

# Washington University

## NUTRITION OBESITY RESEARCH CENTER

### PILOT & FEASIBILITY PROGRAM

#### 2021 – 2022 Call for Proposals

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**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/Principle Investigator.
  - 2) 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.
- 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 Monday, June 7, 2021.**
- **Awards will be announced September 15, 2021, and funding will begin October 1, 2021.**

All applications will be reviewed 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).

**NUTRITION OBESITY RESEARCH CENTER  
PILOT & FEASIBILITY PROGRAM**

*Instructions*

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**Applications are due Monday, June 7, 2021 by 4pm.**

Please submit completed application to:

Stephanie Paton, NORC Research Program Administrator - [spaton@wustl.edu](mailto:spaton@wustl.edu)

**The application packet must include the following NIH SF 424 pages:**

PHS 398 Form Page 1: Face Page (Grants Office signature not needed)

Project Summary/Abstract

PHS 398 Form Page 4 and 5: Initial Budget Period and Budget for Entire Proposed Project Period

NIH Biographical Sketch (5 page limit)

NIH Formatted Other Support

Facilities and Other Resources

Forms may be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

- **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.
- **WU NORC HUMAN STUDIES QUESTIONNAIRE**
- **HUMAN RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS FOR NIH:**
  1. Data and safety monitoring plan (DSMP)
  2. Milestones
  3. Documentation of IRB approval
  4. Participant recruitment and retention plan and monitoring
  5. Plan for dissemination of research results

In addition, all NORC P&F-supported projects including non-exempt human subjects research will be required to:

1. Submit planned enrollment/inclusion data in the Humans Subjects System (HSS)
  2. Register all clinical trials in [clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov) and deposit the results according to [clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov) regulations
- A letter of support from applicant's Division Chief or Department Chair confirming the plans to establish an independent research career must accompany the application.
  - If project requires a sponsor, consultant or collaborator, this individual must write a letter of support for the application and should clarify any potential overlap between their support and the subject of the proposal. This letter should accompany the application.

**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 (not including fringes) 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

**Questions:**

Stephanie Paton, NORC Research Program Administrator

314-362-2632; [spaton@wustl.edu](mailto:spaton@wustl.edu)

Dominic Reeds, NORC Pilot and Feasibility Program Director

314-362-8430, [dreeds@wustl.edu](mailto:dreeds@wustl.edu)

David Alpers, MD, NORC Pilot and Feasibility Program Associate Director

314-362-8943; [dalpers@wustl.edu](mailto:dalpers@wustl.edu)

To learn more about the Nutrition Obesity Research Center, go to the Center for Human Nutrition website  
<https://qns.wustl.edu/research/nutrition-obesity-research-center/pilot-feasibility-program/>

**WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**  
**NUTRITION OBESITY RESEARCH CENTER**  
**Facilities Usage Form**

Principal Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Clinical Science Research Core (CSR)**

**Cellular and Molecular Biology Core (CMBC)**

**Animal Model Research Core (AMR)**

**Dissemination and Implementation Science Core (DISC)**

**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.*