Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University and the University of Georgia Cancer Center are pleased to release a collaborative 2023 Winship-UGA Request for Pilot Grant Proposals to support collaboration and accelerate research for cancer prevention, diagnosis, discovery, and treatment. Winship Invest$ and the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of Georgia have partnered together to support a peer-reviewed program that provides pilot funding for novel, innovative cancer research projects. This program aims to enable faculty collaborators from both institutions to launch new, promising lines of research that focus on exploring the strengths and synergies of the two institutions. Collaborations should seek to share knowledge and develop partnerships that deliver impact for the state of Georgia and beyond. Research projects across the continuum to include basic, translational, clinical, and population research in the social, life, physical, chemical, and engineering sciences are eligible for funding through this program.

Eligibility
- Independent investigators at the Assistant Professor level or above at either Emory with a Winship membership or the University of Georgia with a faculty rank in either institution
- Submission is limited to one proposal per collaborative team
- Proposals must include at least one investigator from each institution (UGA and Winship)
- Funding opportunity is not intended to provide support for an ongoing research project
- Awardees are expected to submit an application for external grant support within 1 year of completion of project

Budget (See Section C Budget Development for more information)
- Maximum project request - $50,000 for one year ($25,000 per institute)
- The appropriateness of the budget will be considered as part of the evaluation process
- Award amounts may be adjusted during the review and funding phase

Review Process and Funding
- Proposals are peer-reviewed by subject matter experts from both institutions who will serve as members of the review committee
- The scientific merit and potential to lead to a sustained research program will be the primary evaluation criteria by which reviewers rank applications and make funding recommendations
- Reviewers will comment on the appropriateness of the budget and availability of existing resources

Required Proposal Content (use application template to be provided at time of LOI acceptance)
A. Submission Form
1. PI names, degree, title, institution, department/unit, contact information (email, phone)
2. Title of project
3. Budget amount requested
4. Brief description of how support will lead to extramural grant support and plan for future submission
5. Data Sharing and Management Plan
6. Certification of all compliance and regulatory requirements for the project (IRB, IACUC, etc.)

B. Proposal Components (all documents should be provided in standard NIH format, 0.5” margins, Arial 11 font)
1. Project Summary/Specific Aims page. 1-page limit. Organized as follows:
   a. Proposed research questions
   b. Significance of the proposed research
   c. Unique and innovative features of the proposed work
   d. Description of the proposed collaboration
2. **Research Plan. 3-page limit.** Organized as follows:
   a. Introduction: Provide relevant background information, including the significance of the proposed research
   b. Importance of proposed research: Identify relevant research questions and establish the merit and feasibility of the project. Describe how this area of research addresses a critical need or problem
   c. Approach: Describe proposed methods and procedures, including relevant techniques, resources, and data collection instruments, facilities available to conduct the work and a timetable.
   d. Outcomes: Describe the expected results and how successful completion of the proposed work will contribute to the field, advance knowledge, and provide a robust foundation for the team’s work
   e. Sustainability Plan: Describe how this project will lead to lasting collaborations, impact of the proposed research team, and extramural funding.

3. **Detailed Budget and Budget Justification** (see Section C Budget Development)
4. **Biosketch** in NIH format for all PIs listed (not required for collaborators or consultants)
5. **Support Letters** – 1-page letter of support each by the Contact PI (Emory) and UGA PI department chair/head to include:
   a. Confirmation of applicant’s eligibility
   b. Endorsement of the project and its significance

C. **Budget Development**
1. **Detailed Budgets.** Please use the NIH PHS 398 Detailed Budget form included in the template. Detailed budgets and budget justifications must be submitted for each institution, with $25,000 allocated to each institution.

   **ALLOWABLE EXPENSES**
   a. Personnel support
      i. Research Staff salary and benefits. Fringe benefit costs for each institution MUST be included for all faculty and staff.
      ii. Graduate assistantship and other trainees. Fringe benefit costs for each institution MUST be included for all graduate assistants and other trainees.
   b. Supplies and general expenses
   c. Travel that is integral to conduct the proposed research

   **NON-ALLOWABLE EXPENSES**
   a. PI or Co-PI Salary
   b. Sole-source support of a student’s thesis or dissertation completion.
   c. "Matching" funds for a submitted or imminent external proposal.
   d. Travel to attend a professional meeting

D. **Proposal Submission Instructions**
1. A Letter of Intent must be submitted and approved by Winship to advance a proposal to full application status. This document must identify the Contact PI (Emory faculty member), MPI (UGA faculty member), all potential co-investigators and/or collaborators on the project, the name of this research domain (2023 Winship-UGA), the proposed title and a brief description of the research project. Letters of Intent should be no longer than two pages and must be emailed as a single pdf file to winshipgrants@emory.edu by the Winship Contact PI no later than 11:59 pm on **Friday, September 15, 2023**.
2. LOI Applicants will be notified if they are approved or not to submit a full application. Application templates will be provided at time of LOI acceptance. The full application must be submitted and emailed as a single pdf file to winshipgrants@emory.edu by the Winship Contact PI. Please direct any questions you have regarding this funding opportunity to winshipgrants@emory.edu.

E. **Timeline**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Timeline</strong></th>
<th><strong>Date:</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter of Intent Receipt Date:</td>
<td>Sept 15, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicants Notified to Proceed with Full Proposal:</td>
<td>Sept 22, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Receipt Date:</td>
<td>Oct 23, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipated Start Date:</td>
<td>Jan 1, 2024</td>
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