



Woodruff Health Sciences Food, Nutrition and Health Research Awards RFA FY 2026 Pilot Research Awards

RESEARCH AWARDS: The Deans of the Emory School of Medicine (SOM), Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing (SON), and Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH) are soliciting proposals for the **Woodruff Health Sciences Food, Nutrition and Health Research Awards**. These pilot awards support innovative, collaborative research across health sciences investigators that advances our understanding of nutrition and its impact on health. Proposals with the potential to make a transformational impact—whether in fundamental biomedical knowledge or translational application—are being solicited. Priority will be given to proposals that support advancing Emory investigators' ability to compete for federal funding in nutrition-related fields, with a focus on making an impact on the health of communities in Georgia and across the country. Collaborative science and leveraging technology, data science, and AI as research tools are also a priority.

Funding Availability –

- **Awards will be made in \$25,000 increments, up to \$100,000**
- Award Duration: One (1) year per project

Eligibility –

- Faculty PI with a primary appointment in the Emory School of Medicine (SOM), Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing (SON), or Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH) at the rank of Assistant Professor or above at an FTE of 0.5 or higher.
- Cross-school collaboration is required, and preference will be given to proposals demonstrating partnership across all WHSC schools.
- Faculty may participate in more than one proposal but may only serve as PI on one proposal.

Timeline –

February 2, 2026 – RFA released

March 16, 2026 – Proposals due by 5:00 p.m. (no exceptions)

March & April 2026 – Review Period

April 2026 – Award Notifications & Project start

Application Information

Applicants should submit the following materials using [InfoReady](#) no later than 5:00 p.m. (no exceptions) on Monday, March 16, 2026.

Applicants are recommended to gather the information/documents below before beginning the application.

- Title of the proposal/innovation
- Length of project: 1 year
- PI name, credentials, title, and department/division
- If applicable, Co-PI name, credentials, title, and department/division



- Co-Investigators' names, credentials, titles, and departments/divisions
- Summary/Abstract (*500 words maximum*)
- Attachments (*see below*)

Attachments – Each of the following items should be uploaded as a single PDF document following this naming convention: PI last name.first name.WHSNutrition2026.pdf

- Example: Hill.Beth.WHSNutrition2026.pdf

The single PDF must include, in this order:

- **Title page** with name of individual designated as PI and list of co-PI(s); must include signatures of the PI and the Chair/Division Chair of the PI's department (to indicate approval of the proposal). Signature from the co-PI's Department Chair is optional. Note that proposals will not be accepted after the deadline due to a delay in obtaining signatures. (maximum of 1 page)
- **Specific Aims** (*maximum 1 page*)
- **Research Strategy:** Must be formatted by Specific Aim and include sections for Significance, Innovation, and Approach (*maximum 4 pages*)
 - **Brief explanation of how the project will meet each of the criteria:**
1) magnitude of impact if project were to succeed (i.e. potential for significant vs. incremental impact); 2) time to impact (preference given to projects with well-defined time plans and with early and clear go-no-go points); 3) Federal Funding Plan: Describe how this pilot will position the team for federal funding, including planned grant submissions, target agencies, and timeline; 4) creativity and novelty of the idea/approach (*maximum 2 paragraphs within the 4 pages*)
 - **Project Timeline** (*Chart/Table within the 4 pages*)
- **References** (*maximum 1 page*)
- **Budget and justification** (*using this template*) in this breakdown:
 - Dollar amount requested (rounded off to the nearest \$25,000; max of \$100,000)
 - Breakdown of budget (personnel and supplies) with dollar amounts for each
 - Funds may be requested for salaries for faculty, study staff, students, post-doctoral fellows, and other study-related personnel.
 - Travel expenses and equipment are allowable with this funding mechanism.
 - Computers, general-purpose equipment, office supplies, etc. may not be charged to this project.
 - Tuition is not allowed on Woodruff Health Sciences Food, Nutrition and Health Research Awards; however graduate student stipends are allowed.
 - Indirect costs are not allowed on these Awards.
 - No subcontracts are allowed on these Awards.
- **Biosketches:** Include (new) NIH-style ScienCV biosketches for key



personnel. Combine all biosketches into the single overall PDF.

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 if it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%)
- Text color must be black (color text in figures, graphs, diagrams, charts, tables, footnotes, and headings is acceptable)
- The following fonts are acceptable: Arial and Calibri

Progress Reports

Return on investment (publications, patents, presentations, number of grant proposals, etc.) will be tracked. Awardees are required to submit one scientific progress report at the end of the award year.

Financial Reports

The PI's department/school is responsible for financial management of Woodruff Health Sciences Food, Nutrition and Health awards. The PI and the PI's Department/School are responsible for reconciling project accounts as non-sponsored funds.

Citation Requirements

Awardees are required to cite institutional support of the **Emory Woodruff Health Sciences Food, Nutrition and Health Program Awards** on all products (publications, patents, presentations) resulting from this award.

For content questions related to the Woodruff Health Sciences Food, Nutrition and Health Program, please contact:

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