



REQUEST FOR PILOT AND EXPLORATORY STUDY PROPOSALS FOCUSED ON THE THEMATIC AREA BELOW:

The Effects of Cancer on Aging Trajectories and Outcomes

Release Date: September 2, 2021
Letter of Intent Due (Requested): October 11, 2021 by 5:00 pm
Full Application Due: November 1, 2021

Background & Purpose

We are pleased to announce a new pilot and exploratory study (PES) program to promote the development of collaborative research initiatives among Cancer Center members at the intersection of aging and cancer. Priority will be given to applications that are multi-disciplinary, impactful to the catchment area and beyond, and that leverage strengths of our research community. Proposals must be collaborative, and a UFHCC member must be either lead PI or Co-PI*. New collaborations, as well as those that are ongoing but have not yet received extramural-level funding will be considered. Proposals are encouraged that engage the community or focus on under-represented or high priority groups within our catchment area in North Central Florida.

Examples of research themes include (but are not limited to):

- 1) Investigation of aging trajectories associated with specific cancer treatments and identification of cancer survivors at risk for an 'accelerated aging' phenotype;
- 2) Examination of the effects of specific cancer treatments on aging biology that may alter aging trajectories or aging outcomes;
- 3) Development and/or validation of tools, technologies, measures, or techniques for the identification of late-emerging effects and aging phenotypes among cancer survivors;
- 4) Development and/or testing of interventions designed to prevent, mitigate or reverse the adverse aging-related effects of cancer and cancer treatments; and
- 5) Development and/or testing of interventions focused on models and processes of care delivery to intervene at the intersection of cancer treatment and aging.

Successful applications should collect pilot data that will lead to extramural research grants and/or career development awards. Examples of proposals consistent with this opportunity include (but are not limited to) support for:

- Planning/preparatory activities necessary for applying to collaborative, cooperative, or large-scale translational extramural research initiatives (e.g., cohorts, clinical trials, community engagements), particularly those relevant to UFHCC's catchment area and to enhance our capacity for training (K-, R-, and T-series grants).

** Cancer Center membership is available and encouraged for all University of Florida investigators holding a faculty appointment and actively engaged, or demonstrate interest, in cancer-focused basic, clinical, translational, and population-based research.*

What is the application process?

1. While not required, a **letter of intent** to submit an application is requested by **October 11, 2021**. The following items should be included in the letter and should be sent to ResearchAdmin@cancer.ufl.edu.
 - a. Your name, title, email, department and college
 - b. Project title
 - c. Collaborators' names, titles, departments, and colleges
 - d. Relevance to the Cancer-Aging theme described in this RFA
2. **Full Application** using the template found [here](#) and guidelines found [here](#) will be due by **November 1st, 2021**, to ResearchAdmin@cancer.ufl.edu.



What are the budgetary allowances?

1. PES's are up to \$50,000 total in direct costs only. It is the expectation that all funds will be expended within the award year.
 - a. Approved NCE's will allow carryover of funds with an approved scientific justification.
2. PES's with clinical components may be eligible for up to 2 years to allow time for regulatory approval, patient/sample accruals and study completion.
3. Budget and timeline appropriateness are a key basis for evaluation of the application.

ALLOWABLE COSTS

1. Only direct costs that support the advancement of the Specific Aims are allowed.
2. Funds awarded may not be used for indirect costs.
3. Awardees must comply with the broad policies governing cost accounting standards and the [UFHCC Pilot Allowable Cost list](#)

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO DIRECT COSTS

1. Postdoctoral fellow, staff scientists, and staff salaries and graduate student stipends are allowed
2. Faculty salaries are not permitted.
3. Supplies required for the project are allowed. Please indicate nature of supplies and justification.
4. Travel is not permitted unless directly related to the research.

Will support from other entities enhance the potential for funding?

Leveraging funding from this award by combining resources from other entities is encouraged but not required.

When will applicants receive notification of award?

Notification of award is expected by **January 2022** and funds will be distributed **in the Spring of 2022**. The distribution of awards is contingent upon approval of the project from the local Institutional Review Board (IRB) and/or IACUC, as applicable. **Applicants must ensure and/or include the IRB submission process in their timeline.**

Publication Acknowledgement

All publications shall acknowledge that **"Support was provided by the University of Florida Health Cancer Center"** along with the assigned UFHCC PES grant number and must be in PMCID compliance.

Questions

Please direct any questions about the application process or budget requirements to Natalie Wasykowski (352.273.5981; or natalie.roman@ufl.edu). For questions regarding research scope or other science related inquiries, contact Dr. Dejana Braithwaite (dbraithwaite@ufl.edu), Dr. Daohong Zhou (zhoudaohong@cop.ufl.edu), Dr. Steve Anton (santon@ufl.edu), or Dr. Rolf Renne (renne@ufl.edu).