Due date: Full proposals are due March 1, 2024 through an online application form.

Goal: The LSOM Office for Research seeks to support the development of applications for NIH Program Project Grant submissions with up to $100,000 in pilot funding. Pilot funding will be available up to one-year with the end goal of Program Project grant submission within 9 months post funding support.

Eligibility: A Primary appointment in any of the Departments/Institutes/Centers of the Long School of Medicine is required to be the Program Director/principal investigator on these Pilot applications. Ideally, co-investigators should be from the School of Medicine and UT Health, but outside co-investigators may be included.

Funding Amount: One Award up to $100,000 for one year.

Funding Information: Research proposals should identify 4-5 Program Project investigators including the Program Director and 3-4 Cores that will be part of the Program application. Pilot projects should clearly identify well integrated teams, subject matter expertise, current extramural funding, and NIH agencies that support Program Projects.

Application Materials:
(Merit scoring and review criteria will be based on the following application materials). The Program Director is responsible for submitting the application materials and must follow NIH guidelines.

- Overall Summary and Justification of the Program Project (2 pages)
- Project titles and abstracts from Program Investigators (1 page for each Project)
- Specific aims (1 page for each Project)
- Overall Research Design/Methods (3 pages per Project and include roles for the research cores)
- Specific plans for obtaining extramural funding, including the agency (1 page maximum)
- Budget (NIH Budget Template)
- Literature citations (2 pages per project)
- NIH Biosketch for all investigators (limit 5 pages/investigator)

Budget and Financial Policies: Facilities and Administrative (F&A, indirect cost) expenses are not reimbursable. Funds are not applicable to support the salary of the PI(s), faculty-level collaborators, or graduate students. While the candidate will list themselves as the PI in the personnel section of the summary page, there is no minimum effort requirement. Candidates may list salary (plus associated fringe benefits) for non-faculty support staff, including post-doctoral fellows, research scientists. Other allowable expenses include: equipment essential for the project (maximum $5,000, including computer hardware); consumable laboratory supplies; animal purchase and per diem; Core facility fees; computer time; software; publication/presentation expenses; costs related to human subject enrollment and management (listed as “Patient Care Costs” on budget page). Other expenditures require justification as being essential for the completion of the project. LSOM will centralize all account management.

Grant Development Assistance: The Office for Research’s Assistant Dean for Research, Dr. David Gius, will offer grant editing and review to assist with final submission.

Review Committee: The review committee will consist of LSOM faculty members with a long-standing history of extramural funding, and peer-review experience. The committee reflects the diversity of LSOM research including basic and clinical departments.

Award Process: Over the one-year award period, the Office for Research will request progress reports at six-, and 12-months post funds-initiation to assess the long-term success of the Pilot Funding Program. Applicants must follow institutional conflict of interest disclosure policies. All funds are available through a Dean’s Commitment mechanism.

Please direct questions to Chris Valdez, PhD, Research Operations Manager, valdezc10@uthscsa.edu, or call 210-567-0300 for more information.