

UAB School of Medicine Comprehensive Cardiovascular Center (CCVC) and the Inflammation, Infection and Immunity (I3) Steering Committees

2017 Joint Pilot Grant REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS Deadline: 5pm CT, April 15, 2017 (LOI) July 15, 2017 (Full Proposal)

In response to strategic investments by the UAB SOM in I3 relevant research, the UAB Comprehensive Cardiovascular Center is pleased to announce a joint RFA with the I3 steering committee to fund one or more pilot projects that focus on Inflammation, Infection or Immunity (broadly written) in the context of cardiovascular disease research. The I3 matching funds can be used to generate key preliminary data and/or to continue advancing projects that are undergoing extramural peer review.

Projects, particularly multi-PI projects that have advanced beyond the first stages of planning are especially welcome. Projects that are responsive to an upcoming/issued RFA or will enhance likelihood of continued extramural P30/P50/P60 support for one or more UAB centers will be deemed highly responsive.

If funded, the proposed start date of the Joint Pilot grant will be September 1, 2017. It is anticipated that 1 pilot project with a budget not exceeding a total of \$50,000 will be awarded based on merit and availability of funds. Awards are not renewable. Half the budget will be allocated at the outset of the award. Awardees will be required to provide a six-month interim presentation to the committee on project progress as well as a one-year final report on accomplishments.

ELIGIBILITY and EXPECTATIONS

1. Open to all UAB faculty members at any rank.
2. Projects can be clinical, population, basic science, or a combination. This RFA is specifically soliciting innovative and high-impact science.
3. Preference will be given to multi-investigator proposals.
4. Applications that are extensions of currently funded research will not be considered.
5. Require IRB protocol submission prior to the funding start date (if applicable).
6. The selected pilot project is expected to lead to the submission of an extramural multi-PI, NIH grant application.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

1. A two page pre-proposal should be submitted by April 15, 2017 5pm (CT) and should include: title of proposal; names of the PI and applicants; a brief statement of goals; how the proposed research addresses a critical population or clinical issue related to I3 and cardiovascular disease and plans for a subsequent application for extramural funding; NIH bio-sketch of the principal investigator(s) should also be submitted.
2. PIs of the most meritorious pre-proposals will be notified by June 1, 2017 and the full proposal will be due by 5 PM on July 15, 2017. The full application must include, in the following order:
 - Project title and summary describing the potential translational implications of the project and list of all participants, their expertise and contributions to the project, **(1 page)**;
 - NIH bio-sketches for each proposed faculty participant **(max 5 pages per investigator)**;
 - Budget and justification, including description of management of the project, **(max 2 pages)**, along with the source and extent of any matching funds and other available resources.
 - Scientific overview of project including hypotheses, aims, significance, innovation, clinical relevance and approach **(max 5 pages)**
 - Timeline of planned milestones and deliverables, with a description of the NIH (or other) grant mechanism that will be targeted **(0.5 page)**.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications must be submitted electronically in a single PDF to Megan Pickering (meganpickering@uabmc.edu) by 5:00pm CT on April 15, 2017 (pre-proposal) and July 15, 2017 (final proposal). All applications should use the NIH PHS 398 forms for the cover page, key personnel, budget, budget justification and the 5 page NIH bio-sketch with other support for all key personnel. Applications must use Arial 11 point font with 0.5 inch margins. Faculty salary, travel or publication costs are not to be included. Post Doc/Technician salary/fringe of 25% or less of the budget will be considered. Applications that are not formatted as described will not be reviewed.

KEY DATES

March 7, 2017: RFA Announcement
April 15, 2017: Pre-proposal deadline
June 1, 2017: Successful applicants notified and full proposal requested
July 15, 2017: Full proposal deadline
September 1, 2017: Funding start date