

University of Minnesota
Transdisciplinary Tobacco Use Research Center (TTURC)
www.tturc.umn.edu
PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

Purpose. The purpose of the TTURC Pilot Grants Program is to provide rapid access to seed money to support innovative studies aimed at reducing the harm from tobacco dependence, or strategies to reduce tobacco use among populations that have been refractory to smoking cessation efforts. Proposals may involve any level of inquiry, e.g. molecular, genetic, preclinical, clinical, epidemiologic or public policy.

Background. The TTURC is one of 7 NCI/NIDA funded Centers created in 1999 to broadly address the mechanisms, treatment and prevention of tobacco dependence. These Centers are intended to foster collaborations across disciplines and the development of new paradigms and approaches to studying these problems. The specific focus of the University of Minnesota Center is reduction of the harm associated with tobacco use.

Eligibility. Faculty at the University of Minnesota, Hennepin County Medical Center/ Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation, Minneapolis Veteran's Administration Medical Center, or at Regions Hospital who have an adjunct appointment at the University of Minnesota are eligible to apply. Collaborations with other participants in the Center are encouraged. The Center's Analytical, Statistical and Administrative Cores are available to provide support for Pilot Projects. Trainees may not serve as Principal Investigator on a Pilot Project, but their participation is encouraged. Applications from investigators who are new to tobacco research are also encouraged.

Awards. Up to \$25,000 for 1 year is available to support Pilot Projects. This funding may be used for direct costs only. The source of funding is institutional (and not NIH) provided by the University of Minnesota Cancer Center.

Deadlines

A Statement of Intent is due Friday, March 14, 2008.

The application deadline is Friday, April 18, 2008 with an anticipated funding date of July 1, 2008.

Applications

Potential applicants must first contact the Pilot Projects Program Director, Paul Pentel, at pentel@umn.edu or (612) 873-6426, to determine whether the proposed project is within the scope of the Center; applications that have not been discussed will not be accepted.

The application itself is intended to be brief and should consist of the following:

1. The Statement of Intent submitted by March 14, 2008 will serve as the cover page for the application.
2. Letters of support from any collaborators with substantial roles in the project.
3. Budget (use PHS form 398)
4. NIH Biographical Sketch, 2 page (PHS form 398)
5. Other research support, NIH format (PHS form 398)
6. Research Plan: maximum of 2 single-spaced pages organized into sections as follows:
 - Abstract
 - Background
 - Preliminary data
 - Methods
7. References: maximum 1 page

Applications are due April 18th **by 4:00 p.m.** Submit application including PRF as one .pdf file to Aaron Schilz, Preaward Services Coordinator at schilz226@umn.edu. In addition, an original plus 5 copies should be submitted to the Cancer Center Pre-award Services Office, attention: Aaron Schilz, 925 Delaware St. SE, Suite 310, Minneapolis, MN 55414

If you have any questions, please contact:

Kris Troska
Department of Medicine, G5
Hennepin County Medical Center
701 Park Ave S.
Minneapolis, MN 55415
kristine.troska@hcmcd.org
fax (612) 904-4299
phone (612) 873-2704