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Winship Cancer Institute

American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant Program

Request for Proposals

Letter of Intent due Friday, 10/20/2023
Invited Applications due Monday, 11/20/2023

In October 2021, the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University was awarded the renewal of its Institutional Research Grant from the American Cancer Society. The goal of the ACS-IRG award is to provide the institution with funds to support the early development of junior faculty in their independent cancer research careers through an annual call for pilot projects, providing a mechanism to test ideas and obtain preliminary results that will ultimately position them to successfully compete for national peer-reviewed funding.

The Winship ACS-IRG pilot grant program is currently soliciting innovative pilot projects in clinical, basic, or translational cancer-related research that offers significant potential for reducing the incidence, mortality, and morbidity of cancer and/or improving the quality of life. ACS initiatives also focus on the fields of cancer prevention and cancer control and eliminating cancer disparities. Pilot projects will operate with \$40,000 (directs) for one year, with a written progress report expected at the 12-month mark detailing outcomes from the research project and how the funds were used. The ACS-IRG award will provide funding for up to 4 junior faculty members, including one specifically for an underrepresented minority investigator.

The National Science Foundation reports that certain racial and ethnic groups are underrepresented at many career stages in health-related sciences, namely, African Americans (or Blacks), American Indians and Alaska Natives, Hispanics (or Latinos), Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. Collectively, these groups are known as underrepresented minorities (URM) in science.

Eligible Applicants:

Applicants should be Assistant Professors (or equivalent) with faculty appointments of six years or less, who are eligible to apply for independent national competitive (peer-reviewed) research grants, but who currently do not hold such funding. Postdoctoral/clinical fellows, professors, or associate professors are not eligible. Applicants are not required to be United States (U.S.) citizen but must hold a visa that will allow him or her to remain in the U.S. long enough to complete the IRG pilot project.

ACS-IRG awardees will be mentored by a Winship Executive Committee faculty member who has expertise in the mentee's area of research. Mentors will meet on a regular schedule with the mentee to develop an individual mentoring plan, review scientific progress and research direction, provide guidance in the preparation of manuscripts and subsequent grant applications, and provide guidance in career development activities. As part of their professional development, ACS-IRG awardees will be invited to serve on the ACS-IRG Local Review Committee after the conclusion of their award, where they will work with an Executive Committee member to review ACS-IRG proposals.

TIMELINE:

Letter of Intent (LOI) Due:	Friday, October 20, 2023
Selection for Full Proposal:	Monday, October 23, 2023
Full Application Receipt date:	Monday, November 20, 2023
Pilot Project Start Date:	January 1, 2024

Letter of Intent from Applicant (1-page limit)

The letter of intent should include:

1. Name, academic title, academic department, department chair and contact information of applicant;
2. Indicate whether the applicant is an underrepresented minority investigator or not;
3. Explain the applicant's intent for consideration to submit an ACS-IRG pilot project grant proposal. Briefly describe the applicant's research plan, including a short statement on the research question, significance to cancer research and the proposed aims and approaches (abstract format).

The letter of intent should be uploaded as a single pdf document to <https://intranet.winship.emory.edu/pilotgrant> **no later than 11:59 pm on Friday, October 20, 2023**. Applicants will be notified if their proposal is selected to proceed to a full application on Monday, October 23, 2023.

Please direct any questions you have regarding this funding opportunity to Venus Henriques (venus.henriques@emory.edu) or winshipgrants@emory.edu.