



Office of Research Program Project Formation Award Request for Applications SPRING 2021

About the Award: The Office of Research is pleased to announce an opportunity to provide full-time or full professional effort faculty within the School of Medicine with pilot funding for projects in which multiple laboratories work collaboratively to solve complex biomedical problems. The goal of the funding mechanism is that the research team is positioned to submit a competitive application for a program project or equivalent grant to NIH within 3 years of initiation of this award. Applications will be required to include at least 3 faculty members all collaborating to one overall project goal that will be funded and may also include funding for the development of cores that will be essential for the NIH submission. The application will require that the team describe the proposed structure of the NIH submission and how each of the individual elements will synergize with each other to achieve the goals of the project. Factors that will be considered in the evaluation of these projects will include the human health significance and innovation of the project; expertise and research accomplishments of the researchers; the strength of the research premise; and the need for additional funding to achieve extramural support.

Letter of Intent: A brief letter of intent (LOI) will be required for this mechanism. The LOI will include the names of the participating faculty, the title of the application and key words. This information will be used to construct the review panel. [SUBMIT LOI](#)

Key Dates	Date
RFA Released	January 15, 2021
Letter of intent due in REDCap	March 31, 2021; 5 pm CST
Full Applications Due in REDCap	Monday May, 4, 2021; 5pm CST
Notification of Award	By June 18 th
Project Start Date	July 1 st , 2021

Maximum Award Amount: up to \$150,000 per year for up to two years.

Maximum Award Period: 2 years.

General Information:

- The team science funding is provided by the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW) through an investment in the Office of Research entitled, *Improving Heart Health, Supporting Healthy Minds, and Dismantling Cancer*. The AHW funded grant provides project management through support to the Office of Research that funded pilot grants can utilize to bring the project to NIH grant submission. No direct funds will be provided to the research team for administration of the project.

- Applications must propose a collaborative team comprising at least three faculty members supporting a unifying scientific theme. The application can also include cores that are relevant to the research theme and will be included in the NIH application. Note that, with the exception of the core development plan, the application has a single specific aims page and a single approach section. Each aim should represent one of the planned PPG subprojects.
- Awardees will be expected to complete a progress report 60-90 days before the end of the first year in order to receive funding for the second year and to submit a program project grant or equivalent to NIH within 3 years of pilot award commencement.
- Factors that will be considered in the evaluation of these projects will include the human health significance and innovation of the project; expertise and research accomplishments of the researchers; the strength of the research premise; and the need for additional funding to achieve extramural support.
- Under AHW requirements, the principal investigator (PI) must be a full-time or full professional effort faculty member in the MCW School of Medicine. MCW adjunct and part-time faculty are not eligible to apply as a PI. According to MCW policy, the MCW PI will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the scientific, safety, and ethical responsibilities of the grant award.
- The MCW PI will be responsible for all grant reporting and fiscal management and will be the main contact for budget and reporting management. Faculty at other universities or colleges and leaders at community agencies may serve as co-investigators.

Budget Guidelines:

- Faculty salary support is allowed, but may not exceed the FY19 Executive Level II (\$192,300) salary cap. All personnel support must be justified, and the specific project roles must be outlined in the budget justification in the full proposal.
- Funding for research core(s) may be requested, provided that the cores will be an essential part of the NIH submission.
- AHW funding cannot be used as “bridge funding” for lapsed grants from any extramural source and is intended to be used for new research.
- AHW funds may not be used to supplant funds or resources otherwise available.

Letter of Intent Submission: To be considered for funding, you must complete the short REDCAP survey [HERE](#).

Full Proposal Submission: Complete the REDCAP survey [HERE](#). If you have any questions, please contact Naomi Sanouvang at nalove@mcw.edu

Visit the [REDCap Survey](#) to access the documents necessary to complete your application.

**This funding opportunity is made possible by the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment Research and Education Program (AHW REP).*