Huntsman Mental Health Institute Seed Grants

Request for Proposals
Deadline for submission of new applications: March 1, 2020
Submit application online through InfoReady at https://utah.infoready4.com/

Overview:
This Request for Proposals represents a new initiative by the Huntsman Mental Health Institute (HMHI). We are seeking proposals for one-year pilot projects that focus on mental health with the goal of deepening our understanding of mental health disorders and/or improving the quality, impact, and sustainability of optimized interventions for mental health care.

This RFP will provide one year of funding for all selected pilot projects involving Principal Investigators from a wide range of departments at the University of Utah. Investigators may request up to $75,000 for a proposed project. The Principal Investigator must be a faculty member at the University of Utah. Proposals that include at least one clinical investigator are strongly encouraged. Investigators may compete for a second year of funding depending on research progress and the plan for obtaining sustained funding.

Research Scope:
We invite applications from all mental health related clinical and research areas. Proposals may focus on a variety of areas, but must align with the goals of improving understanding and optimizing treatment of mental illness.

Preference will be given to applications that:
- Aim to optimize therapeutic or preventive interventions
- Develop innovative approaches for optimized mental services
- Advance our understating of mechanisms underlying mental disorders
- Have significant scientific and clinical merit
- Will build or strengthen interdisciplinary partnerships within the U of U community
- Have a high potential for extramural funding
- Include investigators with experience in clinical and translational research
- Include investigators with independent NIH research grants

Application Instructions:
Each Principal Investigator may only act as submitting applicant on one proposal.

- The proposed project should not be funded by any another mechanism/research initiative at the time of submission.
Gap funding for any project to bridge support between external grants or contracts, and support for existing facilities or resources will not be considered eligible.

Submissions will be March 1, 2020 (by 11:59pm)

Applications must be submitted electronically through the University of Utah’s InfoReady interface at http://utah.infoready4.com/

Applications must include:
1. Abstract (maximum ½ page)
2. Specific Aims (maximum ½ page)
3. Detailed proposal (maximum 2 pages)
4. References/bibliography may be on additional pages as needed
5. List of project personnel and their roles (maximum ½ page)
6. A specific plan for extramural funding, including timeline (maximum ½ page)
7. Proposed project budget (not to exceed $75,000).
8. Biographical sketch for each co-investigator in the team (NIH/NSF format preferred; 5 pages max)
9. Current and pending support for each Principal Investigator in the team

Budget Guidelines:
Please prepare a one-year project budget that allocates a maximum of $75,000 into the following categories:

- Personnel: This may include technicians, postdocs, graduate students, and undergraduate students, but **not** salary support for Principal Investigators or administrative support
- Supplies and/or animals
- Services: e.g. core facility fees
- Miscellaneous Costs

**NOTE:**
- The budget may not include equipment (defined as a single durable item with a value exceeding $5,000)
- Funds will not cover any type of travel costs
- Unused funds must be returned to the Huntsman Mental Health Institute (HMHI) Research Initiative at the end of the project period in the absence of a no cost extension request

Review & Funding of Proposals:
- Proposals will be reviewed by an internal review committee comprised of tenured faculty members representing clinical and basic science departments to ensure research excellence, clinical relevance and programmatic alignment.
• Applicants will be informed of the status of their proposal within 4 - 6 weeks of the submission deadline, with funding to begin as quickly as possible thereafter.
• Maximum funding per project is $75,000, with a project term of one calendar year.
• Successful applicants may compete with new proposals for a second year of funding.
• Grant administration is the responsibility of the submitting Principal Investigator.

Post award requirements
At the end of the project period, funded proposals must provide a progress report of no more than two pages in length describing the results of the research, future directions, and plans to secure additional funding. Seed grant awardees will be asked to present their research progress at an on-campus symposium.

NOTE:
If a no cost extension request is approved to carry over the funds to the next budget period, the collaborative team must provide a progress report at the end of that funding cycle. Seed grant awardees that receive an approved no cost extension may also be asked to present their research progress at an on-campus symposium.

For questions regarding this RFP, please contact:
Deborah Yurgelun-Todd, Ph.D