

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS PILOT PROJECTS IN UNC BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CORES

Program Description: The Core Facility Advocacy Committee (CFAC) in the Office of Research Technologies, UNC School of Medicine (SOM), announces a new pilot program for research projects that directly utilize UNC SOM biomedical research cores. Core vouchers worth up to \$10,000 will be awarded to investigators with qualified projects to be used exclusively for core services. Up to 20 awards will be made.

Project Requirements: To be eligible for funding, projects must satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- New method development
- Generation of pilot data for a project not currently funded
- New user of core

This program is not intended to supplement ongoing, funded research but rather to help investigators to innovate, test new ideas, develop a new method, or work with a core that they have not previously used. Awarded funds must be spent by June 30, 2020.

Applicants can be from any department or school at UNC Chapel Hill but must utilize a SOM core. Applicants can be any rank, including tenured and tenure-track faculty, fixed-term faculty, postdoctoral fellows and doctoral students (trainees must have approval from PI).

Application Process: Applications must use the application template and should be submitted by January 6, 2020 to Annabelle Stein at: annabelle.stein@med.unc.edu . Proposals will be reviewed and funding decisions made by the end of January.

Awards will be paid directly to the core facility upon receipt of an invoice from the core for completed work.

Application Instructions:

- Use the template provided to complete your application
- The description of the project can follow the format of a typical specific aims page for an NIH grant and should include study design and expected outcomes
- Provide a detailed budget (core services you plan to utilize)
- Provide current Other Support document and brief statement regarding how the data will be used
- Consultation with the core director/manager is required prior to submission of the application. The core director/manager should be cc'd on the submission and they will be asked to certify by email that the project was discussed in detail.
- Awarded projects are expected to provide a brief follow-up report at 6-12 months following the award. CFAC will provide a report template for this purpose. Cores should be cited in published work.

Review Criteria: Successful applications will satisfy the project requirements listed above and will be assessed by two *ad hoc* reviewers for innovation, significance and approach. The 9-point NIH rating scale will be used (1 = exceptional; 9 = poor).

Questions? Please contact Chris Gregory at Christopher_gregory@med.unc.edu or Annabelle Stein at corefacilities@med.unc.edu