CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Michigan Diabetes Research Center (MDRC)

2020-21 Pilot/Feasibility Grant Program

Application Due Date: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 (11:59 PM)

PURPOSE

The Pilot/Feasibility (P/F) Grant Program is sponsored by the Michigan Diabetes Research Center (MDRC). Its purpose is to promote research in diabetes by new and established investigators at the University of Michigan. The ultimate goal of the program is to accelerate the pace of research and enable awardees to generate sufficient preliminary data for successful applications for major research funding from the NIH or other national granting agency.

Grant proposals may be in the areas of basic biomedical or clinical research and should address key questions regarding the pathogenesis, diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of diabetes, its complications, or related endocrine or metabolic disorders (for example: obesity, metabolic syndrome, counter-regulatory proteins).

For the 2020/21 cycle, the MDRC and MNORC will coordinate their grant cycles. If applicants for an MDRC grant wish their grant to also be considered for funding by MNORC, they should select the appropriate box on their MDRC application. Applicants should not submit as Principle Investigator the same or very similar grant to MNORC if submitting their grant to MDRC. Only one grant on the same or similar topics per PI will be reviewed.

ELIGIBILITY

Individuals who have instructional, research or clinical faculty positions at the University of Michigan are eligible to apply as Principal Investigators of P/F proposals. Eligible applicants are: a) new investigators beginning careers in diabetes-related research; b) established investigators who have not previously worked in diabetes research but wish to focus their expertise on diabetes; or c) established diabetes investigators who propose innovative research in diabetes that represents a clear departure from their ongoing research. This new direction cannot be an extension or outgrowth of research currently being undertaken by the applicant. Priority is given to investigators in category “a” followed by investigators in category “b”. Individuals who receive a 2020-21 MDRC P/F grant are not eligible to receive a 2020-21 MDRC Diabetes Interdisciplinary Study Program grant.

PROPOSALS

P/F proposals should be for one year of support with funding up to $50,000 direct costs.

Each proposal will receive extramural peer review by recognized experts in the area of the proposal from the United States and abroad. Revised proposals from previous cycles are considered new applications and will be reviewed as such. The MDRC Grants Program Advisory Council of expert investigators reviews the P/F applications together with their respective peer evaluations and ranks the applications based on scientific merit and relevancy to diabetes research before final funding decisions are made. Funding of P/F grants that receive favorable review is anticipated to begin December 1, 2020.

P/F grant awardees are queried annually by MDRC administrative staff and are required to provide information on the publications and funding that stem from the P/F grant as this information must be reported to NIH. P/F grant awardees are also expected to present their research at the Annual MDRC Diabetes Symposium.
generally held in the spring. If awarded, junior faculty will need to identify a mentor and investigators outside the diabetes field will need to identify a diabetes advisor.

TO APPLY THROUGH COMPETITION SPACE:
- Visit umms.infoready4.com
- From the list of titles, select Michigan Diabetes Research Center (MDRC) Pilot/Feasibility Grant Program.
- Download the P/F Application and other Required Application Materials located on the right-hand side of the page (Competition Files). The P/F Application file contains detailed application instructions.
- When you are ready to submit your application, select “Apply” from the right-hand menu in this Competition Space opportunity. Log in with your uniqname and Level 1 (Kerberos) password.
- All details are automatically saved as you enter them. When you are ready to submit, click “Submit Application” at the bottom of the page. You will receive a confirmation email once your application has been submitted.

Questions: Please contact Sarah Cain, cains@umich.edu