

# WVU CANCER INSTITUTE (WVUCI) PILOT PROJECT GRANTS (PPG)

**Deadline for submission of all WVUCI PPG applications is Friday, June 1, 2018 (5:00 PM).**

- **AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY (ACS) INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH GRANT (IRG) PPG**
- **ACS-IRG RFA: PSYCHOSOCIAL, BEHAVIORAL, OR RESEARCH RELATED TO CANCER HEALTH EQUITY AND PALLIATIVE CARE**

The WVU Cancer Institute, with funds from its American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant, will provide pilot funds to support cancer research by junior faculty with no current national grant support of their own. Applicants may include full time-faculty from the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, or other WVU Schools and Colleges. **Applications are due June 1, 2018 (5:00pm).**

## **APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY**

Prior membership in the WVU Cancer Institute/Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center is not necessary, however those with proposals selected will need to submit an application for membership prior to distribution of funds.

### **ACS-IRG PPG AND RFA SPECIAL INTEREST PROJECTS:**

As stated in the ACS Institutional Research Grant policy and guidelines, IRG PPGs and RFA Special Interest Projects are intended to support independent, self-directed investigators early in their careers. These individuals (usually at the rank of assistant professor or equivalent) must be eligible to apply for independent national competitive research grants, but may not currently hold such a grant. Applicants for the ACS PPGs and RFA Special Interest projects should be within six years of their first independent research or faculty appointment as aligned with specific ACS guidelines. Recipients of IRG Awards must be, at the time of the application, citizens or noncitizen nationals of the United States, or must have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.

## **SCOPE OF ACS-IRG PPG AND RFA SPECIAL INTEREST PROJECTS**

Projects must be relevant to the overall goals of the WVU Cancer Institute and its research programs of emphasis (including, but not limited to the following): mechanisms of metastasis and therapeutic response, breast cancer, hematological malignancies/bone marrow transplantation, tobacco use etiology/prevention or treatment, lung cancer, GI cancers, health outcomes or services research, cancer-focused populations/cancer health disparities research, and experimental therapeutics. Each proposal must be presented in the context of a project that is slated for submission for extramural support.

For the RFA, projects must address areas of special interests specifically identified by ACS, including psychosocial and behavioral research, health equity in the poor and medically underserved, or in palliative care of cancer patients.

## **AMOUNT OF AWARD**

### **ACS IRG PPG:**

Up to two meritorious ACS awards in addition to one special interest meritorious ACS award will be funded this cycle with a maximum budget of \$30,000/award. Funds will be available on approximately **July 1, 2018** and must be spent within a 12 month period. While applications received in response to these funding opportunities will be reviewed separately, the expenditures allowed are similar, as are the scientific review criteria, as summarized below.

## **EXPENDITURES ALLOWED**

(APPROPRIATE JUSTIFICATION MUST BE INCLUDED)

- Research supplies and animal maintenance
- Technical assistance
- Domestic travel when necessary to carry out the proposed research program
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Costs of computer time
- Special fees (pathology, photography, etc.)
- Stipends for graduate students and postdoctoral assistants if their role is to promote and sustain the project presented by the faculty member
- Equipment costing less than \$2,000. (Special justification is necessary for items exceeding this amount)
- Registration fees at scientific meetings (only for the ACS grant)

## **EXPENDITURES NOT ALLOWED**

- Salary of principal investigator (pilot project grant recipient)
- Secretarial/administrative salaries
- Foreign travel (special consideration given for attendance at scientific meetings held in Canada)
- Books and periodicals
- Membership dues
- Office and laboratory furniture
- Office equipment and supplies
- Non-medical services to patients (travel to a clinical site is an allowable expense)
- Construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings/laboratories

## **REVIEW CRITERIA**

All projects will be reviewed based on overall impact on the field, innovation, significance, approach, qualification of the investigator or investigative team, and availability of resources needed (environment) consistent with current NIH review criteria. Further, ACS will be scored based, in part, on their likelihood of supporting development of a competitive extramural grant submission within a reasonable timeframe. Grants that have been submitted for extramural support, and favorably reviewed but not funded, may be submitted using the standard form with additional inclusion of the applicant's summary statement as an appendix outside of the page limitations. Appropriate IRB or ACUC approvals must be in place prior to initiation of funding, but are not required at the time of submission. However, if approval is not in place within 60 days of notification of funding support may be revoked.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applications and support material should be submitted electronically by the **close of business (5:00 p.m.) on June 1** to the Office of Research and Graduate Education, G117 Erma Byrd Biomedical Building, to Ms. Holly Legleiter at [hlegleiter@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:hlegleiter@hsc.wvu.edu)

### **ACS-IRG PPG AND RFA SPECIAL INTEREST AWARDS:**

Complete the online application form for the ACS IRG, which includes biographical sketch in the required ACS 2 page format. Please note on the ACS application that verification of applicant eligibility by Department Chair must be obtained via signature prior to submission of an application; applicants must be within six years of their first independent research or faculty appointment, must be salaried faculty with appropriate committed research facilities, and may not have competitive national funding active at the start date of the proposed IRG allocation as noted earlier in this RFA.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Individuals funded by WVUCI must cite support of grant # IRG-16-143-07-IRG from the American Cancer Society, as applicable, on all abstracts, manuscripts, press releases, or other media communications.

If you have any questions regarding eligibility or submission of your application please contact Dr. Linda Vona-Davis at [lvdavis@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:lvdavis@hsc.wvu.edu).