



Friday, October 6, 2017

Georgia CTSA Request for Proposals

Pilot Translational & Clinical Studies

Georgia CTSA's Pilot Translational & Clinical Studies (PTCS) program is soliciting proposals that either a.) generate preliminary data and refine research strategies for subsequent extramural grant applications or b.) develop the best approaches and methodologies to address complex translational and clinical research problems.

Two categories of grants will be considered:

- Category 1 - Grants that focus on translational and clinical research
Pilot projects are intuitively understood to represent preliminary, preparatory, or feasibility studies designed to assess the applicability of new technologies, protocols, data collection instruments, or subject recruitment strategies as stepping-stones toward a full, hypothesis-testing investigation. The four academic institutional partners of the Georgia CTSA collectively recognize the critical need for start-up, feasibility, or proof-of-concept resources.
- Category 2 - Grants that address a translational research question which could provide insights generalizable to other projects/diseases
PTCS will seek proposals that propose innovative approaches to:
 - Novel technology development
 - Biostatistics method development
 - Informatics
 - Community engagement and ethical issues in human subjects
 - Best approaches to address important clinical and translational research (CTR) problems and/or the science of translational science
 - Innovative approaches to overcoming choke points in the translational process, such as regulatory hurdles and patient recruitment
 - Novel methodologies for clinical research that can be generalized to other projects
 - Development of new approaches for implementation science that will enhance the translation of medical advances into the community or to special populations

Georgia CTSA Mission Statement - The institutions of the Georgia CTSA leverage their *complementary* strengths to accelerate clinical and translational education, research, and community engagement to impact health in Georgia and beyond.

Funding - As many as five awards of up to \$40,000 each in total direct costs

Eligibility - Faculty from Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Morehouse School of Medicine, and the University of Georgia may submit proposals.

Note: All pilot project recipients will be eligible for the **Georgia CTSA Award of Distinction in Team Science** – “To further promote collaboration, the Georgia CTSA Executive Oversight Council will award an annual Award of Distinction in Team Science during their annual meeting to Georgia CTSA investigators who, through their multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary collaborations, have made a profound impact in CTR.”

Timeline

November 15, 2017 – proposals due

January 1, 2018 – Start Date

June 30, 2018 – End Date **(Investigators may NOT apply for a no-cost extension.)**

Application Information

Applicants should submit the following materials in one PDF file to Bekeela Davila at bekeela.davila@emory.edu *no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 15, 2017:*

- Cover page with the title of the proposal, names, and credentials of the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator(s) to be engaged with the proposed research
- Summary/Abstract: *Maximum 30 lines*
- Specific Aims: *Maximum one page*
- Research Strategy: Must include sections for Significance, Innovation, and Approach *Maximum 3 pages*
- References: *No page limit*
- Protection of Human Subjects (If applicable): *Maximum one page Include IRB Approval Letter if the study has already been approved*
- A projected Budget and Budget Justification: The Budget must be in the NIH R&R detailed (not modular) format

Application formatting:

- Use paper size no larger than 8 ½" x 11"
- Provide at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages
- Font size must be 11 points or larger (smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams, and charts is acceptable as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%)
- Type density must be no more than 15 characters per linear inch (including characters and spaces)
- Text color must be black (color text in figures, graphs, diagrams, charts, tables, footnotes, and headings is acceptable)
- The following fonts are acceptable, although other fonts may be used if they meet the above requirements: Arial, Garamond, Georgia, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, Times New Roman, and Verdana

- Biosketches: Include NIH-style biosketches for key personnel

(Note: Please refer to the NIH SF424 (R&R) Application Packages instructions

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-d/research-forms-d.pdf>) for additional guidance on the Summary/Abstract, Specific Aims, Research Strategy, Protection of Human Subjects, Budget, Budget Justification, and Biosketches)

Funding Limits and Budgeting Requirements

Applicants may request six months of funding with amounts up to \$40,000. **Investigators may NOT apply for a no-cost extension.** Budgets must be in the NIH R&R format [i.e. detailed, NOT modular].

It is not required that the PI request salary. If PI salary costs are requested, they may not exceed 25% of the direct cost budget.

- Funds may be requested for salaries for study staff, students, post-doctoral fellows, and other study-related personnel.

- Funds may be requested for travel and activities associated with writing an NIH research grant proposal based on project findings and/or attending meetings to establish collaborations or to present project-related data. Supported travel must be completed within the funding period.

Review and Award Process

Applications will be reviewed in an NIH study section format with at least two reviewers assigned to each proposal. Proposed research should be focused in that funds are only provided for six months and no-cost extension is not permitted. **Preference will be given to proposals conducted across the Georgia CTSA.** *Applicants will be notified by December 15, 2017 if their proposal has been accepted for funding.* All federal and university rules and regulations regarding the administration of grants apply.

Progress Reports and Citation Requirements

Awardees are required to submit periodic progress reports and to cite the Georgia CTSA NIH award number (**UL1-TR002378**) on all products (publications, patents, presentations) resulting from this award.

For all application and scientific questions, please contact: Jeff Sands, MD, jeff.sands@emory.edu