American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant

Principal Investigator: Andrew S. Kraft

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Purpose of the Award

CANCER RESEARCH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR NEW INVESTIGATORS

Qualified faculty from the University of Arizona and its affiliates are encouraged to apply for cancer research funds made available through an American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant (ACS-IRG). IRG pilot project grants are intended to support independent, self-directed investigators early in their careers to help them start their research programs and to obtain preliminary data in support of more extensive proposals. Projects can be in areas of basic research, cancer control (population sciences, psychosocial, behavioral, health policy, or health services research), or research related to cancer health equity, childhood cancer, palliative care, and nutrition and physical activity and cancer. Only applications that relate to cancer research will be accepted. However, cancer-related research will be interpreted using the broadest definition.

Up to two awards of $30,000 each will be made for this FOA

Eligibility

- Applicants must be within six years of their first independent research or faculty appointment
- Tenure-track, clinical-track, and research-track faculty at the assistant professor level who have not had independent federal or American Cancer Society funding in the past. Investigators who have been awarded federal grants with the activity codes shown below are not considered to be independently funded investigators and are eligible to apply:
  - R03, R15, R25, R90, RL9, RL5, R36, all F awards, all K awards (excluding K99/R00 awards that are considered as “NIH pathway to independence awards”), L30, L32, L40, L50, L60, T32, T34, T35, T90, D43, G07, G08, G11, G13, G20, R13, S10, S15, S21, S22
- New investigators who received ACS-IRG funding can apply for a second consecutive year of funding as a continuation of their project providing they still meet the other eligibility criteria. However, continuation requests MUST include a completed progress report. An individual may NOT receive a second grant to initiate a different pilot project
- Any applicant for IRG pilot project funding who is not a U.S. citizen must hold a visa that will allow him or her to remain in the U.S. long enough to complete the IRG pilot project

A more detailed description of eligibility standards may be found in the “Definition of a New Investigator” document available at [http://uacc.arizona.edu/research/pilotproject/acs](http://uacc.arizona.edu/research/pilotproject/acs)

Review Criteria

Significance: Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? Is there a strong scientific premise for the project? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?
**Investigator**: Are the PI and collaborators well suited to the project? Do they have appropriate experience, training, and mentoring?

**Innovation**: Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

**Approach**: Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analysis adequately developed, well integrated, well-reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

**Potential**: What is the potential for the project to provide preliminary data in support of a more extensive and competitive proposal for extramural funding?

**Environment**: Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

### Budget

Budget requests may not exceed $30,000 in direct costs. Some restrictions on budgetary items apply. A detailed list is provided in the “ACS IRG Allowable Budget Items” document available at [http://uacc.arizona.edu/research/pilotproject/acs](http://uacc.arizona.edu/research/pilotproject/acs)

### Awardee Obligations

ACS-IRG Pilot Project award recipients agree to the following:

- Awardees must acknowledge the ACS in any publications or presentations related to their IRG funding by including the statement: "This publication is supported by Institutional Research Grant number IRG-16-124-37 from the American Cancer Society."
- For 5 years following award receipt, awardees will complete an annual Pilot Project Progress Report for the University of Arizona Cancer Center (UACC)
- Awardees will use results from the ACS Pilot Project as preliminary data in grant applications to extramural funding agencies – a listing of such application(s) with submission dates will be included in the annual Pilot Project Progress Reports
- Awardees agree to serve on a future Review Committee or participate in an ACS activity, if requested
- Awardees may be requested to give a brief presentation or prepare a poster on their pilot project results at a future UACC research seminar or research retreat
- Awardees must submit IACUC and/or IRB approval documents to the UACC prior to beginning any animal/human related research
- Awardees are expected to complete their pilot projects within their approved project period and budget, unless an extension is requested and approved in writing. Cost extensions are not automatic and remaining funds cannot be transferred to another account
- Awardees must provide documentation of their participation in a UACC approved mentoring program
- Awardees will be contacted about presenting at the annual UACC Scientific Retreat

### Important Dates & Contact Information

**DEADLINE FOR PROPOSAL**: Friday, March 8th by 5:00 pm
EARLIEST START DATE: May 2019

All applications are due in electronic form, with biosketch, on March 8th by 5:00 p.m. and are to be emailed to Lubna Govindarajan (lshaikh@email.arizona.edu).

Application documents can be found on The University of Arizona Cancer Center’s web site at: http://uacc.arizona.edu/research/pilotproject/acs

For any questions please contact:

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