

Mechanism Purpose

This award mechanism is designed to provide seed money to:

- The purpose will be to generate preliminary data for submission of a large multi-PI grant such as a P01 or a SPORE
- Applicants should discuss their proposed multi-PI research project, the proposed PIs, the desired preliminary data and how it will be generated, and why such preliminary data is necessary to support their multi-PI project.

This award mechanism cannot be used as faculty bridge funding

Pilot study proposals must describe how the work will lead to a national, cancer-focused peer-reviewed research grant (for a list of NIH-NCI recognized Funding Organizations with Approved Peer Review and Funding Systems - go to: <http://cancercenters.cancer.gov/PoliciesResources/PoliciesResources>.)

Responsive Research Projects

This funding opportunity supports discrete, well-defined projects that realistically can be completed in a one-year period and that require limited levels of funding. Examples of the types of projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Pilot or feasibility studies
- Generation of sequencing data to answer an important question
- Development of research methodology
- Development or application of new research technology

Key Dates

Posted Date: September 3, 2019
Application Due Date(s): **APPLICATION DEADLINE IS NOON, December 13, 2019**
Applications received after the deadline may not be considered.

Applicant Eligibility Information

- Requires a full-time faculty appointment (Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor) and Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey membership
- Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey Members who have received pilot award support previously are eligible to apply in this round if prior supported pilot project(s) are completed and a final report has been received; if a pilot project is still active, please contact the office of Administration and Planning to determine eligibility.

Questions about CINJ Membership or to request a Membership Application, please contact Paul Novembre at novembre@cinj.rutgers.edu.

Funding Information

Up to two (2) awards may be funded in this round at \$50,000 each. The term of award is 12 months. Anticipated start date of funding is March 1, 2020 or upon Institution Review Board (IRB) approval if applicable.

Budget

The maximum amount for the award can vary but should not exceed \$50,000 total costs. This is a one-year award and funds cannot be carried forward. Unspent funds at the end of the grant period will be returned to Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

General Review Criteria

One of the major goals of Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey is to foster the development of translational cancer-related research. Another goal is to support the development of new approaches to the study, diagnosis, treatment or prevention of cancer. Therefore, all applications will be judged based on:

- Research significance
- Scientific innovation
- Impact of findings
- Soundness of scientific approach
- Collaboration between MPIs

Selection Process

Peer review of applications follows NIH procedures and scoring convention. All applications are evaluated and scored according to scientific merit and in accordance with this RFA. Primary and secondary subject-specific expert reviewers are assigned to each application and are expected to attend an in-person review group meeting. The reviewers each complete written NIH-style critique forms, provide their comments and a priority score to the entire review panel in person, and along with all members of the panel, discuss at least the top 50% of the applications scored. The final priority scores from each of the panel members are tallied and a summary of the discussion and the panel's recommendations for funding are made to the Research Leadership Council. Following review, final recommendations are made to the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey Director, who maintains final discretion over allocation of all internal research award funds.

Application and Submission Information

The application format requires an abstract that fits into the indicated text box and then follows an R21 format for NIH but with a shorter page limit (five pages for all components exclusive of the bibliography, single-spaced, 0.5-inch margins and Arial 11 font):

- Specific Aims
- Significance/Background
- Innovation
- Research Approach (include preliminary data, experimental design/methods)

All submissions should be inclusive of the following components:

- NIH-formatted Biosketch of the Principal Investigators and all other collaborating investigators
- Scientific Abstract (500 words or less)
- Multi-PI Plan
- Detailed Budget (if non-Rutgers collaborator, an additional budget for that site is required)
- Budget Justification (if non-Rutgers collaborator, an additional budget justification for that site is required)
- Rutgers Sub-commitment Recipient Form (required if non-Rutgers collaborator)
- Rutgers Statement of Intent (required if non-Rutgers collaborator)
- Statement of Work (required if non-Rutgers collaborator)
- Other Support (fill in the table for each investigator or attach an NIH Other Support Page)

An additional section of this application outlines how the data will be used for a grant application and planned publications.

Source(s) of Funding Support

This award will be supported by two (2) sources of funding; the Cancer Center Support Grant (P30CA072720) awarded by the National Cancer Institute to the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and Center funds.

Terms of Award

- During the proposal submission stage, a Rutgers Funding Proposal is not necessary. However, before any internal award funds are dispersed a Rutgers Funding Proposal is REQUIRED.
- F&A or indirect costs are not allowable. Submission of an application indicates acceptance of this provision.
- Inclusion of small, non-routine equipment may be allowed with strong justification provided in application.

- All awards must have institutional regulatory approvals (IRB, IACUC, etc.) before funds will be disbursed.
- Grantees will be required to submit a 6-month progress report and a final report describing the results of their work, as well as related publications and funding. Acceptance implies a firm commitment to provide the reports in a timely manner.
- Grantee will be required to submit a publication, including data that will lead to an NCI Research Grant proposal application.
- Grantee will be expected to present their research to the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey Community Advisory Council
- Award recipients will be expected to participate in the Annual Retreat on Cancer Research in New Jersey.
- Publications resulting from research supported by this award should contain an acknowledgment of "The Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey (P30CA072720) and other funding source, if used.

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Email completed application (combined PDF file) & address questions:
cinjpilotprogram@cinj.rutgers.edu