Opioid Epidemic Pilot Funding Program

2017 Program Overview

The Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences (ICTS) announces a new pilot funding program focused on strategies to address the opioid epidemic. Two or more grants of up to $50,000 each will be awarded with a start date of March 1, 2018.

PROGRAM PROCESS OVERVIEW

Notification of Intent Deadline: Monday, December 18, 2018 (5:00pm, CT)

Application Deadline: Thursday, January 18, 2018 (5:00pm, CT)

Proposal Peer Review: Late January 2018

Award Decisions: February, 2018

Award Start Date: March 1, 2018

Step 1: PI submits recommended Notification of Intent email to icts@wustl.edu by Monday, December 18, 2018 at 5:00pm (CT).

Step 2: The PI will submit a full proposal to icts@wustl.edu (see Application Instructions and Forms). The deadline is Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 5:00pm (CT). The application must be received by this date/time. This deadline will be strictly adhered to with NO exceptions.

Step 3: All proposals will be evaluated by three experienced scientific reviewers and then discussed by a review panel. Reviewers will include individuals from Washington University and ICTS partner institutions. For details and complete list of review criteria, refer to the Review Criteria reference document.

Step 4: Awardees must obtain all regulatory approvals (e.g. IRB) and meet all compliance requirements prior to receiving funds for a March 1st start date.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Awards will be made up to $50,000 direct costs for 1 year. Two or more grants will be awarded with a start date of March 1, 2018.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be a registered member of the ICTS before submitting a Notification of Intent email. Online registration takes less than 5 minutes. For assistance with registration, contact the ICTS Administrative Core office through email (icts@wustl.edu) or by calling 314-362-9829.

- Applicants from WU or its ICTS Partner academic Institutions must hold a faculty level appointment. Fellows in the final year of training with a letter of commitment for a faculty position effective by the time of award are also eligible.

- Employees of BJH, Goldfarb School of Nursing, or SLCH (MD, PhD, nurse, or allied healthcare professional) may apply with the permission of their department director.

- Applicants may be the Principal Investigator on only one LOI and one proposal. There can be only ONE Principal Investigator on an application. The program does not allow for co-PIs or multi-PIs.

- There is no specific citizenship requirement for the applicant.
The scientific quality of the proposal will be the most important criterion used in the review process. In developing applications to this RFA:

- Proposals should describe a clear link to future funding opportunities, such as specific NIH program announcements or other federal or private funding opportunities. Applications should address one or more of the broad themes described in the July 17 report on a National Strategy to Reduce the Opioid Epidemic published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (http://www8.nationalacademies.org/onpinews/newsitem.aspx?RecordID=24781)

- Proposals addressing early and late state translational research will be considered for this new pilot program. Examples of appropriate **early stage translational research** questions include research to:
  - improve understanding of the neurobiology of pain
  - promote discovery and evaluation of innovative treatment modalities, including non-addictive analgesics and non-pharmacologic approaches
  - improve understanding of the intersection between pain and opiate use disorder

- **Later stage translational research** that tests the efficacy or effectiveness of strategies to address the opioid epidemic are also sought, including strategies to restrict supply of opiates, influence prescribing practices, reduce demand, and reduce harm. Examples of appropriate later stage translational studies include research to:
  - promote more judicious prescribing of opioids
  - expand access to inpatient and outpatient treatment for opioid use disorder, including in hospitals
  - prevent overdose deaths
  - measure societal impacts in opioid-related regulatory decisions
  - test innovative models of chronic pain management

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek methodologic and study design consultation with ICTS shared resources **EARLY** in the proposal development process. Consider consulting with these and other ICTS cores prior to submission:
  - Research Design and Biostatistics Group (**RDBG**) offers a BioStat Clinic, an hour-long consultation service that is fully subsidized for ICTS members. On-line **appointment scheduling** is available and is strongly recommended during the planning phase of project development prior to the LOI deadline.
  - Center for Administrative Data Research (**CADR**) serves to provide training in the use of health services administrative data in clinical epidemiologic, health series and outcomes research.
  - Dissemination and Implementation Research Core (**DIRC**) provides expertise to advance translational (T3 and T4) research to move health practices from clinical knowledge into routine, real-world use.
  - Community Health Partnership and Research (**CCHPR**) works to reduce disparities and improve health and wellness in the St. Louis region by fostering bidirectional communication and supporting community-academic partnerships and research endeavors

- Applicants are encouraged but not required to include use of ICTS cores & services to support their proposed research and to consult with core personnel during the development of their proposal to discuss application of available ICTS tools and services. Information about available **cores & services** can be found on the ICTS website or through email (**icts@wustl.edu**).

- **BJC employees** without prior experience in applying for research funds should collaborate with an experienced university or hospital based researcher in order to create a more competitive application.
Notification of Intent –
Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Notification of Intent email to icts@wustl.edu no later than 5:00pm (CT) on Monday, December 18, 2017. The email must include the PI name, Co-Investigator names, and anticipated project title.

Each email will be reviewed to determine the eligibility of the PI and to find the appropriate reviewers. There will be no communication regarding your notification unless the PI does not meet the eligibility requirements.

Full Proposal –
PI is to submit a full proposal using the required forms and instructions. The electronic copy of the entire proposal (submitted via email) must be received by the ICTS Admin Core no later than 5:00pm (CT) on Thursday, January 18, 2017.

All proposals will be evaluated by three experienced scientific reviewers and then discussed by a review panel. Reviewers will include individuals from Washington University and ICTS partner institutions. For details and complete list of review criteria, refer to the Review Criteria reference document.

Award Process/Terms
A request for Just-In-Time information will be sent to those selected for funding. Once all requests have been accepted and approved, the Notice of Award will be issued. The NOA will detail budget information, publication citation language, progress report requirements, survey requirements, etc.

Questions
Questions and/or assistance with proposal development may be addressed to any of the following:

icts@wustl.edu
Andi Cox - acox23@wustl.edu or 314-362-7707
Beth Mott - emott@wustl.edu or 314-362-1539
Jaimee Stagner - jstagner@wustl.edu or 314-362-6325