The Skin Diseases Research Center (SDRC) is funded by a grant from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. The goal of the Center is to foster translational and basic research in cutaneous biology and skin diseases. The SDRC sponsors innovative research through its Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Program, a variety of collaborative arrangements can greatly enhance the value of your award:

**Eligibility and Conditions**

The SDRC plans to support three new P&F projects for funding for one year with an annual budget of $25,000 (direct costs). Projects are supported with the understanding that the PI will subsequently apply for NIH or equivalent funding using preliminary data acquired during the P&F project period. Funding must be spent within the one-year budget period, carryover will not be permitted. They must fall into three categories:

1. Established investigators in skin diseases or related areas with a proposal for testing the feasibility of a new or innovative idea that is skin disease-related but represents a clear and distinct departure from the investigator's ongoing research interest;
2. Established investigators with no previous work in skin disease or related areas who are willing to test the applicability of their expertise on a skin disease-related problem;
3. New investigators who have not been principal investigators in a past or current NIH research project grant (R01, R21, and P series). New investigators should be clearly independent and have a faculty appointment higher than that of postdoctoral fellow or research associate.

New this year:

Translational Science trainees who are residents or fellows in research-track training programs may apply for a one-year award during their research year.

Please note that only full-time faculty are eligible for CTSC matching funds.

**Application**

If you meet the criteria and wish to apply, follow the steps below:

1. Prepare a 5 page NIH style P&F research proposal and plans for seeking independent funding.
2. Address how matching program criteria are met, if applicable; if a CTSC Core is utilized, documented consultation from the CTSC Core director or his/her designee for each CTSC Core in the form of a Letter of Support is required. Detailed budget and justification of use of the CTSC Core(s) must be included in the application. It is preferred for applicants who have received information concerning Core fees and charges associated with the proposed research to include that information with the application.
3. Include your biosketch and detailed budget
4. Deadline for application submission is **February 27, 2015**.

**Applications should be submitted via:**

Webgrants.case.edu

You may wish to discuss your Aims with:
Kevin D. Cooper, M.D., Director (844-3111) or Thomas McCormick, Ph.D., Co-Director (368-0238) or SDRC Core Directors:
- Nicole Ward, Ph.D. (368-1111) or Kord Honda, M.D. (844-1507) (Morphology Core)
- Thomas McCormick, Ph.D. (368-0238) (Cell Culture & Molecular Technology Core)
- Elma Baron, M.D. (368-4971) (Translational Research Core)
- Kurt Lu, M.D. (368-2388) or Daniel Popkin, M.D., Ph.D. (368-0237) (Animal Experimentation & Wound Healing Core)

**Review Process**

Proposals will be reviewed by internal and external experts in the discipline. Final funding decisions will be made by the Executive Advisory Committee of the Skin Diseases Research Center. You will be notified in the beginning of **July 2015** and funding starts on **September 1, 2015**.