

REQUEST FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

Case Specialized Program of Research Excellence in Gastrointestinal Malignancies (CASE GI SPORE)

All Faculty members are invited to submit proposals to be considered for **Pilot funding and/or SPORE Career Enhancement Award**.

All proposals must be directed towards translational research of a GI malignancy, with at least one specific aim that involves direct study of patients or of human tissues.

Maximum Funding Level – \$50,000 direct cost.

Two (2) awards will be funded beginning in September 2015

Proposals must conform to the following guidelines and must be submitted through CTSC Webgrants:

- 1.) Contact information for PI and faculty participants
- 2.) Proposal (5 pages) in length (excluding references) as follows: (29000 characters with spaces, Arial font, 11)
 - a. Specific aims (1 page)
 - b. Background and significance (1-2 pages)
 - c. Experimental Design (2-3 pages)
- 3.) NIH biosketches for all faculty participants
- 4.) Detailed budget in NIH Budget Format

Application Deadline: June 7, 2015

Grant Applications are available at <http://webgrants.case.edu>

More information on GI SPORE, <http://www.case.edu/cancer/research/initiatives/gispore/>

For questions, please contact John Pounardjian, hxp125@case.edu

*Previously submitted SPORE pilot/scholar applications are welcome to be resubmitted

Project Application

Pilot and Career Enhancement Applications must conform to the following guidelines:

1. Contact information for PI and faculty collaborators
2. Proposal (5 pages) in length (excluding references) as follows: (29000 characters with spaces, Arial font, 11)
 - a. Specific aims (1 page)
 - b. Background and significance (1-2 pages)
 - c. Experimental Design (2-3 pages)
3. NIH biosketches for all faculty participants
4. Detailed budget in NIH Budget Format

Pilot Project Allowable Costs

Allowable costs are outlined below:

- \$50,000 maximum direct cost per year
- Research supplies
- Equipment less than \$5,000
- Salary support for post doctoral or technical personnel
- No faculty salary support, travel, journal subscriptions, society memberships or renovations are allowed.
- No indirect costs transferred to departments, other schools outside of School of Medicine or other institutions

Expectation of Funded Projects

- Establishment of co-investigators-advisors to ensure translational considerations
- Prompt IRB or IACUC application and approval
- Prompt initiation of research project
- Quarterly operational status reports at GI SPORE Meetings
- Semi-annual presentation of research progress reports at biweekly GI SPORE Executive Committee Meeting
- Annual written progress reports
- Annual presentation at SPORE annual retreat, attended by the SPORE IAB
- Annual follow-up progress reports of research developments, presentations, publications and progress toward achieving translational goals and independent funding
- Attendance and participation at regular GI SPORE Meetings
- Attendance and participation in Comprehensive Cancer Center annual retreat
- Use of GI SPORE and Cancer Center Core Facilities where appropriate
- Review by GI SPORE Biostatistics Core of plans before starting and data before presentation or publication
- Acknowledgement of support by Cancer Center and GI SPORE in all publications and presentations

Request for Applications

GI SPORE Pilot Grant

Governing Policies for Pilot Projects

1. Pilot Projects, up to \$50,000 direct, will be awarded for one year each with the possibility of a second year funding, pending outstanding progress and development, subject to competitive review with all other pilot projects submitted at that time. Pilot Projects will not be funded by this mechanism beyond 2 years.
2. Pilot Projects must have a translational research focus on GI Cancer.
3. Pilot Projects are encouraged (but not required) to have two lead investigators with one being basic and the other clinical. Pilot projects may be submitted by individual investigators representing either basic or clinical science, however if the project is identified as meritorious and selected for funding, then the leadership will seek to identify potential collaborators or advisors in the alternate discipline, basic or clinical, to ensure optimal consideration of translational opportunities.
4. At least one specific aim should involve direct patient contact or the study of patient derived materials.

Plans to Stimulate Research Activity in New Areas of GI Cancer

Pilot proposals will be considered for any GI malignancy, priority consideration will be given to proposals focused on non-colorectal GI malignancies. In addition, we plan to award at least 1 pilot project per cycle to a non colorectal focused proposal. **Pilot Projects in the area of Pancreatic Cancer are encouraged.**

Pilot Project Eligibility

All Case Western Reserve University faculty with an appointment at the Assistant Professor level or higher are eligible to apply for pilot project funding. This includes faculty at all 10 schools throughout the university and/or affiliated healthcare centers. Investigators at the Instructor level will be considered eligible, if applications are accompanied by letters of support from department chairs indicating commitment to faculty positions at the Assistant Professor level by the time scheduled for pilot project initiation.

Investigators from other institutions must adhere to the same principles and propose a partnership with an investigator at Case Western Reserve University.

All applications require department sign off to ensure the investigators have sufficient protected research time and facilities to conduct the proposed research.

Projects may be collaborative with investigators from other institutions especially those with GI SPORES, but at least one investigator must be a Case faculty member.



CASE
COMPREHENSIVE
CANCER CENTER



Applicants are not required to be members of the Comprehensive Cancer Center at the time of application. However, any Case faculty awarded funding for a pilot research project will be required to become a Cancer Center member and participate regularly in Cancer Center academic activities.

Request for Applications

GI SPORE Career Enhancement Grant

Governing Policies for Career Enhancement Awards

This program is designed to support research training leading to independent careers in translational GI Cancer research. Applicants may be either junior faculty who are aiming to develop a career in GI cancer research, or may be established senior investigators who are interested in transitioning to working in the field of GI cancer research.

Proposals for a SPORE Career Enhancement Award need to have at least one translational research aim that includes either studies involving primary human tissues or studies involving patients. Studies using primary patient samples or patient derived xenografts are consistent with this guideline, but studies that use only cell lines or xenografts from cell lines are not.

Awardees are expected to devote 70% effort to research and training, will conduct a mentored research program in the laboratory or program of one of the SPORE Investigators and have an assigned mentoring team. Applicants must be US citizens. They must have a faculty appointment at the time the scholarship begins or be in the senior year of a training program with a department commitment to a faculty appointment during the first scholarship year.

