



EMORY
WINSHIP
CANCER
INSTITUTE
National Cancer Institute-Designated
Comprehensive Cancer Center

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Emory University Lung Cancer SPORE/Winship Invest\$ Developmental Research Program (DRP) Request for Pilot Grant Proposals

Emory University's Lung Cancer SPORE Developmental Research Program (DRP) aims to identify new and innovative research opportunities by supporting meritorious proposals that could expand into full research projects in the future, including those of high risk-high reward projects that might otherwise not be funded; to foster collaborative research between Emory investigators and investigators at other institutions; and to enhance translational research in lung cancer by increasing the number of meritorious investigators working on lung cancer.

DRP pilot projects must conduct basic, translational or clinical research into the cause, prevention, detection or treatment of lung cancer. Original projects with potential to develop into independent R01 grants or full SPORE projects are highly encouraged. One unique aspect of the SPORE program is its ability to quickly promote ongoing innovation and new ideas for lung cancer research into translational, clinical, populational, epidemiological and basic science studies. The DRP supports investigators generating preliminary data that can later be used to support larger-scale applications for independent extramural funding. It also supports investigators researching ideas that if successful are likely to have a significant impact on the prevention, detection, treatment, or fundamental biology of lung cancer, but are typically deemed too high risky to receive funding from other established sources without additional pilot data. Emphasis is placed on new investigators, promising trainees completing their education, and established investigators new to lung cancer. DRP pilot projects may involve collaborations among scientists within one or more SPOREs, or with scientists outside the SPORE community including the international scientific community.

Translational research in SPOREs involves the use of knowledge of human biology to develop and test the feasibility of cancer-relevant interventions in humans and/or to determine the biological basis for observations made in individuals with cancer or in populations at risk for cancer. Interventions is used in its broadest sense to include molecular assays, imaging techniques, drugs, biologicals, and/or other methodologies applicable to the prevention, early detection, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of cancer.

Awards will be in the amount of \$50,000 for a 1-year project period. Proposals relevant to lung oncology with high translational significance and innovation are requested and will be reviewed by the SPORE's DRP Review Committee prior to any funding decisions. Awardees are expected to provide twice-annual progress reports to the DRP Committee and to present their progress twice annually at the Lung Cancer SPORE investigator meeting. Awardees are granted access to the SPORE Administrative, Pathology, and Biostatistics and Bioinformatics core resources and opportunities for collaboration that arise from membership in the SPORE. Pilot project renewals for a second year are considered on a competitive basis and will be judged on progress, relevance to lung cancer, translational potential, and the potential to grow into a full project. Individual investigators are eligible to submit additional proposals in subsequent years.

Applications are welcomed from candidates at Emory University and other institutions in the state of Georgia, and from women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities.

Developmental Research Program Eligibility:

Advanced Postdoctoral and Junior Faculty (Assistant Professor)

- Evidence of high-quality peer reviewed publications in lung cancer or translational research.
- Potential for independent, peer-reviewed funding.
- Senior Faculty (at least one of the following):
 - a. A consistent track record of either high quality peer reviewed funding and high impact publications; or
 - b. A demonstrated interest in focusing their research in the area of lung cancer; or
 - c. Evidence of stellar clinical care of lung cancer patients with an emerging translational research focus.

Additional requirements

- All applicants must submit their research proposal using forms provided by this RFP.
- Investigators must be able to start their research project or clinical study once the award has been issued.
- Award funds must be used within the project period. Carryover of funds is not automatic.
- Awardees are expected to submit progress reports to the SPORE DRP Committee. Specific instructions on due dates of reports are provided at the time of funding.
- Awardees will be expected to appropriately reference the Emory University Lung Cancer SPORE and Winship in all acknowledgements as well as provide progress reports upon request.
- Awardees are required to attend at least 50% of the monthly Lung SPORE Program Meetings.

Developmental Research Program Application Package:

Applicants are required to submit the following documents. Application packages can be downloaded from the Winship's website <https://winshipcancer.emory.edu/research/funding-opportunities/lung-spore-pilot-grants.html>
Please use Arial font size 11 point throughout the proposal. Emory applicants should not route this proposal through OSP or enter it into EPEX.

- Completed Application Summary Form.
- NIH biosketch (for project investigator only)
- Abstract (not to exceed 500 words)
- **Project narrative** limited to 5 pages, organized under the headings:
 - A. Specific Aims
 - B. Background and Significance
 - C. Preliminary Studies (or Preliminary Data if available)
 - D. Research Design and Methods. All proposals must include a clear plan for subsequent extramural grant submissions as a result of the work proposed.
 - E. 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 Data and Technology Applications Shared Resource (Winship DATA) are recommended. (<https://winshipcancer.emory.edu/research/shared-resources/winship-data-and-technology-applications.html>)
 - F. Timeline
 - G. Literature Cited (not included in the 5-page limit)
- Detailed budget with budget justification, including direct cost amounts for the budget period. A minimum level of effort for the project leader of at least 5% (0.60 calendar months) is recommended.
- **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 in the Appendix:

- a. Clinical Protocol and Informed Consent Form (drafts to be submitted or IRB-approved protocol)
 - b. A plan to maintain clinical research data in Oncore or through the support of the Winship Informatics Shared Resource
- 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)

Additional Information:

Budget expenditures allowed include:

- Salary for the principal investigator, co-investigators and/or staff
- Equipment purchases or rental (less than \$3,000)
- Research materials and supplies
- Animal purchase and maintenance costs
- Technical assistance, core services
- Domestic travel to attend scientific conferences relating to the proposed research
- Registration fees at relevant meetings
- Special fees (computer time, pathology, imaging, etc.)

Expenditures not allowed include:

- Salary for secretarial/administrative personnel
- Office supplies or office equipment
- Computers, postage fees and shipping charges
- Office or laboratory furniture
- Foreign travel
- Purchasing and binding of periodicals
- Dues and membership fees
- Recruiting and relocating expenses
- Rental of office or laboratory space
- Per diem charges for hospital beds
- Non-medical books or personnel services to patients
- Training Cost
- Subcontracts

Applications should be uploaded on or before 11:59 pm on **Monday, May 1, 2023** to:

<https://intranet.winship.emory.edu/pilotgrant/Account/Login/?ReturnUrl=%2Fpilotgrant%2FApplicant>

Please direct any questions you have regarding this funding opportunity to Dana Ray (dmray@emory.edu).

Key Dates:

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| RFP Launch Date: | Monday, February 20, 2023 |
| Application Receipt Date: | Monday, May 1, 2023 |
| Notification of Award Status: | Monday, May 22, 2023 |
| Anticipated Start Date: | Thursday, June 1, 2023 |