

Request For Applications- HWCOP Pilot Funds- 2016

The College of Medicine will be accepting applications for proposals to fund 2 innovative pilot projects to advance HWCOP research efforts. Each project will be funded up to \$50,000 where the application can be for basic, clinical or translational research. There will be no restrictions on research topics but those that align with HWCOP Strategic Research Initiative (see attached) will be given favorable review.

In addition, there is a 3rd grant for up to \$20,000, which needs to have relevance specifically related to studying Alzheimer's disease. Please specify if applying to this program.

Funding is for 1 year with the expectation that the project will result in preliminary data to support submission of an independent grant.

Eligibility will be restricted to full time faculty holding rank of Instructor or Assistant Professor.

There is no specific application form, and proposals can be submitted in either Word or pdf format. The proposal is limited to 3 pages including figures but not references with following format: letter size, 8.5x11 inches, Arial 11 point or Times New Roman 12 point, single-spaced with 1-inch margins. Allowable expenses include those related to the conduct of the research project, but cannot include PI salary. Please provide a separate budget narrative and include FIU budget sheet (see attached).

Deadline for submission will be November 15, 2016. Submit applications to HWCOPilot@fiu.edu

Review Criteria

Applications to the HWCOP Pilot Fund will be reviewed and ranked by an internal screening with basis on the following three core review criteria

- **Significance:** Does the project address an important problem or critical barrier to progress in the field? Is it consistent with the HWCOP strategic plan?
- **Innovation:** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or creativity paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?
- **Approach:** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed?

All awardees MUST submit to the Associate Dean for Basic Research an initial progress report by August 1, 2017, a final report within 30 days of completion and have submitted or plans to submit an extramural grant proposal. Failure to submit a final report and a grant application may disqualify the individual from future HWCOP funding under this program.