



SPECIAL CALL

REQUEST FOR PILOT AND EXPLORATORY STUDY PROPOSALS

UTILIZATION OF SHARED RESOURCES IN CANCER RESEARCH

Release Date: Friday, December 17, 2021
Full Application Due: Monday, January 31, 2022
Information Session: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 @ 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Zoom Link: ufl.zoom.us/j/93646676391
Meeting ID: 936 4667 6391

Background & Purpose

The UF Health Cancer Center (UFHCC) is pleased to announce a special call for pilot and exploratory studies (PES) proposals to foster the innovative utilization of shared resources in support of research program aims.

We are seeking proposals focused on novel methodology development or innovative application of Shared Resources that will generate preliminary data with high probability of leading to long-term externally peer-reviewed funding in cancer research. The proposal should describe the use of UFHCC Shared Resources including Biostatistics and Quantitative Sciences (BQS), Cancer Informatics Services (CIS), CRISPR Functional Genome Screening (CGS), Flow Cytometry and Confocal Microscopy (CYT), and Next Generation Sequencing (NGS), Shared Resources. Innovative applications utilizing other campus resources including the ICBR (Proteomics & Mass Spectrometry, Monoclonal Antibodies, Gene Expression & Genotyping, and Electron Microscopy) and the Center for Natural Products, Drug Discovery and Development (CNP3) are also welcome.

The specific goals of this **Special Call** are to:

- Foster effective use of UFHCC Shared Resources in supporting member research;
- Develop new biotechnology methods and/or analytical approaches that has potential to lead to grant funding;
- Create synergies and collaborations among UFHCC members and other researchers at the University of Florida, that will lead to impactful publications and federal or other extramural peer-reviewed funding; and
- Stimulate future program-type applications for federal or national extramural peer-reviewed funding.

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:

Who can apply?

- Each project must include at least one [UFHCC member](#), acting as the Contact Principal Investigator (PI). Only independent investigators can apply for funding as a PI.
- Faculty at all academic stages may apply.
- Investigators may submit only one project during a funding cycle as the Contact PI. Clinical/Scientific advisory roles on more than one application are allowed.
- Applications from investigators with active pilot projects or active multi-investigator projects will be administratively disqualified unless:
 - The active project is ending before the award is issued for the current round.
 - or
 - The investigator(s) is/are proposing a project that is clearly scientifically distinct from the currently funded project.

What is the application process?

1. **Full Application** process is online. The UFHCC Online Pilot Application submission can be found [HERE](#). Please read the UFHCC [General Application Instructions](#) for further details. Online applications must be submitted by **Monday, January 31, 2022**, to ResearchAdmin@cancer.ufl.edu. While we encourage engaging your home department research administrators in the preparation and submission of PESP applications, these proposals do not need to be routed through UFIRST and are to be directly submitted to UFHCC Research Administration.

What are the budgetary allowances?

1. PESPs up to **\$10,000** total in direct costs only will be awarded. It is the expectation that all funds will be expended within the award year.
2. Budget and timeline appropriateness are a key basis for evaluation of the application.
3. PESP's awarded are anticipated to be for a 12 month period.
4. Only salary support for BQS-SR staff members is permitted.
5. Upload the [UFHCC Shared Resource Budget Template](#) here.

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 **March, 2022**. The distribution of awards is contingent upon approval of the project from the local Institutional Review Board (IRB) and/or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), as applicable. **Applicants must ensure and/or include the IRB/IACUC 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.

Shared Resource Acknowledgement

All publications utilizing UFHCC Shared Resources shall acknowledge that “**Support was provided by the University of Florida Health Cancer Center <INSERT SHARED RESOURCE>**” 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 Steven Madore, PhD, Ji-Hyun Lee, DrPH, or Robert Houlihan, DHA, MBA, FACHE, CCRP, CRA.