

# Pilot Project Funding Opportunity

## CENTER FOR TRANSLATIONAL PAIN RESEARCH (CTPR)

### TWO \$10,000 - \$20,000 AWARDS FROM THE CENTER FOR TRANSLATIONAL PAIN RESEARCH

The Center for Translational Pain Research is a National Institute of Drug Abuse funded (NIDA; P50 DA044121) Center of Excellence regarding Chronic Pain and Drug Abuse. The Center offers competitive funding for pilot projects in Chronic Pain and Drug Abuse. Clinical and basic science research projects are both sought.

#### **Eligibility:**

The proposed research project must be relevant to clinical or basic science research on Chronic Pain and Drug Abuse, especially opioid use/disuse related mechanisms. Non-addictive pain treatment mechanisms/trials/clinical studies are additional areas of emphasis. Human/rodent model brain imaging studies relevant to Chronic Pain and Drug Abuse are also accepted. Preference will be given to projects that utilize the Behavioral Core facilities of CTPR. The principal investigator must have faculty appointment, or be a postdoctoral fellow, within Northwestern University.

#### **Amount, duration and NIDA approval:**

Pilot funds are limited to one year of support. Projects with meritorious progress can apply for a second year of funding. The maximum level of support will be **\$20,000** in direct cost annually. The amount of support provided will be contingent on project scope and availability of funds. Proposals selected by the internal review committee will be forwarded to NIDA who will give final approval on the award.

#### **Deadline:**

Applications are due November 1, 2019. Applicants will be notified of award decision by February 1, 2020. IRB or ACUC approval are required before projects can begin.

#### **Application Format (PHS398 (rev. 1/18) must be used; text must be in Arial 11 pt font):**

Applications should be submitted electronically at review stage. It does not need to be submitted to OSR. Proposals chosen for submission to NIDA will then need OSR approval and signatures from PIs.

Applications must adhere to all NIH formatting guidelines. Please include:

1. Face Page (form page 1)
2. Project Summary, Relevance, Performance Site, and Key Personnel (form page 2)
3. Detailed Budget for the 12-month pilot project (form page 4). **Project PIs are required to have effort whether directly charged or cost-shared.**
4. Budget Justification
5. Biographical Sketches (NIH-style for key personnel)
6. Other Support (specify any potential overlap)
7. Resources and Environment (relevant to the pilot project)
8. Research Plan: Specific Aims, Background & Significance, Innovation, Research Design & Methods, Literature (**Max pages of 4 including figures, references are not included in page count**)
9. Human Subjects or Vertebrate Animals (as applicable)

**\*\*FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS ONLY:** You must also include with your application a letter from your Mentor supporting the application and confirming the time and resource commitment. You cannot hold a National Service Research Award (NRSA) or NIH training grant appointment and a Pilot Project simultaneously.

Electronic versions of the form pages can be downloaded at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

**Target categories for support:**

*Junior investigators*, who require initial support in order to obtain feasibility data for future R01-type applications. *Established investigators* (testing a new hypothesis or methodology that is not an extension of ongoing research or is a high-risk new project not currently supported by their current grant support)

*Established investigators in other fields* (who wish to bring novel approaches to chronic pain and/or drug abuse research)

**Review Criteria:**

1. Significance to the field/Innovation
2. Scientific merit and experimental design
3. Use of resources and tools/methods of CTPR Core Facilities
4. Appropriateness of proposed research time schedule
5. Appropriateness of proposed budget (negotiable by the review committee)
6. Probability that the pilot project will lead to independent funding

**Key Dates:**

September 1, 2019 – Applications open

November 1, 2019 – Applications due

February 1, 2020 – Awards announced

March 1, 2020 – Project begins (subject to NIDA approval)

**Reporting Requirements:**

Grantees will be required to summarize their research progress in **March 2021**. A final research and expenditures report will be required in **July 2021**. Pilot grant awardees will be expected to present their grant progress during Pain Research Day in **October 2021**. Investigators should acknowledge CTPR support and grant number P50 DA044121 on any publications resulting from pilot grant support.

**Questions regarding the Pilot Grant program or the application process can be directed to:**

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