WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
NUTRITION OBESITY RESEARCH CENTER Pilot & Feasibility Program
Call for Proposals

Purpose: The major objective of this program is to provide research support to test innovative hypotheses involving nutrition and obesity in the prevention, pathogenesis, pathophysiology, and therapy of disease. It is hoped that a Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Award will generate enough preliminary data for the investigator to obtain research funding from extramural sources (e.g., R01).

Eligibility Criteria: (see Appendix section below for letter requirements)
1) New investigators without current or past NIH research project support (R01, P01 or R24) or other large extramural research support as a Program Director/Principal Investigator.
2) Established, funded investigators who are proposing new studies for a new hypothesis or direction in nutritional science or obesity, which are not directly related to previous or currently funded research, and need pilot data to justify further funding for this new idea.
3) Postdoctoral trainees who are in their last year of training, have suitable expertise and independence to design and carry out the planned experiments, and can provide documentation that they will be faculty members at Washington University at the time of the initiation of the award.
   • Previous recipients of NORC Pilot & Feasibility (P&F) Award are eligible, but first priority will be given to those who have not been supported by this program.
   • No citizenship requirement for P&F applicants.

Awards:
• Awards of up to $30,000 for one year are awarded.
• A second year of funding is available, but is a competitive process, and will depend upon successful progress and promise of adequate data to support renewal.

Deadline and Review Process:
• Applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14, 2017.
• Awards will be announced September 15, 2017, and funding will begin October 1, 2017.
All applications will be reviewed by the NORC Internal and External Advisory Committee members for scientific merit, originality, relevance of the work to nutrition and obesity, the potential for the project to generate data for a successful peer-reviewed grant application, and the potential for the PI to develop into an independent investigator.

Terms of Awards:
• All awardees must have appropriate institutional regulatory approvals (Human Research Protection Office-HRPO, Animal Studies, etc.) before funds will be released.
• Grantees will be required to meet with NORC Co-Director and to submit an annual progress report describing the results of their work, related publications and funding.
• If applying for a second year of funding, a full progress report on NIH 398 forms is required.
• All publications should acknowledge the Washington University NORC (P30 DK56341).

Questions: Stephanie Paton, NORC Research Program Administrator
314-362-2632; spaton@wustl.edu

David Alpers, MD, NORC Pilot and Feasibility Program Director
314-362-8943; dalpers@wustl.edu

To learn more about the Nutrition Obesity Research Center, go to the Center for Human Nutrition website https://gns.wustl.edu/research/nutrition-obesity-research-center/pilot-feasibility-program/
Applications are due Wednesday, June 14, 2017 by 4pm.
Please submit completed application to:
Stephanie Paton, NORC Research Program Administrator - spaton@wustl.edu

The application packet must include the following NIH SF 424 pages (in order):
- R&R cover pages 1 & 2 (download Parent R01 in PDS to fill forms)
- R&R other project information page and abstract
- R&R Non-Modular Budget & Justification for entire period of project (may include up to two years)
- NIH Biographical Sketch (5 page limit)
- NIH Formatted Other Support
- Facilities and Other Resources

- Research plan (5-page maximum, excluding references). Include: 1) Specific Aims, 2) Research Strategy (address significance, innovation, approach) 3) Preliminary Data (if applicable), 4) Description of how the results of this study will lead to future investigations/grant applications, and 5) Use of NORC Core laboratories.

- Appendix:
  1) Cover Letter from applicant stating clearly eligibility criteria (New, Established or Postdoctoral).
  2) For New Investigators who are faculty:
     i) a letter from Department Head or Division Chief endorsing the project and the applicant's independent research career
  3) For New Investigators who are postdoctoral fellows:
     i) a letter from Department Head or Division Chief endorsing the project and the applicant's independent research career and clearly indicate intent to offer applicant a faculty position at the time of initiating the P&F Award, and
     ii) a letter from the applicant's mentor (with other support page) confirming that this is an independent project

- Core Laboratories Usage Form must be submitted with your application. It is required that the proposal use at least one core laboratory. For details regarding core lab services, please visit the NORC website at https://gns.wustl.edu/research/nutrition-obesity-research-center/pilot-feasibility-program/

Budget Guidelines (follow NIH A-21 Guidelines):
- Maximum of 10% salary support for the PI is allowed as long as this amount does not exceed 25% of the total award.

Expenditures NOT Allowed:
- Secretarial/administrative personnel salary support
- Office equipment and supplies
- Equipment costing $5,000 or more
- Computers
- Tuition
- Domestic or foreign travel
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Dues and membership fees in scientific societies
- Purchasing and binding of periodicals and books
- Rental of office or laboratory space
Principal Investigator: _______________________________________________________________

Project Title:_______________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

Please indicate which core(s) you will use for your proposed project and describe specific needs:

☐ Clinical Science Research Core (CSR)

☐ Animal Model Research Core (AMR)

☐ Biomolecular Analysis Core (BMA)

☐ Adipocyte Biology Molecular Nutrition Core (ABMN)

Regulatory Approvals:

Human Research Protection? Yes ☐ No ☐ Pending ☐ If pending, date submitted_________

Animal Studies Committee? Yes ☐ No ☐ Pending ☐ If pending, date submitted_________

Include all appropriate regulatory approvals (HRPO, ASC, Radioactive Substances, Select Agents, etc.) when available with application.