Keck School
of Medicine
of **USC**

The Wright Foundation Trust
Pilot Grant Program - Request for Proposals
2018- 2019 Academic Year

The Robert E. and May R. Wright Foundation provides funding to the Keck School of Medicine of USC in support of <u>basic research broadly related to arthritis, cancer, or heart disease. We are soliciting proposals for pilot projects in these three priority areas</u> to generate preliminary data in support of innovative and high-impact research that will compete effectively for extramural research funding.

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APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligibility
Anyone who will be a full-time faculty member at the Keck School of Medicine as of July 1, 2018, and who is actively involved in research is eligible to apply. Special consideration will be given to:

o   Junior faculty members who are establishing an independent research program
o   Established investigators who are transitioning to a new phase of research (e.g., from basic to translational, translational to clinical)
o   Two or more established investigators from different disciplines who are proposing a new collaboration

Past Wright Foundation Pilot Grant awardees are <u>NOT</u> eligible to apply

Submission

Deadline: April 13, 2018, 5 PM PST

Please submit your application and upload your proposal here.

Selection
Applications will be peer-reviewed internally at USC. Recommendations for funding will be presented to the Wright Foundation Board of Trustees, chaired by the Dean of the Keck School of Medicine of USC, at the annual board meeting near the end of the USC fiscal year. Awardees will be notified in late June 2018.

Award
Approved proposals will be funded beginning July 1, 2018. Research projects will be supported for one year. Unexpended funds may be rolled over to a second year with approval from the Vice Dean for Research, Keck School of Medicine of USC.

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APPLICATION FORMAT

The application should be prepared using **Arial 11 font** and **0.5 inch** margins all around. Place your name in the header (upper right) and page numbers in the footer (lower right). Figures, charts, tables, figure legends, and footnotes may use a smaller font size, but **no smaller than Arial 9**.

Please create **<u>one single PDF file</u>** containing the following information in the order listed below. Please incorporate your last and first name into the PDF file name using the following naming convention: <u>Lastname.Firstname.Wright2018.</u>

1. Letter of Support
Junior faculty members (assistant professor and below) must provide a letter of support from their department chair or other unit head committing to the research career development of the applicant and to the availability of research space and other resources needed for the proposed research. Established investigators need <u>NOT</u> provide a letter of support.

2. Project Title:

3. Principal Investigator
    Name:
    Title:
    Primary Department Affiliation:
    Email Address:
    Campus Address:
    Phone:

4. Co-Investigators (if any, <u>limit of two</u>)
    Name:
    Title:
    Primary Department Affiliation:
    Primary School Affiliation:

5. Grants Administrator
    Name:
    Title:
    Primary Department Affiliation:
    Primary School Affiliation:
    Email Address:
    Campus Address:
    Phone:

6. Lay Abstract (max 300 words)

7. Research Plan
    1. Specific Aims (one page maximum)
    2. Research Strategy (five pages maximum)
        a. Significance
        b. Innovation
        c. Approach
    3. Bibliography (no page limit)

8. Plans to secure future funding for the project: These plans should justify the selection of the pilot study design and discuss how the anticipated outcomes would contribute to future application for extramural grant funding. For example, will the preliminary data examine the plausibility of your hypothesis, the feasibility of your methods, and/or the variability of responses? How will those outcomes

strengthen future grant applications? What specific funding agencies and mechanisms do you anticipate pursuing if the pilot project is successful? (one page maximum)

9. Short description of how the research fits at least one of the three priorities of the program – arthritis, cancer, or heart disease (one page maximum)

10. For junior faculty members (assistant professor and below): A mentoring plan that promotes development as an independent researcher (one page maximum)

11. Budget: (please use PHS 398 Initial Budget Period Form, which can be downloaded from the NIH website as a writeable PDF)

12. Budget justification: Budgets can be up to **$50,000**
Allowable costs include but not limited to:
- Salary/benefits for support staff or trainees
- Student stipends
- Materials and supplies
- Equipment and software should be limited to <$5,000 and strongly justified

Non-allowable costs include:
- PI salary
- Indirect costs
- Publication costs

13. NIH Format Biographical Sketch (for PI and all co-investigators)

14. NIH Format "Other Funding" Page (for PI and all co-investigators)

15. Regulatory Approvals: These are not required at the time of submission, but proof of all required approvals (e.g., IRB, IACUC, Radiation Safety Committee, Biosafety Committee) will be required before access to awarded funds related to objectives requiring approval is granted.