

UAB Center for Free Radical Biology (CFRB) and the Inflammation, Infection and Immunity (I3) Steering Committees Joint Research Pilot Grants

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

In response to strategic investments by the UAB SOM in I3 relevant research, the UAB Center for Free Radical Biology is pleased to announce a joint RFA with the I3 steering committee to fund two innovative pilot projects. Project focus should align with a focus on Inflammation, Infection, Immunity **and** Redox biology (broadly written) and have a clear translational focus or potential. All research and disease areas will be considered as long as they integrate I3 and redox biology relevant topics.

Projects, particularly interdisciplinary multi-PI projects that have advanced beyond the first stages of planning are especially welcome and should be designed to generate sufficient data for use in extramural funding applications including large programmatic grants (e.g., R01, DoD, PPG, P50, U54). 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. Applications from PIs from multiple schools are also encouraged. Funds can be used to generate key preliminary data for new projects and/or to continue advancing projects that are undergoing extramural peer review.

If funded, the proposed start date of the Joint Pilot grant will be August 1, 2019. It is anticipated that two pilot projects, each with a budget not exceeding a total of \$60,000 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, provide a one-year final report on accomplishments and present their findings at relevant seminar series on campus.

ELIGIBILITY and EXPECTATIONS:

1. Open to all UAB faculty members at any rank.
2. Projects can be basic, biochemical, molecular, translational, clinical, or population-based, 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. A statement describing how this application differs from currently funded projects should be included.
4. Requires IRB and/or IACUC protocol submission prior to the funding start date (if applicable).
6. Selected pilot projects are expected to lead to the submission of an extramural NIH or equivalent grant application within 12 months of pilot project expiration. PIs are strongly encouraged to engage with and utilize project development resources within the CCTS during and after project expiration.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

1. A proposal (no more than 3 pages) should be submitted by **June 7th, 2019 5pm (CST)** and should include:
 - Project title and summary describing the potential translational implications of the project and list of all investigators, collaborators, their expertise and contributions to the project, **(0.5 page)**;
 - Scientific overview of project including hypotheses, aims, significance, innovation, clinical / translational relevance to research areas listed above, approach and any pertinent preliminary data.
 - A brief statement of plans for how funds would be utilized; plans for subsequent application for extramural funding;
 - NIH bio-sketch of the principal investigator(s) should also be submitted. Biosketches do not count towards three page limit.
 - Budget and justification. Faculty salary, travel or publication costs are not allowable. Post Doc/Technician/Research personnel salary/fringe of 50% or less of the budget will be considered.
2. PIs of the most (top 4-5) meritorious pre-proposals will be notified by **June 24th, 2019** and invited to present their proposal (15min talk + 5 min Q&A) to a review panel after which two proposals will be selected for funding.

PROPOSAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Applications must be submitted electronically in a single PDF to Samantha Gromko (samanthagromko@uabmc.edu). 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. Applications that are not formatted as described will not be reviewed.

QUESTIONS: If you have questions concerning eligibility or the submission of these proposals, please contact Dr. Rakesh Patel (rakeshpatel@uabmc.edu; 975-9225) or Fran Lund (flund@uab.edu; 934-9042).

KEY DATES

March 26th, 2019: RFA Announcement

June 7th, 2019: Pre-proposal deadline

June 24th, 2019: Successful applicants notified and invited to present their proposal to a review panel

July 8th- July 19th: Proposal presentations (to be scheduled)

Aug 1st 2019: Funding start date