

JEFFERSON INTRAMURAL RESEARCH AWARDS
Pilot Research Award
2009-2010

The Office of the President, Jefferson University has generously agreed to fund up to \$100,000.00 annually to provide support for the Pilot Research Award. The Office of the President will award funding to proposals based upon competitive review and recommendation by Jefferson Medical College's Committee on Research which administers this program.

Purpose

The purpose of the Pilot Research Award Program is to fund innovative research for both established basic science and clinical researchers and those investigators that are developing research programs. Research with the goal of translation to the clinic is encouraged. The goal of this research support (up to \$20,000.00 **for direct costs ONLY**) is to advance our understanding of biological systems, improve the control of disease, enhance health, and to provide a stepping-stone to grant support by a national agency.

Eligibility:

- A PRA applicant must be the **Principal Investigator** for the submitted proposal

Ineligibility:

- If the investigator is currently funded by a PRA
- If the applicant received a PRA and did not submit a final report at the end of the funding period

There are **two application deadlines** during the year: **Dec. 15, and April 15** (or the following Monday if a weekend). Applications need to be **electronically submitted no later than 4:00 PM on the deadline date** to: aveniel.delorenzo@jefferson.edu. A proposal will **not** be reviewed unless it is submitted as **ONE** document in Adobe or Word.

Questions can be addressed to: Aveniel de Lorenzo at 215-503-8990 or email to: aveniel.delorenzo@jefferson.edu

Application Guidelines

Applications will not be reviewed unless the checklist is complete and accurately reflects the contents of the proposal. All copies must have the checklist as the cover sheet.

Applications **must** include the following:

- (1) **Completed** checklist as cover sheet (see page 4 of this document)
- (2) **Budget justification form** (see page 5): the budget **must be justified** detailing the expenses, not to exceed \$20,000.00 in direct costs. **No support will be provided for Principal Investigator salary, travel, or major equipment.** Funding for supplies, routine expenses and support personnel will be considered if **adequately justified**.
- (3) The **Research Plan** for the Pilot Grant Award should include **Specific Aims, Background and Significance**, Preliminary Data (if any) and **Research Design and Methods**. The Research Plan may **not exceed a total of seven pages** unless application is a resubmission then eight

pages will be accepted. Literature cited, description of collaborative arrangements and consultant letters are NOT included in the page limit.

- (a) For revised applications, an introduction (**not to exceed one page**) *in addition* to the Research Plan is required. This introduction should respond to the comments and concerns of the initial review of the application by the Committee on Research.
- (b) Specific Aims. A summary of the proposed work, including bulleted specific aims (**1 page maximum**)
- (c) Background and Significance. A brief description of the background that supports this project and the significance it brings to biomedical research. (**1 page maximum**)
- (d) Experimental Plan. In an introductory paragraph of the Experimental Plan, the applicant(s) should describe the particularly innovative/ high impact aspects of the proposed study. This might include, but not be limited to, a description of how the proposed work would expand the scope of research to be carried out under active and pending grants. Include a description of how the outcome of this project would provide a foundation for important new avenues of research. Label this paragraph, "Justification and Innovative/ High Impact Research." This should be followed by a description of the proposed studies **including** rationale, methods, and expected results of the proposed work and preliminary data (if any), graphs, tables, figures or photos. (**5 pages maximum**)
- (e) Short statement (1/2 page) to address how this Award will lead to further NIH or NFS support.

(4) Literature cited.

(5) Letters for all collaborative arrangements (if applicable).

(6) The Principal Investigator and all co-investigators current **National Institutes of Health style biosketch** (not necessary for identified collaborators) in addition to their **Other Support and Overlap** containing Specific Aims, % of effort, dates, and potential scientific and budgetary commitment overlap for all active pending applications. (*Other Support must be included for the PI and all co-investigators*).

(7) Letter from **DEPARTMENT Chair** (Not Division Director)

- (a) Current rank and status in department
- (b) Current dept commitment of space, personnel support, salary
- (c) Perceived qualities that make the faculty member a strong candidate for this SPECIFIC award with evidence of support (i.e. seminal publications, grant awards, departmental recognition, etc.)
- (d) Consequences of receipt of the award (e.g. promotion, more dedicated space, more time for research vs. teaching and service, etc.)

(8) The names, email and phone #'s of Jefferson researchers who would be qualified to review your application **that do NOT have a conflict of interest**.

(9) A list of key words that will facilitate reviewer assignments for applications.

Criteria for review

The Committee on Research will review applications based on the following criteria:

- (1) **Focus:** Is the PRA proposal clearly focused on how it will significantly impact research in its field and how the award money will lead to additional external funding?
- (2) **Innovation:** Does the project employ novel concepts, approaches or methods? Are the aims original and innovative? Will the project generate a new body of data that provides a foundation for important new research directions? Does the research expand the scope of research being carried out under active and pending grants?
- (3) **Significance:** Does this study address an important problem? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts or methods that drive this field? Will a successful outcome from this pilot study lead directly to more extensive studies that would likely advance the particular field of research?
- (4) **Approach:** Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well-integrated, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem and consider alternative tactics?
- (5) **Investigator:** Is the PI appropriately trained, well suited to carry out this work and an independent researcher?

Review emphasis should be placed on the conceptual framework and general approach to the problem, with less emphasis on methodological details. Since some pilot/ feasibility studies may not have much preliminary data, the review will place a major focus on whether the rationale for the study is well developed and whether the proposed research is likely to generate data that will lead to additional studies that could potentially be funded as a regular research project grant (R01).

In applications of equivalent scientific merit, funding priority will be given to grants which establish new or expand the scope of existing collaborations between investigators (clinical-basic, clinical-clinical and basic-basic).

A short written critique will be provided.

Period of support

Applications will be approved for one year of support.

Final report

Awardees are expected to make subsequent applications for extramural support, and should inform the Science Outreach Coordinator when such an application is submitted which has benefited from Pilot Research Grant support. At the end of the budget year, a brief progress report must be submitted to the Committee on Research, indicating work accomplished and the status of the extramural application made possible by this grant application. **Failure to submit both a progress report and an extramural application status report will make the applicant(s) ineligible for further intramural funds.**

FACE PAGE
Check List for Pilot Research Award
Academic Year 2009-2010

PI Name/ degree(s): _____ School/Department: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Project Title: _____

1. ___ **Completed** face page (**PAGE 1**) as **cover sheet**
2. ___ Budget Justification (**see page 5**)
3. ___ Detailed Research Plan
 - (a) ___ Introduction (**Only if a revised application**) (**1 page maximum**)
 - (b) ___ Specific Aims (**1 page maximum**)
 - (c) ___ Background AND significance (**1 page maximum**)
 - (d) ___ Experimental Plan (**5 page maximum**) including graphs, tables, figures, pictures preliminary data
 - (e) ___ Short statement (**1/2 page**) to address how this Award will lead to further NIH or NFS support.
- (4) ___ Literature cited
- (5) ___ Letters for all collaborative arrangements
- (6) ___ NIH style biosketch **including Other Support and Overlap**
- (7) ___ Letter from **Chair of the DEPARTMENT** (Not Division Director)
 - 1) Current rank and status in department
 - 2) Current dept commitment of space, personnel support, salary
 - 3) Perceived qualities that make the faculty member a strong candidate for this SPECIFIC award with evidence of support (i.e. seminal publications, grant awards, departmental recognition, etc.)
 - 4) Consequences of receipt of the award (e.g. promotion, more/dedicated space, more time for research vs. teaching and service, etc.)
- (8) ___ Names/ email and phone #'s of Jefferson Medical College researchers qualified to review
- (9) ___ Key words that will facilitate reviewer assignments

Senior Investigator Signature (if required)

Jefferson Intramural Awards Budget Justification Form

No support will be provided for Principal Investigator salary, travel or major equipment. Funding for supplies, routine expenses and support personnel will be considered if adequately justified.

**Please fill out as accurately as possible
Do not include indirect costs**

PI Name:

Support Personnel (Must be justified)	Cost
Sub-Total	

Supplies (Itemize)	Cost
Sub-Total	

Other (Itemize)	Cost
Sub-Total	
Total of ALL categories	

Justification for expenses (if needed):

This table will expand if needed