Exploratory Grant Program Call for Applications

The Columbia Center for Injury Science and Prevention (CCISP) aims to create and apply “Science in Service to Safety.”

As part of that aim, we seek to promote and fund innovative, cutting-edge injury research with real-world impact; build a new generation of injury scientists and practitioners in one of the world’s leading training programs; and engage in bidirectional sharing of expertise with policymakers and community partners to meaningfully reduce the burden of injuries and violence.

We invite proposals for our CDC-funded Exploratory Grants Program. The purpose of this program is to support Columbia faculty in conducting rigorous research through providing initial seed funding for innovative ideas, and have the exploratory funding serve as the basis to seek long-term extramural funding to grow an injury-focused research program.

In this first year of the Exploratory Grant Program, CCISP anticipates funding one project at $16,000 direct costs for this cycle, with additional projects to be funded in future cycles of the grant. Projects are expected to fall within the priority domains of the center, including opioid overdose, adverse childhood experiences, suicide, falls, or motor vehicle safety. Proposals should support the mission of CCISP - which is to establish a portfolio of academic excellence in the areas of injury-related policy evaluation, translational research, and research methodology by conducting cutting-edge research on the causes and outcomes of injuries and multifaceted approaches to reducing the occurrence, and mitigating the consequences, of injuries.

Proposals will be prioritized that provide a clear vision of how this exploratory project fits within the applicant’s larger program of research. We welcome submissions that focus on etiological or intervention research, and those that seek to develop or resolve new methods for injury research.

Application Due Date/Submission: Applications must be submitted on April 15th, 2020, 5:00 PM EST.

Each application should be submitted as a single pdf file and sent to:
Katherine M. Keyes PhD, Director-Research Core
kmk2104@columbia.edu

Application guidelines are attached.
Exploratory Grant Program Call for Applications – Guidelines

Funds Available/Use of Grant Funds
Funds may be used for research supplies and equipment, staff/research assistants, subject costs, and statistical support. Faculty effort is not supported. Funds will be awarded June 1, 2020 and must be spent by May 30, 2021. Unexpended funds are to be returned to CCISP. IRB approval, if required, must be submitted prior to distribution of funds.

Award Period: June 1, 2020 – May 30, 2021

Application Guidelines
Applications may be submitted from Columbia Faculty from any School at the Columbia University. The primary investigator or at least one of the collaborating investigators must be affiliated with the CCISP. A clear plan for the process from exploratory project to extramural funding should be included, with a funding announcement and timeline for extramural funding. Priority will be given to applications that include early stage investigators, an interdisciplinary team, and a topic that is synchronous with the mission of CCISP.

Proposal Format: (Single-space, ½ inch margins, Arial font 11)

1. Face page - include grant title and names, departmental affiliations and contact information of the investigators

2. Scientific proposal - specific aims page, background/significance, innovation, approach and methods, and timeline (maximum 4 pages excluding methods)

3. External funding timeline and plan - describe how exploratory funding will be used to support future grant applications, including if possible a funding opportunity, agency, and timeline (maximum 1/2 page)

4. Project Relevance to CCISP - describe how this project will fit into the mission of CCISP (maximum 1/2 page)

5. Budget - with a brief (1 page) budget justification

6. NIH Biosketch - principal investigator & co-investigators

Application Review Process
Proposals will be evaluated by a peer review committee using standard NIH and CDC review criteria: significance, investigators, innovation, approach, environment, and the potential of the project to position the applicant to submit a competitive extramural application.

Funding decisions will be announced by May 15th, 2020.