

# Pilot Project Awards for Research on Pain, Aging, and Disability

## Request for Applications (RFA)

**\*\*\*\*Full Application due March 2, 2020\*\*\*\***

The University of Florida Center for Advancing Minority Pain and Aging Science (CAMPAS) is seeking innovative, interdisciplinary Pilot Study applications that address biopsychosocial contributions to pain and disability among older adults. Applicants must be investigators from underrepresented backgrounds (see below for eligibility), and successful applications should propose pilot project with high potential for leading to extramural research grants and/or career development awards. All applicants must contact Maria A. Aguirre ([ufcampas@ufl.edu](mailto:ufcampas@ufl.edu)) or 352-273-7620 before submitting a complete application.

## Purpose

The UF CAMPAS is providing pilot grants, Core resources, and mentored training to support the research career development of early career investigators from underrepresented backgrounds who are conducting research related to pain, aging and disability.

## Core Resources

In addition to Pilot Awards of up to \$25,000 for one year, the UF CAMPAS is offering Core Resources to facilitate the applicant's research. Applicants should incorporate one or more of the following Core services into their Pilot Application. Please contact Maria Aguirre ([ufcampas@ufl.edu](mailto:ufcampas@ufl.edu)) to schedule any meetings with our core leaders.

- **Analysis Core (AnC), Director, Dr. Sam Wu ([swu@ufl.edu](mailto:swu@ufl.edu))**: The AnC provides: 1) training, mentoring and research career support to CAMPAS Scientists; 2) biostatistical support in study design, proposal development, data management, statistical analysis, and research dissemination for CAMPAS Scientists' research; and 3) new methodology for adaptive design of clinical trials and simultaneous statistical inference.
- **Community Liaison and Recruitment Core (CLRC), Co-Directors, Dr. Linda Cottler ([lcottler@ufl.edu](mailto:lcottler@ufl.edu)) and Dr. Janice Krieger ([janicekrieger@ufl.edu](mailto:janicekrieger@ufl.edu))**: The CLRC capitalizes on research strengths of two disciplines, epidemiology and communication science, to provide infrastructure that supports the recruitment and community engagement needs of CAMPAS scientists as well as contribute to scholarly understanding of what processes are most effective for engaging diverse stakeholder groups.

## Eligibility

- Applicants must be from one of the following backgrounds that are underrepresented in biomedical research:
  - Specific ethnic/racial minority groups (African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders)
  - Individuals with disabilities (i.e. those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities).

- Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, defined as those who meet *two or more* of the [NIH list of criteria](#)
- Must be a US citizen or permanent resident.
- Applicants must be a faculty member or a trainee (residents, postdocs and fellows) in Gainesville, Jacksonville, or Tallahassee at the time funds are awarded.
  - Priority will be given to early stage faculty members at the rank of Assistant Professor or earlier who have not received previous independent NIH funding.
  - However, mid-career faculty members may be eligible if they are transitioning to a new focus on pain, aging and disability research.
- The focus of the project must relate to the topic of pain and aging.

### Terms of Award

- Awardees are expected to participate in **all** UF CAMPAS seminars and career development activities.
- Awardees must comply with all IRB policies. Applicants whose proposals will require IRB approval should demonstrate they have taken preliminary steps to prepare submissions, so minimal time will be lost in securing approval. Funding cannot be released until IRB approvals are in place.
- Awardees must submit progress reports for the project **every 6 months** after the notice of award is received.
- Awardees are also expected to present the results of their research at scientific meetings and publish findings in scholarly journals.
- In accordance with NIH requirements: All presentations and publications resulting from work funded by a UF CAMPAS Pilot Project Award must include a funding citation. The following language should be used: “Research reported in this publication was supported by the NIH/NIA Grant P30AG059297.”
- Awardees are expected to provide updates to UF CAMPAS or the RCMAR Coordinating Center in a timely manner, typically once a year, and for several years after completing the program.

### Review Process and Criteria

**Scientific Reviews:** Upon passing an initial eligibility review, proposals will undergo scientific review by internal and/or external reviewers. We will consider the following criteria in making funding decisions:

- Addresses a significant topic related to pain, aging, and disability;
- Scientific merit (i.e. significance, innovation, methodology);
- Shows significant promise for leading to external funding;

### Budgeting and Spending Requirements

- Funds can only be used for direct costs.
- Funds cannot be used to support faculty salaries.
- Funds are non-transferable.
- Funds must be used in the 24-month period following their release. Any unexpended funds will be returned to the funders at the end of the 24-month funding period.
- Funds must be used for the activities detailed in the application.
- Continued funding during the award period is contingent on compliance with awardee requirements.

## Total Available Funding and Award Amounts

We expect to award up to 3 Pilot grants of up to \$25,000 each, but the requested budget should be based on the scope of the proposed research. Matching funds from other sources to support the work are encouraged.

## Budget Development and Examples

Investigators should develop budgets based on the number of subjects to be enrolled, the cost per subject, and any other services required by the protocol. All budgets will be judged on appropriateness related to the goals of the proposed work.

## Application Instructions

Applications must include the following:

- A cover sheet listing the project's title, PI and Co-Investigators (see page 4)
- Abstract/ Project summary (30 lines of text)
- A five-page research proposal (0.5" margins, Arial 11 point font) that includes:
  - Specific Aims (1 page)
  - Background/Significance (including any preliminary data)(~1 page)
  - Description of Methods (2-2.5 pages)  
(i.e. preliminary data, study sample, study design, data collection methods, analysis plan)
  - Plans for future external funding (0.5 pages)
  - References (not included in the five-page limit)
- Planned enrollment report

### Additional Information Required

- NIH Biographical Sketches for PI, Co-investigator(s) and mentor(s).
- A detailed budget using the NIH's standard "[Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period](#)" form.
- Budget justification
- NIH biosketches for PI, Co-investigator(s) and mentor(s).
- Most recent CV of the PI.

Proposals that are incomplete or otherwise do not follow instructions will be returned to the investigator without review.

**Awards are expected to be made on or around May 1, 2020.**

## Contact for Questions

Please email questions to Maria Aguirre at [ufcampas@ufl.edu](mailto:ufcampas@ufl.edu) or 352-273-7620.