



The NIH-funded Texas D-CFAR invites Pilot Project grant applications offered through its Developmental Core.

Participating institutes include Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Biomedical Research Institute (San Antonio), The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (includes Cizik School of Nursing, McGovern Medical School, School of Public Health, School of Biomedical Informatics, School of Dentistry, MD Anderson UTHealth Graduate School, and MD Anderson Cancer Center).

Proposals in all areas of HIV/AIDS basic, clinical, behavioral, substance use, and implementation science research are welcome. **Clinical trials are not allowed.**

The Texas D-CFAR is especially interested in proposals aligned with its theme – “Ending HIV and Optimizing Health in Texas,” including research on Ending the HIV Epidemic (learn more: <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/ending-the-hiv-epidemic/overview>), reducing health disparities and research that focuses on or includes community engagement components.

Proposals for feasibility studies in non-human primates at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute are encouraged.

Faculty with primary appointments **at participating institutes** and who are early-stage investigators (defined here: <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-investigators/index.htm>) or who are established investigators new to HIV/AIDS research are eligible to apply.

Applications from eligible investigators who are members of racial or ethnic groups historically under-represented in research or who are members of sexual and gender minority groups are particularly encouraged to apply. Although proposals from individual investigators are welcome, collaborations between investigators at two or more D-CFAR institutes are encouraged. **Co-investigators may be from institutes that are not D-CFAR institutes.**

Pilot Project grants will be awarded for one year. Budgets range from \$50,000 (individual applicants) to \$100,000 (collaborative applicants) in direct costs only. **Budgets cannot exceed \$50,000 at a single Texas D-CFAR institution.** Indirect costs will not be awarded. Contact the D-CFAR Developmental Core (carmen.avalos@bcm.edu) with questions about specific budget information.

A Letter of Intent (LOI) to submit an application is due January 24, 2023, and full applications (instructions on next page) are due March 1, 2023. The LOI is limited to one page and must include the title of the project, a brief description of the project, and a list of key personnel with their titles, institutions, and roles. Additionally, the LOI should include proposed use of Texas D-CFAR Core facilities. Please find information about the cores including contact information [here](#). The LOI is recommended but not required. All investigators who submit an LOI should plan to submit a complete application. The purpose of the LOI is to allow the constitution of a Review Panel with appropriate expertise. Application instructions are attached.

The Texas D-CFAR Developmental Core can provide assistance to early-stage investigators seeking to identify a mentor to assist in Pilot Project applications and career development. **Additionally, the D-CFAR Community Advisory Board (CAB) can assist applicants in development of projects that involve community participants.**

Submit requests for assistance, questions, LOI and applications to: carmen.avalos@bcm.edu.

Texas Developmental Center for AIDS Research Pilot Grant Application Instructions

Applications must include:

- 1) **Cover letter that states Principal Investigator(s), Institutes of Investigators, Project Title, requested budget.**
- 2) **Project Summary/Abstract (30 lines of text limit) on separate page**
- 3) **For Early Stage Investigators, indicate on Project Summary/Abstract page whether you have a research mentor or would like the D-CFAR to assist in matching you with an appropriate mentor**
- 4) **Lay language summary (30 lines of text limit) on separate page**
- 5) **NIH Biosketch for all key personnel**
- 6) **Facilities & Other Resources; Equipment**
- 7) **Budget (direct costs only) and Budget Justification. Indirect costs are not allowed.**
- 8) **Research Plan**
 - a) **Specific Aims (1 page limit)**
 - b) **Research Strategy (3 page limit; include sections for Significance, Innovation, Approach, and Use of Texas D-CFAR Cores)**
 - c) **Brief statement of plans to transition Pilot Project to NIH-funded project (30 lines of text limit)**
- 9) **References cited**
- 10) **Human Subjects if applicable. IRB approval can be pending. Include:**
 - a) **Description of human subjects' involvement**
 - b) **Risks to human subjects**
 - c) **Adequacy of protection against risks**
 - d) **Potential benefits**
 - e) **Importance of knowledge to be gained**
- 11) **Vertebrate Animals if applicable. Include:**
 - a) **Description of animals**
 - b) **Justification for the use of animals**
 - c) **Interventions to minimize discomfort, distress, pain and injury**
 - d) **Euthanasia method.**
- 12) **Letters of Support if applicable; Letters of Support from D-CFAR Cores essential for the project**