

GA Cystic Fibrosis P30 Core Center – Pilot Grant Program

Request for Applications – March 2022

The GA CF P30 Core Center (NIH P30DK125013) renewal proposal will be due this July. At this time, the Center seeks pilot grant proposals for potential inclusion in the renewal proposal. We will submit 2-3 projects as part of the renewal. If the P30 is renewed, those pilot projects that scored well will be funded.

Available budget: UP to \$50,000 direct costs per year for 1-2 years. Indirect costs not allowed.

Eligibility: Applicants for P30 pilot funding are primarily limited to individuals with an independent faculty appointment at Emory, Georgia Tech, or Augusta University. High quality proposals from other universities in our area (e.g., Georgia State, Morehouse, Univ. of GA) will also be considered.

Letter-of-Intent deadline: April 29, 2022 (see below for full timeline)

Desired features of P30 pilot projects:

- Project leadership by junior investigators without significant CF grant support (i.e., an NIH R01), established scientists new to CF research, or experienced CF investigators pursuing a new project that represents a clear departure from their established research program
- Highest quality science, with an emphasis on innovative clinical or translational research
- Projects should reflect overall research goals of the P30 Center; i.e., relevant to cystic fibrosis pathogenesis, diet/nutrition, GI aspects of CF, CF-related diabetes (CFRD), CF-related liver disease (CFLD), role or impact of exercise/activity, or other areas emphasized by the NIDDK P30 mechanism. Note that strictly pulmonary aspects of CF are not included in the P30 Core Center, unless tied to NIDDK-relevant complications such as CFRD, etc.
- Initiatives that establish interdisciplinary research and new partnerships between basic and clinical investigators
- High risk/high impact studies with strong potential to obtain external funding
- Research utilizing capabilities planned for the P30 CF Core facilities, as follows:
 - **Core 1: Diabetes, Endocrine, and GI Translational Core:** GI/Pancreas, Endocrine (CFRD and CF bone disease), Liver (CFLD)
 - **Core 2: Nutrition, Lifestyle & Behaviors Core:** Exercise, Activity, Sleep, Diet, Body composition
 - **Core 3: Clinical Research and Informatics Core:** CF Biospecimen Repository, Biostatistical support, Bioinformatic support, Machine learning/AI, Clinical/computational data infrastructure (i.e., the GA CF Data Warehouse), Data analytics
 - **Core 4: Metabolism, Immunology, and Microbes Core:** Metabolomics (incl. nutritional), Inflammatory markers, Redox, Immune cell functions, Microbe functions, Host/microbe gene expression
- Current core services are described here: www.cfatl.org/for-researchers
- Proposals for research addressing disparities in health or healthcare equity among CF patient populations are particularly encouraged.

Process: Eligible investigators are invited to submit a Letter-of-Intent (details below) that will be reviewed by the P30 Program Steering Committee. Investigators who submit the highest quality LOIs will be invited to submit a full proposal, which will be formatted like an NIH R21 to include detailed budgets, etc. Those full proposals will be evaluated by a mix of internal and external consultants, using the standard NIH criteria.

Letter-of-Intent details:

- 1) Research plan limited to two pages maximum, not including references cited. Required sections include: Specific Aim(s), Significance, Overall Hypothesis, Innovation, Investigator(s), Summary of Approach, and Plan for Extramural Proposal Submission. Be sure to address feasibility for successfully accomplishing the goals of the project within 1-2 years, and how the project will either make use of the planned P30 Cores or build upon them.
- 2) On a single page, provide a budget justification in broad strokes. **PI/Co-PI salary support will be limited to a total of 10% of the proposed budget.** NIH salary cap should be applied. Equipment greater than \$5,000 per item, and personal computers not crucial to goals of the project, are not allowed costs.
- 3) NIH-style biosketch for the PI and any other key personnel.
- 4) LOI should be assembled as a single PDF document for submission.
- 5) LOI packets should be submitted to CFatlanta@emory.edu before 5:00 PM Eastern Time on **April 29, 2022**, which represents a hard deadline.

Questions?: Contact Nael McCarty, PhD, Director of the GA CF P30 Core Center, namccar@emory.edu

Timeline for Pilot Review:

3/29	Release of RFA
4/29	LOI deadline
4/29 - 5/4	LOI review
5/5	Announcement of LOI winners
5/5 - 6/5	Time for writing full proposals
6/5	Full proposal deadline
6/5 - 6/15	Full proposal review
6/15	Announcement of full proposal winners
6/15 - 7/7	Time for editing full proposals in response to review
7/7	Edited full proposals due for inclusion in P30 proposal