



Cross Campus Collaboration

The UCLA Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), UCLA AIDS Institute and the Keck School of Medicine of USC, Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology are accepting Letters of Intent for seed grant proposals to encourage cross campus collaborations in one of the NIH High Priority Topics of HIV research. **The goal of these grants is to encourage collaborations across campuses in order to facilitate development of preliminary data that will be leveraged for future submissions of program project applications or equivalent funding mechanisms.**

Funding level: \$50,000 (total over the 2 year period/application)

Deadline for receipt of Letters of Intent: October 2, 2017

All applications require a Letter of Intent. Applicants whose Letters of Intent are favorably reviewed will be invited to submit a formal proposal. Formal proposals will then be due by **December 11, 2017**.

The project period will be two years, with the earliest start date of February 2018.

Investigator eligibility

Investigators applying for seed grants must be:

- Faculty (Adjunct, In-residence, or Regular Professor series, Assistant Research Biologists Step 2 and higher, or Clinical Instructor series and higher), at UCLA, an affiliated institution, or collaborating community-based organization.
- This will be a multi PI grant, and one of the PI's must be a [NIH defined new investigator](#).

Funding criteria

- The Institute is accepting research proposals in AIDS areas that address any of the NIH High Priority Topics of research support using AIDS designated funds. ([High Priority AIDS Topics](#)).
- Established projects will not be considered.
- Projects must involve novel collaborations involving two or more faculty members (at least one from each campus). The application must demonstrate that:
 - Each party's contribution to the collaboration comes from expertise in distinct disciplines without overlapping areas of research or technical know-how.
 - A substantial contribution is made by each party in the collaboration (for example, simple provision of reagents or advice by one party would not qualify).
 - The work could not be performed effectively without the collaboration.
 - **Proposals that involve junior investigator positions in addition to the required Co-PI will receive funding priority.**
- Applicants should describe all preliminary data supporting the project.
- Proposals should outline clearly how research funded by the seed grant could be translated into a larger project, particularly an NIH R01 level grant, an R34, an R21 or equivalent funded by a non-governmental source (e.g. amfAR, CIRM, pharmaceutical company, or private foundation).
- Only US-based projects will be considered.
- Although IRB and/or IACUC approval is not required prior to the submission of the application, release of funding will be contingent on receipt of IRB and/or IACUC approval notice(s) listing the UCLA CFAR grant number 5P30 AI028697, UCLA AIDS Institute, and Keck School of Medicine of USC, as funding sources for the proposed project.

- Please note that human subjects younger than 18 are classified as children (per NIH guidelines) and additional approvals such as informed consent will be required before funding can be released.
- No indirect costs may be included.
- Grants will be reviewed by a peer-review committee.
- Progress reports and end of project reports will be required.
- Evidence of investigator productivity will be considered during the review. This includes, but is not limited to evidence of ongoing application for outside funding by PI, funding received as a result of any previous CFAR pilot project, PI publication record especially if applicant is a previous CFAR pilot project recipient.

CFAR core facilities are available, on a recharge basis, in these areas: virology, cytometry, humanized mice, gene and cellular therapy, biostatistics, mucosal immunology, and clinical research facilitation (IRB and patient registry). USC users will receive CFAR membership rates for use of CFAR cores. For contact information, please see <http://aidsinstitute.ucla.edu/cfar>.

Instructions for letters of intent

Letters of intent must be no longer than 2 pages, and must include the following:

- Your name, degrees, and full contact information (email, phone, mailing address)
- Confirmation that project addresses a NIH High Priority topic for AIDS research
- Brief summary of the proposed research project
- Roles of the collaborating investigators
- Brief summary of your experience conducting similar research
- Total amount of funding requested
- How this award would facilitate future submissions of program projects or similar collaborative grants.
- Must also include NIH biosketch (does not count towards the 2 page limit)

Letters of intent must be received no later than **4:00 pm** on **October 2, 2017**. They can be sent via post **or** email to: UCLA AIDS Institute, 10940 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 960, Los Angeles, CA 90024, aidsinst@ucla.edu

Instructions for formal proposals will then be forwarded to applicants whose letters of intent are approved. Formal proposals will then be due **no later than 4:00pm on December 11, 2017.**

Successful applicant PIs must provide their NIH Commons ID number. During the award period and for up to ten years post-award, awardees must provide the following information to the UCLA AI/CFAR by November 30 of each year: (1) all publications that resulted from AI/CFAR and USC supported research with PubMed ID, and (2) all PHS and non-PHS federal support that contributed to or resulted from the AI/CFAR and CTSI-supported research.

**Questions about eligibility, letters of intent, or formal proposals can be directed to
Jina Lee, aidsinst@ucla.edu, 310-794-5335**