2014 PILOT STUDY FUNDING COMPETITION

Request for Applications: Pilot Awards in Research Related to Injury Prevention and Control

Letter of Intent (mandatory for all): Due 5:00 pm ET, Tuesday, January 21

Application (by invitation): Due 5:00 pm ET, Friday, March 21

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PURPOSE

Injury is the leading cause of death for people 1 to 44 years old and the leading cause of potential years of life lost in the U.S., at a cost to society in the hundreds of billions of dollars per year. Successful approaches to decrease the burden of injury require innovation. The focus of the UM Injury Center Pilot Study awards is on building capacity in injury research in the region.

The UM Injury Center anticipates funding two or three one-year pilot study awards in 2014 that have the greatest potential to advance injury prevention science:

- **One or two awards** – open to PI or Co-PI from University of Michigan, Wayne State University, or Michigan State University, AND must include faculty at the UM School of Public Health* as a PI or Co-PI.
  - Total funding available is $50,000. We will equally consider funding two $25,000 awards OR one $50,000 award.
- **One award** – open to investigators from any school/program at the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, or Michigan State University.
  - Total funding available is $25,000 for one award.

Applicants are encouraged to address one or more of these UM Injury Center focus areas in their proposal. These include:

- **Unintentional Injury Prevention**
  - Young Driver Safety
  - Prescription Drug Misuse
  - Substance Abuse
  - Concussion
  - Falls
- **Violence Prevention**
  - Youth Violence
  - Child Maltreatment
  - Sexual Violence
  - Intimate Partner Violence
  - Suicidal Behavior

*Please contact the University of Michigan Injury Center ([injurycenter@umich.edu](mailto:injurycenter@umich.edu)) if you are interested in finding a collaborator with an interest in your field in the School of Public Health.
BACKGROUND

The UM Injury Center is an interdisciplinary collaboration among faculty, staff, students, and practitioners. Its vision is to share resources and seek innovative solutions for decreasing injury morbidity and mortality through research, education, training, and outreach. The Center was recently funded by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention as an Injury Control and Research Center--one of only 11 in the nation.

TERMS OF FUNDING

The following terms apply:

- Applicants for UM Injury Center funding must be research, academic, or clinical faculty at the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, or Michigan State University, and hold a PhD, MD, or equivalent academic degree. Post-doctoral scholars and research fellows are not eligible. Some eligibility varies by award; see details on p. 2.
- Preference will be given to:
  - Proposals from senior faculty that engage junior faculty and advance their work in the field of injury.
  - Proposals involving interdisciplinary collaborations.
- Funded applicants must remain at their home university for the duration of their study.
- The funding period will begin July 1, 2014, and will end June 30, 2015. A final report will be due no later than August 31, 2015.
- The UM Injury Center will fund reasonable research expenses, to a maximum of $25,000 (or $50,000 if funding for two awards is combined). Specific budget items may include:
  - The investigators’ time (PI’s effort should not exceed 20% of the project budget.)
  - Data purchases
  - Research assistance
  - Research-related travel
  - Relevant supplies
- The UM Injury Center will fund direct costs only. Indirect costs (overhead) will not be funded.
- Cost extensions are discouraged. Any cost extension requests will reviewed by the Center’s Research Core leader(s), and require a face-to-face meeting. Extensions would be contingent on compelling justification, a favorable budget review, progress report, and revised timeline.
- Funded applicants are expected to:
  - Become members of the Injury Center
  - Participate in Injury Center events, including the quarterly Research Roundtable
  - Attend a workshop on policy implications of injury research arranged by the Center on UM campus (strongly encouraged)
  - Submit a final report upon completion of the project (due August 31, 2015)
  - Submit a 250-word summary (for posting on the Center’s website) by August 31, 2015
  - Provide ongoing updates on resulting research projects, publications, presentations, and other work relating to the project
  - Acknowledge the University of Michigan Injury Center on all related work
Applications will be evaluated by senior faculty affiliated with the UM Injury Center. Evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

- **Significance.** Significance of the proposed study in terms of extending knowledge. Does this study address an important problem? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge or clinical practice be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventive interventions that drive this field?

- **Approach.** Quality of the research design, including appropriate research methodology and data. Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well reasoned, feasible and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics? Is the study likely to be completed during the funding period?

- **Innovation.** Is the project original and innovative? For example, does the project: challenge existing paradigms or clinical practice; address an innovative hypothesis or critical barrier to progress in the field; develop or employ novel concepts, approaches, methodologies, tools, or technologies for this area?

- **Investigators.** Are the investigators appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers? Does the investigative team bring complementary and integrated expertise to the project (if applicable)? What is the value of pilot study funding to the career development of the investigator?

- **Environment.** Does the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Do the proposed studies benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, or subject populations, or employ useful collaborative arrangements? Is there evidence of institutional support?

- **Additional funding.** Is it likely that the proposed project will lead to additional, external funding in injury?

- **Alignment.** Is the proposed study aligned with the Center’s areas of focus (see p. 2)?

- **Policy implications.** How likely is the research to result in specific relevant policy implications, and what might those policy implications be? (Note that here policy refers to the broad sense of implications for standard practice, guidelines, directives, as well as law.)
LETTER OF INTENT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A Letter of Intent is required, due January 21, 2014. Note that this is a change from our previous application process. Following a review of Letters of Intent, selected applicants will be invited to submit a full application. (Selected applicants will be notified by February 13, 2014, and full applications will be due March 21, 2014.) The Letter of Intent should include:

- PI and Co-I name and contact information
- Pilot study working title
- Short (one double-spaced page or less) abstract of proposed study, including statement of need, purpose, and brief description of study population and methods, focused on the appropriate topic areas (see p. 2)
- Estimated budget
- Letters of Intent should be submitted to UMInjuryCenter@umich.edu by 5:00 pm ET, Tuesday, January 21.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Faculty leadership at the Injury Center will review Letters of Intent and invite selected applicants to submit a full application. Full instructions will be provided at that time, however, here is a preview of what elements will be required.

- Application Form
- Table of Contents
- Abstract. One-page limit. Describe specific aims, data, and methods. Explain how study findings will inform policy, address UM Injury Center injury focus area(s), or lead to additional external funding.
- Pilot Study Proposal

1. Project narrative. No more than five double-spaced pages (excluding figures and references). Narrative must:

   - describe specific aims of the pilot study
   - describe how the proposal addresses the Center’s focus areas (see p. 2)
   - describe why the pilot study is innovative
   - describe the significance of the pilot study to the field of injury
   - briefly address background for the pilot study, with major hypotheses
   - describe the research design, proposed methodology, data sources, and analysis plan
   - describe policy implications

2. Indicate how the pilot study will further the applicant’s career in injury research, including obtaining external funding. (Maximum length: one page)
3. **Itemized budget and justification.**
   - Justification. Include an explanation of the basis for cost estimates.
   - Funds may be used to support normal research expenditures. If salary support is requested, provide detail (for whom, nature and percentage of appointment, period of time, amount requested).

4. **Pilot study timeline.** List specific milestones for pilot study completion. The timeline must be within the period July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015.

5. **Biographical sketch for each investigator.** Use NIH biosketch format.

**NOTE:** Human subjects review approval is required for all selected projects before funding will be disbursed.

Please note that brief statistical consultation is available to applicants who are invited to submit a full proposal. To request a 30-minute consultation session, contact UMInjuryCenter@umich.edu.

**TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT DATES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for Letters of Intent (mandatory)</td>
<td>5:00 pm ET, Tuesday, January 21, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Invitations Issued for Select Proposals</td>
<td>5:00 pm ET, Thursday, February 13, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for Invited Full Proposals</td>
<td>5:00 pm ET, Friday, March 21, 2014</td>
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<td>Notifications of funding</td>
<td>June 2, 2014 (estimated)</td>
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<td>Award Start</td>
<td>July 1, 2014</td>
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<td>Pilot Project Completion</td>
<td>June 30, 2015</td>
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<td>Final Report &amp; Website Summary Due</td>
<td>August 31, 2015</td>
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CONTACT INFORMATION

Direct questions to: UM Injury Center
Email: UMInjuryCenter@umich.edu
Phone: 734-647-7635 (Tina Creguer)

FUNDING INFORMATION FOR UM INJURY CENTER

We are sincerely grateful to the many funding supporters of the UM Injury Center, including the following:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Injury Control Research Center grant
- The University of Michigan Office of Vice President for Research
- The University of Michigan Medical School
- The University of Michigan Department of Emergency Medicine
- The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute
- The University of Michigan School of Public Health
- The Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research
- The University of Michigan Department of Surgery
- The University of Michigan Rackham Graduate School