



NIEHS CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN NORTHERN MANHATTAN *ANNOUNCEMENT for PILOT PROJECT GRANTS*

Awards up to \$50,000 per year for a maximum of two years
Application deadline: **October 15th, 2009**

The NIEHS Center for Environmental Health is seeking innovative and promising pilot projects in all areas of environmental health to be funded as of **January 1st, 2010**. Priority for funding will be given to those projects that focus on the thematic goals of the Center, namely, air pollution, oxidative damage, epigenetics and genetic susceptibility. The Center primarily carries out research in three areas, respiratory disease, cancer, and neurotoxicology/neurodegenerative diseases. The Center website is currently under revision and will go live soon.

Pilot grant applications can be up to \$50,000 a year for a maximum of two years. However, contingency for a second year of support will be based on progress made in the first year. Since the major goal of the Program is to assist in the generation of preliminary data leading to the development of an RO1 or similar grant, applicants must have academic positions that allow grant submissions. Junior faculty with innovative projects are strongly urged to apply. For senior faculty to be eligible, they must be expanding their research into new areas of environmental health.

Instructions for Submission: The written application should be no more than 5-8 pages, exclusive of references, budget and NIH-formatted biographical sketches. Guidelines are as follows:

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| A Title page | Title, investigator and affiliation, abstract in lay language |
| B Specific Aims | Must be environmentally relevant |
| C Background | Limit to data relevant to proposal |
| D Study Design/Method | |
| E Use of Facility Cores | |
| F Future Plans | Clearly outline how results will lead to a larger project |
| G Budget/Justification | PI salary support is not permitted |
| H NIH Formatted Biosketches of all key personnel | |

Applicants will have access to the Facility Cores of the Center at no or limited cost depending upon the extent of use. A detailed description of the Exposure Assessment, Trace Metals and Integrative Health Sciences (IHS) Cores will be provided on request. Applicants are encouraged to develop projects that use these Facility Cores and discuss their project with the Directors. For projects that necessitate statistics, investigators are **required** to obtain input from the IHS Core. Please contact Dr. Seamus Thompson (342-1252 or jlt12@columbia.edu) to make an appointment for statistical consultation. Applicants must acknowledge Center support (ES009089) in all publications.

Review Criteria and Mechanism: **Linked proposals or proposals demonstrating collaborative efforts will be given preference.** An **Internal Review Committee** will initially review proposals. Applicants will be provided with this review and the opportunity to revise the proposal before review by an **External Review Committee**.

Contacts: Investigators interested in submitting applications are encouraged to discuss them with Dr. Tom Hei, Deputy Director (305-8462 or tkh1@columbia.edu), or Dr. Regina Santella, Center Director (305-1996 or rps1@columbia.edu). For administrative issues, contact Gail Garbowski, Dept. of Environmental Health Sciences (305-1364 or gcg1@columbia.edu). Proposals should be submitted electronically as a single Adobe file to Gail.