



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

Request for Applications (RFA)

Full Application due February 5, 2021

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 projects with high potential for leading to extramural research grants and/or career development awards.

All applicants must contact us at uf-campas@ufl.edu or 352-273-7620 **before** applying.

Informational Session

- Monday, November 16, 2020 from 12:00-1:00PM via [Zoom](#)
 - Meeting ID: 973 9384 9400, Passcode: 709119
 - [Add to calendar](#)

Purpose

UF CAMPAS is one of the 18 [Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research \(RCMARs\)](#) funded by the National Institute on Aging. The purpose of our center is to 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. One goal of CAMPAS is to attract new investigators to the field; therefore, we encourage applications from investigators not currently studying pain, aging, and disability, but who are interested in incorporating this topic into their ongoing or future work. Please see the Eligibility section below for some examples of topics that would be responsive to this RFA.

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 (uf-campas@ufl.edu) to schedule any meetings with our core leaders.

- Analysis Core (AnC), Director, Dr. Sam Wu (samwu@biostat.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) and Dr. Janice Krieger (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 health-related 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 [NIH criteria](#)
- Must be a US citizen or permanent resident.
- Applicants must be a faculty member or a trainee (residents, postdocs, and fellows).
 - 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.
- Any applicants outside of the University of Florida must identify at least one faculty member from UF to be part of their mentoring committee.
- Applications from outside of UF must include signed approval from an institutional official.
- The proposed project must address pain, aging and disability, even if this is not the major focus of the project. Examples of topics that could be addressed include, **but are not limited to:**
 - Age-related differences in the prevalence or impact of pain conditions
 - Pain experiences in older adults with cognitive impairment
 - Pain associated with age-related diseases (e.g. Parkinson's disease, cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes)
 - Pain associated with multi-morbidity in older adults
 - Biological and psychosocial mechanisms contributing to pain in older adults
 - Impact of pain on mobility in older adults
 - Treatment strategies for pain in older adults
 - Adverse effects of pain treatment in older adults
 - Racial, ethnic and gender disparities in pain among older adults

Terms of Award

- Awardees are expected to participate in **all** UF CAMPAS seminars and career development activities.
- Awardees must comply with IRB, UF, NIH, and other applicable policies and regulations. Awardee projects involving human subject research must receive IRB and NIH approval before funds can be released and human subject research activities can begin. Applicants whose proposals will require IRB approval should demonstrate that they have taken preliminary steps to prepare submissions to avoid delays in securing approval. Funding cannot be released until appropriate 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 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 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 for completing the proposed work.

Application Instructions

[Download the application instructions for more information](#)

Applications must include the following:

- 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)

Additional Information Required

- NIH Biographical Sketches for PI, Co-investigator(s) and mentor(s) (5-page limit per person).
 - All biosketches should include eRA Commons User Names:
<https://commons.era.nih.gov/commons/index.jsp>
- A detailed budget using the NIH's standard "[Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period](#)" form.
- Detailed budget justification
- Letter of support from Department or Program Director
- Signature approving the application from institutional for applications from outside of UF. [Please use this letter or something similar.](#)

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 July 1, 2021.

Deadline and Submission

Please submit your complete online application by **Friday, February 5th, 2021 at 5:00 PM**

Online: <https://price.ctsi.ufl.edu/ufcampas/ufcampasrfa/pilot-2021/>

Contact for Questions Please email questions to uf-campas@ufl.edu or call at 352-273-7620.