



Opioid and Pain Management Pilot Grant Opportunity Request for Applications September 2018

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LETTER OF INTENT (LOI)

The UAMS Translational Research Institute (TRI) is pleased to invite applications for our Opioid and Pain Management Pilot Grant Opportunity. The purpose of this pilot grant opportunity is for faculty members to form new teams to generate data necessary to submit competitive grant proposals in response to NIH, other federal agencies, and foundation grant funding opportunities for opioid and pain management research.

Budgets up to \$25,000 will be considered. A review of the budgeting will be part of the funding decision, and applications with less than the maximum budget are encouraged. All projects must be completed within one year.

Priority will be given to: 1) projects likely to ultimately obtain extramural funding; 2) obtain critical data that will better position the research team for future funding; 3) projects likely to facilitate new, multi-disciplinary research collaborations. These awards will NOT support projects that are minor offshoots of ongoing research by a funded investigator or that simply provide bridge funding to previously funded investigators.

Eligibility

Full-time faculty at UAMS, ACH/ACRI, or CAVHS who hold non-temporary positions at the rank of Instructor or above are eligible for TRI Pilot Awards.

Additional Requirements

Please note that the project must be submitted for IRB approval or human subjects research determination by October 29, 2018 and must receive IRB approval before a pilot project account can be opened (but no later than January 1, 2019). Proof of submission should be included in your application, and proof of approval or determination should be sent via email to nlindelicato@uams.edu. The start date for all projects is January 1, 2019. All projects will end on December 31, 2019. Extensions on pilot grants are only allowed in special, extenuating circumstances.

All projects invited to submit a full application will be required to receive consultations from TRI's Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD) group and from TRI's Budget Manager, Laura Wilson. The consultations are free to pilot program applicants and will take place between October 15 and 26, 2018. TRI will help facilitate; more details will accompany instructions for the full application.

Letter of Intent (LOI) Submission Process

The Opioid and Pain Management Pilot Grant Opportunity requires the submission of a cover page and a one-page Letter of Intent (LOI) that summarizes the proposed research. The Cover

Page and LOI must be submitted by 12:00 p.m., October 8, 2018 to nlindelicato@UAMS.edu. Please note that the Cover Page and LOI must be merged and submitted as a single pdf document. Please contact Nia Indelicato at 501-526-0363 if you have any questions. The Cover Page template can be accessed through our [website](#)

Letter of Intent Format

The Letter of Intent Cover Page can be downloaded from our [website](#). The LOI should be typed, single-spaced with .5 inch margins and no longer than one page. Acceptable fonts are Arial, Tahoma, or Calibri with a font size of 11 point. Figure and Table legends may use smaller font but no smaller than 9 point. Please use appropriate headings in preparing your proposal. All proposals should be submitted as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file. The LOI must provide information on each of the following points, which will be major factors in scoring and selecting invitations to submit a full proposal:

- Project Title
- Project Summary - Summarize the project and the importance of the proposed research at a level easily understood by diverse scientific disciplines.
- Potential Impact on the Opioid Crisis and/or non-opioid approaches to the treatment of pain.
- Approach - Briefly describe the scientific approach used to address the research question.
- Plan for Extramural Funding - Describe your specific plan of obtaining extramural funding. This should include what this project will provide with regard to the likelihood of the type of grant (including proposed project length, agency, and date of submission) that will be targeted.
- New Multi-Disciplinary Research Collaborations - describe how the project will solidify new multi-disciplinary research collaborations.

LOI Review and Selection

The LOI review committee will consist of UAMS senior faculty and staff. Each LOI will be reviewed and scored based on the criteria listed above. A subgroup of applications will be invited to submit a full application.

Full Application Review and Selection

Full applications will be peer-reviewed for scientific and technical merit using the NIH-based review system. This system includes Overall Impact, Significance, Investigator (multidisciplinary, team-based science is given priority), Innovation, Approach, and Plan for Extramural Funding. Based on these assessments, applications will receive a priority score. The score along with a summary statement that evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of the application will be provided to the PI whether the project has high enough priority for funding or not. Applications receiving the highest priority score will be recommended for funding and presented to the TRI Leadership Council for final approval.

Full applications will also undergo review by a community member who will comment on the relevance of the research to the local community at large. A goal of TRI is to integrate community reviewer perspectives into shaping our translational research agenda and be able to communicate to the local public about work funded at UAMS. Community reviewers will read, score and discuss the applications. **The full application process now includes preparation of a two-page summary of the application's content with reduced jargon to promote readability at a nonscientific high school reading level, as well as a five minute promotional video which explains your project to a general/lay audience.**

TIMELINE

LOI Due Date	October 8, 2018 (12:00 noon)
LOI Scored	Week of October 8, 2018
Full Applications Invited	October 12, 2018
BERD/TRI Consultations	October 15 – 26, 2018
Proof of IRB Submission Due	October 29, 2018 (include in application)
Full Application Due	October 29, 2018
Lay Videos Due	November 5, 2018
Study Section	November 29, 2018
Awardees Announced	December 10, 2018
Start Date for Projects	January 1, 2019

Please contact Nia Indelicato (by [email](#) or call 526-0363) if you have any questions about the Opioid and Pain Management Research Pilot or the application process.