Request for Proposals
Minority Health-Related Grants

Proposals must be fully routed and approved in NUgrant by 11:59 p.m. on 11/12/2012

DESCRIPTION: Despite an increasingly diverse population nationally and in Nebraska, there remain disparities in health outcomes, differences in disease prevalence, and systematic variations in behavioral processes that contribute to disease and burden. The goal of the Minority Health-Related Grants program is to address these issues through research that will position UNL to lead nationally, including building capacity and supporting individual and team research projects.

Applications that develop or build collaborations across areas, departments, colleges, and campuses are critical to enhancing our competitiveness in this area, where partnerships should emerge naturally from shared research interests and needs, and take into account funding opportunities, institutional history, academic priorities and UNL’s unique strengths. This initiative offers competitive grant funding to encourage the development and success of such research.

AWARD AMOUNT: Minority Health-Related Grants provide up to $10,000 for one year for initiation projects or up to $50,000 for one year for larger collaborative, interdisciplinary projects.

SCOPE OF THE AWARD:
- Preference is given to support research that targets an area where there is a known opportunity for obtaining competitive federal funding.
- The outcome expected is submission of a grant proposal for substantive external funding.
- Funds may not be used for remodeling or alteration of facilities or for core facilities.
- Awards may not be used to replace current funding.
- Tenure leading/tenured faculty salary may not be requested. Funds may be used for salary for non-tenure-track research positions, post-doctoral positions, graduate students and technical personnel for no more than a two-year appointment.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION:
- Applicant must be a UNL faculty member on a continuous appointment (tenure-leading or tenured with a rank of assistant professor or above), or a research (associate/assistant/full) professor or senior lecturer on the payroll of UNL. Visiting and adjunct appointees, and other lecturer ranks are excluded.
- For each program, a faculty member may submit only one application as principal investigator, but is not limited as a co-investigator on other projects.
- UNL faculty can be awarded only one internal award as a PI in any academic year. Furthermore, UNL faculty cannot be awarded more than two internal grants as PI over any 4-year period.
REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARDS:

- Applicants should identify external sources of funding and specify a timeline for proposal submission that will be pursued as a result of this internal funding.

- Recipients are expected to participate in at least one grant writing seminar sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development during the award period if they have not already done so.

- Recipients are expected to actively pursue external funding sources (grants and/or fellowships) and to submit a proposal for external funding as described in the timeline within 24 months of receipt of award. Failure to do so will disqualify the applicant from future competitions.

- A final report is required, due to the Office of Research and Economic Development no later than one month after the conclusion of funding. A template for this report will be sent with the award notification.

- Recipients must agree to serve as a reviewer on at least two Office of Research and Economic Development review panels over a four-year period. Failure to do so will disqualify the applicant from future competitions.

REVIEW PROCESS:

- Proposals will be reviewed by a panel and prioritized for funding based upon the selection criteria. Final selections for funding will be made by the Office of Research and Economic Development.

- Announcement of awards will be made in spring 2012.

- AWARDS will begin July 1, 2012.

GENERAL SELECTION CRITERIA: All proposals must target a specific external funding opportunity and must address the following criteria:

- Scholarly merit of the proposed work (main selection criterion).

- Justification of proposal fit with a known opportunity for program funding at designated funding agency.

- Quality of the applicant’s plan for the longer term project in which the proposed work is embedded.

- Potential to compete successfully for the selected external funding mechanism and producing prominent scholarly/creative work.

- Priority will be given to faculty/teams who have not received Office of Research and Economic Development funding under the mechanism previously.
PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS:
Applications for internal awards will only be accepted via NUgrant (http://nugrant.unl.edu). Paper applications will not be accepted. If you are a first-time user of NUgrant you can log-in to NUgrant using your Blackboard username and password. Electronic submission of proposals is required.

Information required as part of the electronic application via NUgrant:

1. 250-word abstract (in lay language).
2. 3-page proposal which includes information to demonstrate to reviewers its merit and potential for external funding, including the following elements:
   a. Introduction
      • Provide background/rationale for project, including significance.
      • Identify current status of research at UNL, including research/program strengths, competitiveness for funding, landmark outcomes.
      • List project’s longer term goals and shorter term objectives.
   b. Proposed plan
      • Describe project methodology and expected outcomes.
      • Identify specific research or scholarly activities that funds will target and how these enhance the competitiveness for external funding.
      • Specifically describe:
        1. The faculty, team and/or interdisciplinary collaboration as appropriate.
        2. How the proposal topic area aligns with stated federal funding priorities, e.g., NSF, NIH, IES, USDA, and other agencies.
        3. How the award will enable the team to successfully obtain future federal support.
   c. Timeline for proposal external funding submission
      • Identify external program/agency and submission deadlines, including a description of how this project fits into the applicant’s long-term plan for program development.
      • Articulate the fit of the proposed project to external funding priorities/opportunities.
3. List of Personnel: 2-page biographical sketch/vitae summary for all faculty involved in the project.
4. Current & Pending Support Form: List of all funded and pending internal and external grants of all faculty involved in the project, including title, award amount, funding period, and funding agency. Include information regarding outcomes of previously awarded internally-funded projects from the Office of Research and Economic Development. Include reviews from external funding applications where pertinent to project aims.
5. Project Budget: 1-page budget and 1-page justification.

If you have questions about the submission process, please contact Noah Clayton in the Office of Research and Economic Development at (402) 472-8031 or by e-mail at nclayton3@unl.edu