



The UC San Diego Institute for Public Health (IPH) Invites Pilot Project Grant Applications for 2020

November 1, 2019

Dear UC San Diego Community:

The UC San Diego IPH (<http://publichealth.ucsd.edu/>), supports cutting edge transdisciplinary public health research across UC San Diego, aimed at improving the health of populations locally, nationally, and globally.

The IPH is pleased to announce the availability of Pilot Project Grants for 2020. These are one-year competitive awards to UC San Diego faculty, to provide funding for early stage projects on topics relevant to public health.

UC San Diego faculty members who are eligible to serve as Principal Investigators may apply. The research team may include collaborators from outside UC San Diego. Funding priority will be given to junior faculty members.

We welcome Applications that fall into one of these four research areas, with proposals that demonstrate clear relevance for public health:

- 1. Health equity/social justice**
- 2. Lactation/Human milk**
- 3. Lifestyle, technology and healthy aging***
- 4. Microbiome**

The IPH anticipates making four awards, with a base value of \$10,000 each (including in-kind contributions from co-sponsors). Applicants for each of the four pilot mechanism domains may also request an additional \$3000 maximum, specifically to support project work by a student or postdoc; in this case, the total award could be up to \$13,000.

Reporting:

Grantees are required to submit a brief (1-2 page) Status Report in September of 2020, emailed to the Institute Director. A brief (3-5 page) Final Report is due within one month of the project conclusion, and no later than April 30, 2021. In addition to research results, the Final Report is to include a summary of any students and educational opportunities supported by the Pilot Grant, as well as any additional research proposals, presentations, and manuscripts that were supported, in whole or in part, by the Pilot Grant.

Collaborating UC San Diego Co-Sponsors for 2020 Pilot Grant Applications are:

Center on Global Justice

<http://gjustice.ucsd.edu/ucsd-community-stations/>

The Center on Global Justice advances interdisciplinary research on poverty and global development, with an emphasis on collective action at community scale. The Center houses initiatives focused on global ethics and cooperation, with the majority of initiatives focusing on real-world intervention at local scale. The Center is home to the UCSD Community Stations, a network of field stations located in marginalized neighborhoods on both sides of the San Diego-Tijuana border. In collaboration with the Center, the IPH will award a \$10,000 Pilot Grant that advances public health among the communities served by the *UCSD-Alacrán Community Station* and the *UCSD-Divina Community Station*, both located in the informal settlements of the Laureles Canyon in Tijuana.

Larsson-Rosenquist Foundation Mother-Milk-Infant Center of Research Excellence

<http://milk.ucsd.edu/>

The Mother-Milk-Infant Center of Research Excellence studies human milk to find new prevention and treatment options that bring new hope to infants, mothers and society as a whole. In collaboration the Center, the IPH will award a \$10,000 Pilot Grant that advances research in these areas. Proposals can include pilot studies or adding new components to existing studies, as well as multidisciplinary novel concepts that would lay the ground for larger studies and funding.

For this particular mechanism, UC San Diego Postdoctoral Trainees, Medical Fellows, and Residents are also encouraged to apply, but need to be sponsored by a UC San Diego faculty member.

Center for Microbiome Innovation (CMI)

<http://cmi.ucsd.edu/>

The CMI is a world-leader in microbiome research, biomedical engineering, quantitative measurements and modeling, cellular and chemical imaging, drug discovery, "omics" sciences and much more. In collaboration with the CMI, the IPH will award microbiome and public health-relevant Pilot Grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$15,000, depending on the in-kind lab services required for the project. In-kind support includes up to 88 stool samples for DNA sequencing and metabolomics. As part of the award, the CMI will accept proposals to generate 16S amplicon sequencing data, shotgun metagenomics sequencing data, and untargeted metabolomic data.

Stein Institute for Research on Aging, Center for Healthy Aging

<https://medschool.ucsd.edu/research/aging/Pages/default.aspx>

The Stein Institute for Research on Aging, Center for Healthy Aging is dedicated to the development and application of the latest advances in biomedical and behavioral science knowledge to issues of successful, healthy aging and the prevention and reduction of the burden of disability and disease in late life. In collaboration with the Center, the IPH will award a \$10,000 Pilot Grant with a clear emphasis and relevance to technology for healthy aging.

Proposals will be evaluated for merit in terms of:

1. Feasibility
2. Relevance to focus areas
3. Approach – research design and methodology
4. New or expanded collaborations
5. Transdisciplinary nature

Previous IPH funded grantees are not eligible for this RFA.

First Stage Applications

1. A 500-word abstract that will be scored by a faculty review committee. The abstract should include a) the project title, b) the research question, c) its relevance to public health and the focus areas, d) proposed methodologies, e) research team members.
2. NIH biographical sketches with other support with yearly direct costs for the primary research team members.
3. Submit First Stage Applications as a single PDF to Sheri Thompson @ sherithompson@ucsd.edu

Application Deadlines and Notices of Awards

- **First Stage Application:** Deadline midnight, November 25, 2019
- **Notice of invitation to submit a Second Stage Application:** December 16, 2019
- **Second Stage Application:** A 4-page proposal (details forthcoming to invited First Stage applications):
Deadline 5:00pm January 13, 2020
- **Notice of Awards:** Approximately January 31, 2020
- **Funding Cycle:** March 2, 2020 – March 1, 2021

For questions regarding this RFA contact:

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Thank you,

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