The NIEHS Center for Environmental Health in Northern Manhattan is seeking innovative and promising pilot project proposals in all areas of environmental health. Priority will be given to projects that focus on the thematic goals of the Center: to understand the impact of environmental exposures over the life course with a major focus on air toxics and bio-aerosols, oxidative stress, epigenetics, and climate change or that involve community-based participatory research.

Applicants will have access to the Center’s Facility Cores at no or limited cost depending upon the extent of use and are encouraged to discuss their projects with the Core Directors. See the Center website for a detailed description of the Exposure Assessment, Integrative Health Sciences, and Study Design and Data Analytics Facility Cores.

Requirements

- **Budget and Timeline:** Pilot project proposals can request up to $35,000 and should be completed within two years.
- **Eligibility:** A major goal of the Pilot Program is to fund projects that will generate preliminary data for the development of a R01 or similar grant; therefore applicants must have academic positions that allow grant submissions. Junior faculty with ideas for innovative projects are strongly urged to apply. Senior faculty and all Center members are eligible if expanding their research into new areas of environmental health or proposing an inter-Center collaboration with investigators at another NIEHS P30 Center.
- **Prior approval required for international studies:** contact Dr. Matt Perzanowski

Instructions for Submission

Prior to submitting a proposal, each applicant is required to set up a study design consultation with Dr. Pam Factor-Litvak, followed by a statistical consultation with a member of the statistical team—please contact Pam by January 3, 2021 for an appointment. Complete the Pilot Projects Application found on the Center website. Applications should be submitted electronically as a single PDF file to Ms. Gail Garbowski by 5pm on the deadline date. The application should include the following sections (the Cover Page and Project Description sections when combined should not exceed 3-5 pages):

- **Cover Page** (title, abstract in lay language, investigators and affiliations, etc.)
- **Project Description** (environmentally relevant Specific Aims, Background and Significance, Study Design and Methods, Use of Facility Cores, and Future Plans that outline how results will lead to a larger project, Timeline)
- **Budget** (PI salary support is permitted up to $3,500 S+F, if needed)
- **References**
- **NIH Formatted Biosketches** (For all key personnel)

Review Process

All pilot proposals will undergo a single review process with both internal and external reviewers. Based on these scores and Center priorities, final funding decisions will be made by the Executive Committee within six weeks. Funding is contingent upon IRB (human subjects) or IACUC approval (animals), if applicable.

Contacts

Investigators interested in submitting proposals are encouraged to discuss them with Deputy Director, Dr. Matt Perzanowski or Center Director, Dr. Andrea Baccarelli. For administrative issues, contact Ms. Gail Garbowski. Additional information can be found on the Center’s Pilot Project webpage.