Winship Invest$: Request for Pilot Grant Proposals
Summer 2019

Winship Cancer Institute is releasing the Summer 2019 Request for Pilot Grant Proposals for its Winship Invest$ program. Winship Invest$ is a peer-reviewed program providing pilot funding for novel, innovative cancer research projects. This program enables Winship investigators to obtain preliminary data and results for publication and for subsequent peer-reviewed funding applications. Winship Invest$ has two funding opportunities every year. Successful applications are supported by philanthropic contributions to Winship and by developmental funds from the Winship’s NCI Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG).

Proposals with a budget of up to $50,000 for one year may be considered for Winship Invest$ (unless otherwise stated for specific research domains). Successful applicants will be expected to appropriately reference Winship in all acknowledgements as well as provide progress and final reports upon request.

Investigators may submit only one proposal to the Winship Invest$ Request for Pilot Grant Proposals (RFP) per funding cycle. The current Winship Invest$ RFP seeks applications in the following research domains:

Winship Invest$ Research Domains:

1. Cancer Cell Biology (CCB) Program
   The CCB Program will be considering applications with the following emphasis:
   a. Grants intended to stimulate new intra-programmatic collaborations. Each application must have two or more CCB members as co-PIs. Since the funding is intended to stimulate new interactions, the co-PIs cannot have a record of prior joint funding or publications within the last three years.

2. Cancer Genetics and Epigenetics (CGE) Program
   The CGE Program will be considering applications with the following emphases:
   a. New Intra-programmatic Activities: Proposals that stimulate NEW inter-programmatic team science activities. Must have 2 or more CGE Program members, each of whom has a substantial intellectual contribution to the project and who have not previously worked together (e.g. no collaborative grants/published papers). CGE Program emphases include: cellular responses to genomic insults, cancer epigenetics, and cancer genomics. Cross theme interactions are highly encouraged.
   b. CGE Catalysis Funding: Open to CGE members whom have a recent NCI grant submission that scored within the 25th percentile or better but was not funded. Please submit the critiques and how a $25,000 bridge award would be used to address them for resubmission. Only A0 grants are eligible.

3. Cancer Prevention and Control (CPC) Program
   The CPC Program will be considering applications with the following emphases:
   a. Cancer Epidemiology, which aims to identify risk factors, including individual biological and behavioral factors, community and policy factors, and environmental exposures in an effort to inform targeted interventions and strategies to reduce cancer risk in Georgia.
   b. Interventions, which focuses on chemoprevention trials, individual behavioral interventions, and policy and systems-level changes with the ultimate goal of broad-scale implementation of effective strategies.
   c. Cancer Survivorship, which focuses on treatment-related early effects, including patient-reported outcomes, biobehavioral changes in the brain, and late effects such as cardiovascular diseases, all of which substantially affect the quality-of-life of cancer survivors;
   d. Quality of Cancer Care, which aims to conduct population-based research that describes, interprets, and predicts the impact of health care interventions and other factors on quality of cancer care and outcomes.

From amongst the most competitive applications in these topic areas, preference will be given to those that: (a) have the best potential to provide preliminary data supporting external grant submissions; (b) establish new inter-
programmatic or intra-programmatic collaborations; (c) make use of Winship shared resources; or (d) make use of the Georgia Cancer Registry as a resource to understand cancer prevention and control priorities in the state.

4. Discovery and Developmental Therapeutics (DDT) Program
The DDT Program will be considering applications with the following emphasis:
   a. **Cancer Therapeutic Discovery and Development**

5. Cancer Disease Type-Specific Research – The following opportunities will focus on one specific cancer disease category. Proposals will be reviewed and funded through the disease-specific philanthropic teams. Awards under this opportunity are limited to this RFP cycle only and include:
   a. **Breast Cancer Disease Type-Specific Research** – Thanks to the generous donations from the Glenn Family, we are pleased to solicit proposals for breast cancer specific research. Awards under this opportunity are limited to this RFP cycle only. This opportunity aims to support:
      - Clinical therapeutic or non-therapeutic studies which prospectively enroll patients that leverage the strengths and expertise of multiple PIs across at least two Winship research programs. Proposals must submit one integrated budget and have at least two PIs who contribute substantially to the progress of the project. Research should focus (but not limited to) any of the following:
        - Health disparities and the relationship with breast cancer outcomes and/or health literacy
        - Ductal carcinoma in situ
        - Neoadjuvant treatment trials
        - Metastatic breast cancer
        - Side effects of breast cancer and/or quality of life in survivors
        - Immunotherapy
        - Inflammation
   b. **Melanoma Cancer Disease Type-Specific Research** – Research projects that focus on basic or translational research, investigator-initiated clinical trials, health disparities, imaging, survivorship, immunotherapy, or quality of life projects related to melanoma. Proposals aimed at investigating new ideas, as well as proposals that have been reviewed nationally (NIH, DOD) and are within 10% of the payline will be considered favorably. For the latter, please include the prior review and how the proposed experiments will address a gap in preliminary data that will make a resubmission more competitive.

**Winship Invest$ Eligibility Criteria and Application Requirements:**
1. Pilot projects will be awarded to active Winship members. To maintain active membership status, the following criteria must be met:
   a. Attendance of at least 50% to published meetings of the research program to which he/she belongs;
   b. Maintenance of a good financial standing with Winship;
   c. Acknowledgement of the Winship Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) on all publications resulting from services in one or more Winship Shared Resources;
   d. Acknowledgement of the appropriate pilot funding source on all publications resulting from work supported by the Winship Invest$ Program.
2. Winship members can receive only one pilot project award in a given year, and may not submit more than one proposal through any RFP.
3. Salary support for the principal investigator is not allowed except for junior faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor and below.
4. All proposals must include a clear plan for subsequent extramural grant submissions as a result of the work proposed.
5. Data Management - Proposals must include a plan to maintain research data in Redcap or other secure data management system (if relevant) with quality control and stored on the Emory system with back-up and potential for data sharing. Consultation for data sharing plans with the Winship Research Informatics Shared Resource are recommended. ([https://winshipcancer.emory.edu/research/shared-resources/winship-research-informatics.html](https://winshipcancer.emory.edu/research/shared-resources/winship-research-informatics.html))
6. **Clinical Research** proposals can only be submitted by MDs, MD/PhDs, or RN/PhDs. All clinical research awardees are expected to follow clinical research guidelines set by Emory IRB, Winship Clinical Trials SOPs and the Winship...
Clinical and Translational Research Committee, and must satisfy clinical research training requirements. Proposals must include the following:

b. Winship CTRC Application.
d. A plan to maintain clinical research data in Oncore or through the support of the Winship Informatics Shared Resource.

7. Proposals which include in vivo studies must include a:
   a. Section addressing Vertebrate Animals research;
   b. IACUC protocol (draft to be submitted or IACUC-approved protocol)

8. Members receiving funding are expected to submit progress reports to the Winship Executive Committee. Specific instructions on due dates of reports are provided at the time of funding.

9. Letter of Intent: The Letter of Intent should identify the PI, all potential co-investigators and/or collaborators on the project, the research program of the applicant, the research domain for which the project is to be considered, a proposed title and a brief description of the proposed research project. Letters of Intent should be no longer than two pages.

Letters of Intent should be uploaded as a single document to https://intranet.winship.emory.edu/pilotgrant no later than 5:00pm on Friday, August 16, 2019. Submissions for CGE Catalysis Funding should be submitted via e-mail to winshipgrants@emory.edu no later than 5:00pm on Friday, September 13, 2019. Please direct any questions you have regarding this funding opportunity to Mr. Jeff Mills (404-727-3634 or via e-mail at jeff.mills@emory.edu).

Key Dates: Cycle 7
RFP Announcement: 07/29/2019
Letter of Intent receipt date: 08/16/2019
CGE Catalysis Funding Application receipt date: 09/13/2019
Winship Invest$ Application receipt date: 09/13/2019
Anticipated start date: 11/01/2019