

Dartmouth Lung Biology Center 2017-2018 Pilot Project Program RFA

The Lung Biology Center (LBC) requests applications for Pilot Project Program (P³) Awards that advance the understanding and treatment of Cystic Fibrosis, CF-related problems in other organ systems, or new treatments and therapies for improving or restoring CFTR function. The selected pilot project proposals will be submitted as a component of a P30 application focusing on all aspects of CF-related research as outlined above, that will be submitted on July 20, 2017. The goal of these awards is to attract new researchers to the field of CF-related research and to support established CF investigators pursuing innovative/high-risk/collaborative projects or projects that are a significant departure from their usual work. Successful applications will propose high-impact basic, translational, or clinical research with the ultimate goal to leverage extramural funding opportunities.

Deadline for proposals: May 31, 2017.

Mechanisms: The following mechanisms are available:

1. Mentored Pilot Awards. Eligibility: PIs must be Dartmouth junior faculty members (assistant or untenured associate professors with PhD and/or MD degrees). The project must identify at least one experienced Lung Biology Center faculty member as mentor.
2. Collaborative Pilot Awards. Eligibility: PIs must be Dartmouth faculty members (assistant, associate or full professor with PhD and/or MD degrees). The proposal must involve faculty from at least two distinct disciplines.
3. Innovative Pilot Awards. Eligibility: PIs must be Dartmouth faculty members (assistant, associate or full professor with PhD and/or MD degrees). The proposal must represent a new area for PIs with a track record in CF or must be from senior faculty without such a track record.

Note: The target mechanism should be specified at the time of submission.

Proposals should contain all of the following elements:

- A one page document with:
 - Name(s) and department(s) of applicants.
 - Title.
 - 1-2 paragraph **Research Abstract**. This section should describe the central hypothesis of the application, research overview, specific aims and potential positive impact on the CF knowledge base or patient impact.
 - NIH biosketch(es) for the PI, collaborators, and for senior faculty mentor(s), if included.
 - Submit as a single PDF [named "lastname_LBCPilot"] by email to George O'Toole (georgeo@Dartmouth.edu).

No budget is required at this time. Standard funding will provide \$75,000 per year for up to two years.

Review: Proposals will be reviewed by the Lung Biology Internal Advisory Committee, who will rank applications relative to the following criteria. Selected projects will be included in the NIDDK application for potential funding starting not before April 2018.

Review criteria:

P³ projects should support our mission as a nationally recognized center of excellence in CF. The most competitive proposals will:

- Address a basic, translational, and/or clinical research problem in CF;
- Present high-quality, high-impact science. Scientific excellence is a prerequisite for funding;
- Incorporate interdisciplinary, cross-programmatic, collaborative, or innovative approaches. Demonstrate a strong potential to carry out the proposed research (NIH Investigator criterion);
- Interact strongly with the Lung Biology Center, including usage of the scientific cores (Host-Pathogen Interaction and Translational Research – see the LBC website <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~lbcobre/scientific-cores/index.htm> for descriptions).