support new and innovative clinical and translational studies. This program may also support studies involving new collaborations that advance clinical or translational research. Projects from Clinical Scholars and from basic investigators that extend their studies to clinical or translational research are particularly welcome. In the event a trainee submits a proposal, the Background and Significance section should explain how the supported research will advance the career and training goals of that individual. 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. Approximately 17 awards will be made this year. Up to 4 awards may be made in the area of community-engaged research. A statement regarding the public health significance of the problem and potential impact of the research should be included when appropriate.

FUNDING and EXPENDITURE

A maximum of \$25,000 in direct costs can be requested.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be **received** on or before 5:00 PM, ET, on September 8, 2011. **All applications are to be sent as an electronic e-mail attachment in PDF format.** The subject line of your e-mail should read ***“Request for Pilot Project Funding”***. Send the application to:

Maija Williams, MPH
Administrative Director
Center for Clinical and Translational Science
(212) 327-8501
E-mail: mwilliams@rockefeller.edu

A confirmation e-mail will be sent when your submission is successfully received.

CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION

The application should contain the following:

1. Abstract (no more than one paragraph in length)
2. Specific Aims

3. Background and Significance
4. Preliminary Studies, if relevant
5. Research Design and Methods
6. Project Timeline
7. Literature Citations
8. Budget and budget narrative (budget justification)
9. Biographical sketches
10. Letter(s) of collaboration/support
11. Letter of commitment from partnering faculty/institution (if applicable)
12. Use of Vertebrate Animals (if applicable)

The application should include a brief abstract. That abstract should contain an explanation of how the proposed project will accelerate the development of a clinical or translational project and/ or benefit human health. Although this submission is based on key elements of the PHS 398 form, the entire application should be brief, no longer than **5 pages**. If the study involves a design where statistical methods are used to determine the number of subjects that need to be studied, that statistical information should be included as a part of Research Design and Methods but will not count towards the 5-page length. Applicants submitting research proposals including human subjects research are encouraged to consult the Research Facilitation Office, the IRB, or the Clinical Research Support Office for at least preliminary discussions about feasibility. If a study involves vertebrate animals, the five points detailed below should be included but will not count towards the 5-page length. Plans to use core resources of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science are encouraged and should be explained in Research Design and Methods, if relevant.

FOR PROPOSALS REQUESTING THE USE OF VETEBRATE 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.

Although no specific page limitation applies to this section of the application, be succinct. Failure to address the following five points will result in the application being designated as incomplete and will be grounds for The Rockefeller University Center for Clinical and Translational Science to defer the application from review.

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.

FOR COMMUNITY- ENGAGED RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The Rockefeller University Center for Clinical and Translational Science (RUCCTS) aims to increase access to research in communities by supporting community/academic research partnerships and collaborations that are both relevant and responsive to the health needs of the community. Research projects must be designed with input from the community, to enhance practical as well as theoretical understanding of community health issues, and include creative strategies for addressing community-identified problems by bringing together academic and community partners. In addition to the content and form of the application above, proposals should include a brief description of the problem under investigation as identified with a community partner, provide a description of procedures for conducting the community-based research study and include a timeline. Proposals should describe the importance and significance of the results or findings that are likely from the research and its benefit to the community. The proposal should outline plans for publication and presentation of the results once the project is completed.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Projects will be evaluated on the basis of scientific merit and clinical and translational impact. The applications will be reviewed by the Oversight of Pilot and Collaborative Translational and Clinical Studies subcommittee of the Advisory Committee for Clinical and Translational Science (ACCTS) and presented to the ACCTS for final determination of funding. Once a project is evaluated for its scientific content and recommended for funding, funding will be contingent on the investigator obtaining ACCTS and IRB approval for human subjects protocols and ACCTS and IACUC approval for studies involving vertebrate animals. **For community-engaged research projects** applicants must provide a letter of commitment from the partnering faculty/institution. Proposals in this category must incorporate community involvement in the design and, where appropriate, focus on having a positive health impact on the participating community.

AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Awards will be announced by October 20, 2011.

TERMS OF AWARD

Prior to award, applicants will be informed of the applicable terms and conditions of award for pilot projects. Applicants will be expected to expend all of the funds before June 30, 2012. In special circumstances, individual requests to extend the funding will be considered on a case-

by-case basis.

INQUIRIES

Address inquiries to Maija Neville-Williams, Administrative Director whose information is shown above.