Purpose and Research Focus

The Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center (HICCC) seeks to unite investigators with interests in cancers and to stimulate others in the biomedical community to enter cancer research. One important aspect of this effort is the funding of Pilot/Feasibility Projects.

Pilot/Feasibility Projects should be related to the focus of the HICCC, which spans cancer and cancer-related basic science, translational science, clinical research and trials, clinical care and population science.

VELOCITY Clinical, Translational and Population Science Cancer Research Awards

For this Request for Applications, which is funded through Velocity - Columbia’s Ride to End Cancer, the focus is bi-directional translational research that drives translation to new clinical trials or clinical research generating novel hypothesis-testing research questions. Pilot studies may also include translation to the community setting for cancer prevention.

Eligibility

All faculty members of the Columbia University scientific community who meet the eligibility requirements below are invited to submit proposals.

1. New investigators engaged in cancer or cancer-relevant research who have never held independent extramural support (R01 or equivalent).
2. Established investigators engaged in cancer or cancer-relevant research who wish to study an area that is part of their current work. Proposals that represent a significant departure from currently funded work are also encouraged.
3. Established investigators in other areas of biomedical research who wish to apply their expertise to a problem in cancer.

Special consideration will be given to disease teams or researchers who participated in Velocity.

Scope

Novel, unfunded projects within the translational spectrum of cancer research. Preclinical projects must indicate clearly how the work will drive novel clinical research and enable new clinical trials. Proposals for correlative studies leveraging existing clinical trials must define how the proposed research will generate novel hypotheses and how the findings will drive new research questions.

Award

A one year grant of $100,000 to support personnel and supplies. Funds may not be used to support faculty salaries, capital equipment, travel or indirect costs. It is anticipated that up to 5 meritorious awards will be made, to commence in May, 2019.

Proposal submission

Please go to the HICCC website Funding Opportunities page to download an application template. Submit the following in a single pdf by email (es3551@cumc.columbia.edu) by Wednesday March 13th, 2019, 5pm Eastern Time.
1. **Cover page** including a project title, an abstract of up to 250 words and list of approved or pending IACUC/IRB protocols

2. **Research proposal**, 4-pages in total that includes:
   - Background (up to 1/2 page)
   - Specific aims (up to 1/2 page)
   - Preliminary studies (up to 1 page)
   - Research plan, expected usage of HICCC Shared Resources
   - Future directions (include how the proposed study, if funded, will lead to a new NIH/NCI grant proposal)

3. **References** that include titles and full author lists (up to 1 page; not included in the 4-page limit)

4. **Itemized budget** with justification (carry-forward requests at the end of the award term may be allowed pending review)

5. **NIH Biosketches** for all key personnel

6. **NIH Other Support** for all key personnel

**Review process**

Review will be conducted by a committee of external and internal experts. Anonymized critiques will be shared with applicants, whether funded or not.

Question or additional information, please contact Dr. Emer Smyth (es3551@cumc.columbia.edu), 212-851-4878.