

## NIAID/NIH Centers for Medical Counter Measures Against Radiation Consortium (CMCRC) Program

### Call for Pilot Project Applications

The Centers for Medical Countermeasures against Radiation Consortium (CMCRC) <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/rfa-ai-19-012.html> is now accepting applications for pilot projects. Application forms and descriptions of the current CMCRs can be found at: <https://cmcrcniaid.org/content/instructions>

Pilot project funding is intended to foster novel / early ideas within and outside awarded CMCRs, to develop or incorporate new technologies as they become available, and to encourage collaborations among members of different centers and between the CMCRC and outside investigators (although research collaborations with existing centers are not required). The use of pilot projects permits maximum flexibility to advance in exciting research directions including high-risk high-reward projects. Pilot projects must be within the scope of the original CMCRC RFA (link above).

PIs of pilot projects previously funded through the CMCRC program are now eligible to apply with *new* projects (not for continuation of prior funding). Junior investigators are especially encouraged to apply.

**Proposals should be sent by 12/31/20** to Margaret Zhu at [mz2171@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:mz2171@cumc.columbia.edu) and should consist of items 1-13 below assembled in the following order into a single pdf document:

1. Face Page
2. Abstract (30 lines)
3. Specific Aims and Milestones (1 page max.)
4. Research Plan: Background/Preliminary Results, Research Design and Methods (3 pages max.)
5. References Cited
6. Detailed budget for year 1 (may use NIH format)
7. Budget justification (one year only)
8. NIH format Biographical sketch (including other support) for key personnel
9. Resources and Equipment
10. Protection of Human Subjects, if applicable
11. Details of Vertebrate Animal Research, if applicable
12. Letters of support (optional)
13. Completed checklist

Proposals will be evaluated on standard NIH scoring criteria (Significance, Investigators, Innovation, Approach, and Environment), with weighting given to both innovation and significant translational impact 1) in the context of potential contribution to the overall goals of the CMCRC, and 2) in the field of the proposed research. Research Plans should address NIH rigor and reproducibility requirements.

Human and animal protection documentation will be requested as appropriate from projects selected for funding on a “just in time” basis. Individuals are required to comply with the instructions for the Resource Sharing Plans (Data Sharing Plan, Sharing Model Organisms, and Genome Wide Association Studies (GWAS)) as provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

Notes on the budget:

- The maximum award is \$100,000 per year (direct costs).
- Funding will be awarded initially for one year, with the possibility of renewal for a second year. The milestones provided will be used to benchmark progress and future feasibility in the competitive review of first-year progress reports.
- As per NIH guidelines, pilot budgets may not include sub-contracts.
- As per NIH guidelines, the indirect rate for non-US applicants is capped at 8%.

**Applications are due December 31, 2020**  
**Anticipated project start date: May 1, 2021**