Developmental Funds Mechanism to Support Investigators with the Resubmission of Grant Applications with Scores Near the Pay Line

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Objective
The primary purpose of this developmental funds pilot program mechanism is to support UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center (UNMCCC) investigators with the resubmission of grant applications that received initial scores near to the pay line (25th percentile or less).

Eligibility
All members of the UNMCCC in good standing (meeting the criteria of the UNMCCC Participation Policy - must attend 50% or greater of their assigned programs’ official meetings, retreats and other research events on an annual basis) whose initial grant applications to the NIH were scored close to the pay line (25th percentile of less) and are planning a resubmission are eligible to apply. Applications that scored above the 25th percentile will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The review committee will consider other funding available to the PI including UNMCCC start-up funds and pilot grants when making funding decisions.

Term of Funding
These awards are intended to support investigators with resubmission of grant applications to the NIH that were scored at the 25th percentile of less. These awards are for a 1-year period. Expenditures may begin at any time after the official start date but all funds must be expended within the award period and used to develop additional data needed for a successful resubmission of the original application. Resubmission must occur within 2 cycles. No cost extensions will not be allowed on this mechanism and funds not expended within one year will be returned to the UNMCCC. Successful applicants must produce a 2-3 page final report within 30 days of the award end date.

Awards will be based upon need and available funds with a $100,000 maximum (direct costs only).

Key Dates
- Application Due Date: Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Allowable Costs
The award should be used for expenses related to the resubmission of corresponding external grant application project only. Resubmission must occur within 2 cycles. The award should be used for research activities and cannot be used for faculty salary support or for the purchase of large equipment. Funding is available for salaries and fringe benefits of post-doctoral fellows, students, technicians, and other non-faculty project personnel costs. Laboratory supplies and other related research non-personnel expenses are appropriate with the exception of: travel to scientific meetings; office furniture and equipment; and, computers.
**Format**
Proposals should be submitted in one PDF file and include the following items:

**Application Components**
1. **Cover Letter** - please include:
   a. Project title
   b. Original submission sponsor and submission date
   c. Expected Resubmission date
   d. Statement outlining the additional data/work to be performed and how it addresses the critiques from the original application and improves the changes of successful funding
2. **External Award “Pink Sheet”**
3. **Budget Request and budget justification** (using PHS398 budget forms) – this is required to set up selected awards

**Application Process**
1. Proposals should be submitted electronically in one PDF to UNMCC-PilotProgram@salud.unm.edu.
2. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

**Application Review Process and Selection of Awardees**
Applications will be reviewed by UNMCCC Senior Leadership and invited ad hoc reviewers with appropriate expertise as needed. The most important review criteria will be the likelihood that the requested funds will lead to a successful extramural grant application. Based upon this review, recommendations for funding will be made by the UNMCCC Senior Leadership. Proposed budgets will be scrutinized and may be reduced at the discretion of the UNMCCC Senior Leadership. The maximum award is $100,000 for one year.

Applicants will be notified of award status following the review by Senior Leadership.

**Award Management**
All funds must be spent within the 1-year period of the award. Unused funds will be returned to the central Cancer Center budget for redistribution. If the Senior Leadership terminate an award for non-compliance or non-performance, remaining balances will be returned to the Cancer Center budget for redistribution within the next award cycle.

**Change In Status Of Awardee**
Awards must remain solely with the designated awardee and cannot be transferred to any other personnel. If a recipient decides to discontinue his or her work in the Cancer Center, the award will be terminated as described above, and unused funds will be returned to the UNMCCC. Likewise, if an investigator awardee changes institutions during the funding period, the award cannot be transferred and the remaining balance will be returned to the central UNMCCC budget.

**Expectations of Award Recipients**
Recipients of these awards are expected to actively participate in UNMCCC activities such as seminars, meetings, and retreats. Awardees will be expected to present their research findings at an applicable UNMCCC retreats and/or meetings if requested. All correspondence should be sent to UNMCC-PilotProgram@salud.unm.edu including:
• All required progress reports, and all additional requests for updates for the UNMCCC Senior Leadership, and/or Administration.
• A financial accounting of project funds.
• Annual reports for up to 5 years of funding and publications (with PMCID numbers) resulting from the award.

Additionally, recipients are expected to appropriately acknowledge the pilot funding. All material derived from the research supported by UNMCCC funding that is published or presented must carry a statement that credits the Cancer Center Support Grant P30CA118100 and Shared Resources, where appropriate. Publications resulting from this award fall under the NIH Public Access Policy and must obtain a valid PMCID. Publications that cite the Cancer Center Support Grant funding will be included in progress reports to NCI.

Any questions on this pilot grant project should be directed to Dr. Alan Tomkinson ATomkinson@salud.unm.edu