v. 08.20.22

GUIDELINES FOR CFAR SPECIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The UAB Center for AIDS Research seeks to support and catalyze rapid response research at UAB focused on the emerging Monkeypox epidemic, in the context of HIV. Proposals must address both HIV and Monkeypox. Basic, clinical, sociobehavioral, implementation science, public health, and/or multidisciplinary research projects will be considered. Priority populations include people living with HIV and/or people at increased risk for HIV (e.g., men who have sex with men, people of trans experience, sex workers, people who inject drugs) who are currently on or actively seeking to be on PrEP. International projects are not permitted.

We anticipate funding 1 application with to $40,000 for 1-year.

Examples of Potential Project Areas (but not limited to):

- Understanding susceptibility, local transmission, risk factors for, and clinical outcomes of monkeypox
- Effects of the monkeypox outbreak on health outcomes
- Health equity research related to monkeypox care, delivery, or treatment
- Community-engaged research on stigma reduction and/or prevention messaging aimed at preventing, acquiring HIV and/or monkeypox
- Implementation science research on the local response in the context of a monkeypox outbreak and the implications for HIV prevention/care delivery; dissemination research
- Monkeypox virology and/or immune responses; uptake of and immune responses to approved and candidate monkeypox vaccines
- Basic research, including use of animal models, to better understand the intersection of monkeypox virus and HIV.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Only faculty are eligible to apply. Faculty from other institutions are not eligible; an appointment at UAB is required.
- The integration of early stage faculty with other UAB researchers and community partners/stakeholders will be reviewed favorably within the context of a team building approach, if applicable.
- Established investigators who are new to HIV research (i.e., no prior HIV/AIDS funding of any type) and are looking to explore the field of Monkeypox in the context of HIV/AIDS are encouraged and eligible to apply.
- **Per NIH guidance, clinical trials are not allowed.** To determine the difference between clinical studies and clinical trials, please refer to https://grants.nih.gov/policy/clinical-trials/definition.htm**.**

Timeline:

- RFA Released: **August 26th, 2022**
- Deadline for 2-page Concept: **September 19th, 2022**
- Deadline for Full Applications: **October 17th, 2022**
- Funding Start: **Early November 2022**

Concept Proposals

To apply for CFAR funding please email Mary Thielen mthielen@uabmc.edu and submit the following information as a single combined PDF including the concept proposal and biosketches as indicated below. For questions, email Mary Thielen.

Concept Proposal (2-page limit)

Project Description

Outline the hypotheses, specific aims, brief preliminary data (if any), and brief research design. As the criteria for funding are primarily based upon the scientific merit, significance, approach, and innovation, concepts should address these topic areas.

Combined Significance and Innovation Section

Briefly explain the importance/significance of the proposed project, the innovative nature of the proposal and how the proposed research will advance the field of Monkeypox in the context of HIV.

Biosketches (Include one for each investigator) (Does not count toward 2-page limit)

All applicants and collaborators should submit NIH biosketches with personal statements adapted to describe defined roles on the project. Use the NIH form.

Researchers whose proposals are selected for the full proposal competition phase will be notified by email.

Full Applications

Full Proposals will be submitted to Mary Thielen mthielen@uabmc.edu in one Adobe PDF file. The full proposal will be submitted using the forms used commonly for NIH grant applications (PHS 398 forms) and should follow a modified NIH investigator initiated grant application (R01) format.

For detailed instructions on how to fill out the forms see: http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/grants/app/default.htm with the following modifications. The Research Plan (Specific Aims through Approach) is limited to 4 pages (Bibliography and References Cited sections do not count toward the page limit). No appendices are allowed. Do not submit Targeted/Planned Enrollment Tables. Applications must be in English. ***Please note that applications that do not adhere to the instructions will not be considered.***

The Full Proposal should include (in this order in a single Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) file):

1. Complete budget and justification: (Download: MS Word or PDF)
2. Research Plan (Maximum 4 pages for **a-d** below). Use PHS 398 Continuation Format pages (Download: MS Word or PDF).
    a. Specific Aims (suggested length ½ page)
    b. Significance (suggested length 1 page)
    c. Innovation (suggested length ½ page)
    d. Approach (suggested length 2 pages)
3. Description of the Research Environment (suggested length ½ page). Use PHS 398 Continuation Format pages (Download: MS Word or PDF).
4. Bibliography and References cited (as needed) Use PHS 398 Continuation Format pages (Download: MS Word or PDF).
5. Protection of Human Subjects (if applicable; maximum 1 page). Use PHS 398 Continuation Format pages (Download: MS Word or PDF). You will be asked for additional Human Subjects forms should you be selected for funding.
6. Vertebrate Animals (if applicable; maximum 1 page). Use PHS 398 Continuation Format pages (Download: MS Word or PDF).

7. Letters of Support (letters of support from collaborators essential to the proposed project must accompany the application).

Budget Development Guidelines and Restrictions (NIH budget form (Form page 5) with justification)

- Maximum direct costs will be specified at the time of the announcement; Indirect costs are allowed at the UAB rate. Awards are one year in length. One no-cost extension may be requested at the end of the first year budget period only.
- Salary support for faculty is limited to 10% for the PI, unless special permission is received.
- Budgeting for travel to other conferences to present project research results is allowable (travel budget limited to no more than $2000).
- Costs associated with Institutional Review Board (IRB) review of human research protocols, or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) review of animal research protocols, are not allowable as direct charges. Submit a CFAR Researcher Support Funding Application for such costs (see CFAR Developmental Core Page).
- Awardees who have support from K awards should discuss eligibility issues with their program officers and with institutional officials as eligibility may vary by NIH sponsor for the K award and institutional policies. The staff of this mechanism is not able to determine eligibility for K awardees.
- Current T32 awardees can apply for CFAR funds provided NO salary/stipends are taken from the CFAR award.
- All costs must conform to the NIH Grants Policy Statement (GPS) and applicable U.S. Office of Management and Budget OMB circulars for necessity and reasonability, allocability, conformance and consistency, as well as allowability. Please follow the link below to section 7.2 cost principles section of the NIH Grants Policy Statement.

Review Criteria

A Scientific Selection Committee (SSC) consisting of members from the CFAR Executive Committee in addition to peers with relevant expertise will review the applications. Criteria for selection are primarily based upon the scientific merit, investigative team, significance, approach, and innovation.

Applications should describe how data resulting from the Developmental Award will be used to apply for K- or R-NIH funding. Applications based on a high degree of innovation are preferred. The use of CFAR Core Services is strongly recommended. Applications will be reviewed by the CFAR Biostatistics and Analysis Team as part of the review process.

Award Details

Pre-Award Approvals

Funding will be awarded from the UAB CFAR Finance Office. All questions regarding the award of funding should be directed to the contact listed in the notice of award. Prior to the award of funding, the following information must be provided, if applicable:

- Animal Care and Institutional Review Board approvals, if applicable, must be obtained prior to receipt of an award, but are not required to submit an application. Prior to funding, a copy of all Institutional Biohazard, Animal Care and Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals must be forwarded to the post-award administrator. Prior to receipt of an award involving human subjects, IRB approval from all participating sites and human subjects training certification for all key personnel will be required.
- For more information about human subjects approval, see: http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/ and http://funding.niaid.nih.gov/researchfunding/sci/human/pages/default.aspx.

- For more information on animal care approvals, see: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm and http://funding.niaid.nih.gov/researchfunding/sci/animal/pages/default.aspx.

Post-Award Requirements

- Applicants chosen for funding will be expected to present the details of their study to the CFAR Research Roundtable Meeting or the UAB CCTS Panels Done Quickly (PDQ) Committee for review of the study. This will provide an opportunity to identify additional synergies within CFAR, explore other means of support and recommendations to enhance the study. Other presentations, including a 'research in progress talk' (midway) and at the end of the funding period may also be requested.
- Applicants may be required to attend mentoring activities sponsored by the CFAR. These activities may include workshops, trainings or meeting with advisors to facilitate faculty development.
- Applications may be partially funded across two CFAR budget periods in partial amounts. Remainder of funding will be awarded upon satisfactory progress towards the proposed aims and evidence of appropriate spending. Awarded funds should be expended within a 12 month period beginning with the date of the award. Funds can be extended for a 6 month period with justification.
- Awardees will be required to submit yearly progress reports**. Awardees will be tracked after the award ends to monitor productivity (abstracts, publications, grants).
- Applications that include the use of human subjects, will be contacted by CFAR Administration to collect required human subjects documentation.
- Support from this mechanism must be acknowledged in all publications and presentations. Visit the CFAR website for language describing the appropriate acknowledgement of this funding source (Link to CFAR Branding).
- If for any reason the awardee is unable to fulfill the requirements or adhere to the policies of the award, at the discretion of the funding mechanism leadership, the award may be revoked.

**All recipients of CFAR funding are obliged to provide information, not limited to, progress reports, final performance reports, and outcome reports, as requested by the CFAR Administrative Core. Failure to provide such information in a prompt and timely manner may result in the immediate termination of the grant and will preclude the grantee from applying for future CFAR funding opportunities.

For questions, contact Mary Thielen at mthielen@uabmc.edu as the UAB CFAR Program Director.