

## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

### PROSTATE CANCER DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

#### A. Deadlines

Release Date: May 15, 2020

Application Due: **DEADLINE June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (by 11:59 PM EST)**

Start Date: September 1, 2020

#### B. DRP Purpose

The Weill Cornell Medicine Prostate Cancer SPORE is soliciting applications for one-year Developmental Research Projects (DRPs). The primary goal of this RFA is to support innovative translational research projects that address key challenge areas in prostate cancer research. DRP funding is expected to expand and/or complement the scope of the existing SPORE with the ultimate goal of accelerating the discovery and development of interventions intended to improve therapeutic outcomes for prostate cancer patients. The most successful pilot projects could ultimately lead to future incorporation as full Prostate SPORE projects or other peer-reviewed grant application(s)(e.g., PCF, DOD, or R01).

#### C. Award Amounts

Up to \$75,000 for one year commencing September 1, 2020. Successful awardees will be eligible to re compete for a second year of funding. Up to four awards will be made depending on the quality of the applications.

#### D. Eligibility

##### Applicant Eligibility:

- All faculty members (instructor level or higher) are eligible.
- Applications from underrepresented minority and population science investigators are strongly encouraged.
- Investigators outside of the prostate cancer field who agree to participate in the Prostate Cancer SPORE are encouraged to apply.
- Investigators previously funded through this mechanism (in the last 3 years) are not eligible to apply as PI. Previously funded investigators may be Co-Investigators on an application.
- This RFA is open to investigators from the Tri-I (Weill Cornell Medicine, Rockefeller Univ., MSKCC) and Columbia University

##### Proposal Eligibility

- Proposals must address critical translational questions related to prostate cancer.
- Preliminary data in the field of prostate cancer are not required.
- Partnerships between basic and clinical scientists are encouraged but not required.
- Utilization of at least one of the Prostate SPORE Cores or shared resources.

#### E. Review Criteria

All applications will be evaluated in a rigorous scientific review process involving at least two unbiased reviewers and a biostatistician if needed. Proposals will be scored for scientific merit and overall translational impact according to the following criteria:

- 1) Innovative, unfunded [translational research projects](#) in human prostate cancer that that may directly impact clinical practice in the short-term
- 2) High-risk/high-reward type of research

- 3) The likelihood that the project could lead to a full SPORE project or independently funded project

Projects with an emphasis on research involving underrepresented minorities or population science will be given special consideration.

The COVID-19 pandemic is an urgent health emergency and the severity of illness in patients with underlying comorbidities such as cancer appears to be more severe. Therefore, we are also encouraging project submissions that aims to address the impact of COVID-19 on cancer patients.

## **F. Terms of the award**

Funds may be used only to cover project supplies and partial effort for personnel other than the PIs. There are no indirect costs. Funding will be contingent on obtaining the appropriate protocols (IRB, etc.) for the project.

If a grant is awarded, the PI must agree to abide by the attached grant guidelines (page 3). A semi-annual and annual progress report, including plans for securing external funding, is required. Attendance at the Prostate Cancer SPORE monthly meetings, as well as presentation at the meeting after 6 months is also required. Applicants can apply for a second year of funding or a no cost extension for up to one year.

### **RFA APPLICATION FORMAT**

1. **Description of the proposed translational research project that includes background, preliminary data, specific aims, and a summary of experimental plans (4 pages: Arial 11, ½" margins)**
2. **References (no page limit)**
3. **NIH Biosketches for key personal**
4. **Planned use of Biospecimen/Pathology, Computational Biology, and Biostatistics Cores**
5. **Budget estimates for personnel, supplies, etc. (\$75K maximum)**
6. **Budget justification**

### **Application deadline**

Applications should be submitted as a single e-mail attachment in PDF format to [mew2025@med.cornell.edu](mailto:mew2025@med.cornell.edu) & [thm2008@med.cornell.edu](mailto:thm2008@med.cornell.edu) by 11:59 pm on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The subject line of the e-mail should read **"WCM Prostate Cancer SPORE DRP Application"**. Receipt will be confirmed by e-mail. Incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be considered.

### **Review Criteria**

A committee of impartial external experts who have no conflicts of interest with the proposed research will review applications. Projects will be evaluated on the basis of scientific merit, feasibility, and potential to develop into a SPORE project.

### **Expenditure Guidelines**

#### *Allowable expenditures*

- Salary support for research personnel working on this project (no more than 25% effort)
- Salary support for biostatistical analysis (no more than 10% effort)
- Laboratory supplies and expenses, including animal costs
- User fees for Core Facilities

#### *Non-allowable expenditures*

- PI salary support
- Newly-hired research personnel
- Secretarial/administrative personnel
- Capital costs/equipment, including maintenance/service contracts
- Office furniture and supplies
- Construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings/laboratories
- Rental of laboratory or office space
- Computer and software purchases
- ITS services

- Non-medical services to patients
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Purchasing or binding of periodicals and books
- Dues and membership fees in scientific societies
- Travel and conference/meeting expenses

## Grant Guidelines

To responsibly manage funds, the following guidelines have been instituted. **Acceptance of an award indicates agreement to abide by these guidelines.** Failure to abide by these guidelines will jeopardize eligibility for future grants.

1. All publications resulting from research supported by this grant should contain an acknowledgement such as "Supported in part by the WCM Prostate Cancer SPORE P50 CA211024"; if research cores are used, this should also be acknowledged.
2. Written progress reports, including financial status, are required and must be provided at 6 months after grant initiation. Grantees will be notified at least one month prior to the deadline.
3. After the submission of progress reports, any additional publications or grants resulting from the grant must be promptly reported.
4. It is expected that the funds will be expended in full during the one-year duration of the grant. Spending will be monitored and unspent funds may be reclaimed if spending lags significantly.
5. Given the intent of this funding mechanism, no-cost extensions are not encouraged; any such requests must be received in writing, with justification, no less than 60 days before the original end date of the grant and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
6. The funds awarded shall be used solely for the purposes specified in and in strict compliance with the application submitted and as executed by the recipient.
7. Recipients may reallocate costs between the approved budget categories for up to 10 percent of total yearly budget without obtaining the prior written consent of the WCM Prostate SPORE. Changes exceeding 10% must be submitted in writing stating the amount, reason for proposed change, and anticipated impact on research.
8. All grant recipients must respond promptly to requests for information about their grant from the scientific leadership and administrative staff.
9. During the funding period, recipients will be asked to participate in progress update meetings to describe their research, and are expected to accommodate these requests.

## Cancer-relevant peer-reviewed funding organizations

- Research grants, cooperative agreements and research contracts from the NCI including all awards with the following prefixes: R00, R01, R03, R15, R18, R21, R24, R25, R33, R37, R41, R42, R43, R44, R55, R56, P01 and P50 subprojects, P20, SC1, SC2, U01, U10, U19, U54, U56, N01 research contracts and peer-reviewed, funded subcontracts of Center members participating in collaborative research. (Note: Shared Resources of multicomponent grants are not eligible.)
- Components of NCI National Clinical Trials Networks (e.g., U10s, U19s)
- Individual research studies involving protocols approved by the NCI Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP) and funded by NCI
- Individual research studies involving prevention and control protocols approved by the NCI Cancer Control Protocol Review Committee and funded by NCI
- Awarded cancer-related research grants, cooperative agreements, and research contracts from other institutes of the NIH (same prefixes as above)
- Research grants, cooperative agreements and research contracts from the following agencies:
  1. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
  2. Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF)
  3. American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)
  4. American Cancer Society (ACS): national office only
  5. American Foundation for AIDS Research (amFAR)
  6. American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR)
  7. California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM)
  8. Cancer Prevention Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)
  9. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  10. Central Office of the Veterans Administration (VA) - excluding local/regional awards and "block" grants
  11. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  12. Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI)
  13. Florida Biomedical Research Program (FBRP)
  14. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
  15. Howard Hughes Medical Foundation
  16. Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
  17. Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA)
  18. Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF)
  19. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
  20. National Science Foundation (NSF)
  21. New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center/New York State Stem Cell Science Program (NYSTEM)
  22. Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)
  23. Prevent Cancer Foundation
  24. Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF)
  25. Susan G. Komen for the Cure
  26. The California Breast Cancer Research Program (CBCRP)
  27. The California Tobacco Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP)
  28. US Army (DOD) special research programs\*

**\*Note:** Grants funded through the U.S. Army's, (DOD) special research programs in ovarian, breast and prostate cancer may also be listed in the category of peer reviewed funded grants