



COWBOYS FOR CANCER RESEARCH: FY2022 PILOT GRANT OPPORTUNITY

New Mexico State University announces the availability of a pilot project funding opportunity for NMSU faculty and staff through the Cowboys for Cancer Research organization in Las Cruces, NM. The purpose of this grant program is to encourage development of investigator-initiated research projects involving basic, preclinical, clinical, and translational cancer research, and acquisition of specialized instrumentation supporting collaborative cancer research.

Research projects that focus on understanding the causes and developing new cures for cancer are invited, and can include, but are not limited to, investigations in the areas of cancer biology, discovery of cancer biomarkers, molecular targets, novel drugs, new technologies for detection, diagnosis and drug delivery, cancer epidemiology and prevention, cancer health disparities, overcoming barriers to cancer screening and cancer care, cancer behavioral sciences, and comparative effectiveness. Single and multiple principal investigator (PI/MPI) applications are allowed. Projects that involve multiple departments and colleges and those involving collaboration with investigators from the University of New Mexico Cancer Center with a high potential for transformational discoveries and future competitive external funding are encouraged.

Specialized equipment/instrumentation that supports cancer research is also eligible for full or co-funding through C4CR. Requests for equipment/instrumentation must include justification based on collaborative multi-investigator use for cancer research, a management plan including description of process for investigator access and training, and details of matching funds applied to the purchase (strongly encouraged). Researchers previously funded by the C4CR program are eligible to apply, but are also required to submit a progress report.

Note: Grantees may be requested to participate in and/or publicly present research outcomes in association with future C4CR events, and provide progress reports/updates upon request.

Funding Amount: Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss budget considerations with Dr. Arterburn prior to proposal submission. Only direct costs are allowed.

Submission Deadline: Sunday October 30, 2022 by 10:00 pm

Email Address for Submissions: ras@nmsu.edu Subject email line: C4CR Proposal

Contacts: Jeff Arterburn (jarterbu@nmsu.edu) for scientific/technical/budget queries and progress reports; Cindy Ramirez (cindyram@nmsu.edu) for administrative/submission queries.

Proposal Instructions

Format: Please use standard NIH fonts and size (e.g., Arial, 11 point) and ½” margins for all documents. **Submit all of the required information in the order listed below, and as a single PDF by email to: ras@nmsu.edu Subject email line: C4CR Proposal**
File names should be labeled using: PI's last name-FY2022.

Proposal Requirements: Pilot grant applications must include

1. **Cover page** (1 page; please use form provided: C4CR_Proposal_Cover_Page_FY2022)
Provide project title, names and affiliations of the principal investigator(s) and other key personnel, total direct cost requested, and start and end dates for the project.

Project Summary/Abstract (up to 30 lines of text)

State the project's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims and describe concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals. This section should be a self-contained description of the project informative to other persons working in the same or related fields and insofar as possible understandable to a scientifically or technically literate reader and suitable for dissemination to the public.

2. **Specific Aims** (not to exceed one page)
State concisely the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s), including the impact the results of the proposed research will exert on the research field(s) involved. List succinctly the specific objectives of the research proposed, e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel research design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, develop new technology, and/or impact local health problems through innovative community-based participatory research strategies.

3. **Research Strategy** (not to exceed four pages), including
Significance

State the importance of the problem or need that the proposed project addresses, including how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, clinical practice, research training, educational practices, community-based participatory research impacts, and/or eliminate health disparities

Innovation

Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms. Describe and identify any advantages of novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, collaborations, interventions, or other contributions that will be developed.

Approach

Describe research methods and provide a project timeline, interim milestones, and specific plans for publications, presentations, and submission of future extramural grant application. For equipment/instrumentation describe how multi-investigator cancer research will be enabled at NMSU, specific experiments proposed, and plan for management including description of process for investigator access and training.

4. **Literature Cited** (no page limit)

5. **NIH Format Biographical Sketch** (four-page maximum per individual)

Provide for principal and co-principal investigators

See <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html> for format

6. **Budget**

Use attached template: C4CR Proposal Budget Form FY2022.

7. **Budget Justification**

Provide detailed justifications for each cost category. For equipment/instrumentation proposals justify based on scientific needs and the unavailability of similar resources, and describe other sources of funding to be used for purchase.

8. **Include the following sections where applicable**

Protection of Human Subjects; Inclusion of Women and Minorities; Targeted/Planned Enrollment; Inclusion of Children; Vertebrate Animals; Select Agent Research; Multiple PI Plan

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Evaluation Process

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Scientific Approach (includes significance, approach, and innovation)

Significance

Does this study address an important problem consonant with the objectives of Cowboys for Cancer Research? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts or methods that drive this field of cancer research and/or research on cancer disparities?

Approach

Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well-integrated, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

Innovation

Does the project employ novel concepts, approaches or methods? Are the aims original and innovative? Does the project challenge existing paradigms or develop new methodologies or technologies?

2. Feasibility

Is the investigator(s) appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers (if any)? Is there evidence of collaboration and partnership?

3. Relevance

To what extent might this project have an impact on New Mexico cancer treatment or prevention? In case of specialized equipment/instrumentation: how will this enable transformative cancer research at NMSU?

4. Compatibility with C4CR Goals

To what extent does the project address development of cancer research? To what extent does the project focus on important questions in cancer treatment or cancer prevention?

5. Future Extramural Funding

Is the project likely to lead to independent funding?