

Request for Applications for Pilot Studies

Overview. The NIH funded National Rehabilitation Research Resource to Enhance Clinical Trials (REACT), based at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), invites letters of intent for pilot studies that address novel scientific questions related to medical rehabilitation and will lead to more definitive clinical trials.

Eligibility. This program supports full-time faculty investigators in biomedical, behavioral, clinical, and social sciences at academic institutions in the US who are eligible to receive NIH funding. We encourage applications from interdisciplinary research teams, underrepresented minority applicants and faculty at all ranks.

The central goal of the REACT Center Pilot Studies Program is to catalyze the success of medical rehabilitation researchers and interdisciplinary teams by providing consultation, seed funds, key expertise and resources for the conduct of innovative pilot projects, early-stage proof-of-concept studies, and futility studies needed to shape more definitive clinical trials.

Application Procedure. This funding mechanism involves a two-phase application process (see Key Dates for details). For the pre-application phase, applicants are requested to submit the following documents as a single PDF file to the [REACT Center website](#) no later than **December 19 at 5:00 PM Central Time:**

Key Dates	
Letter of Intent FAQ Session	November 28, 2018 @ 1PM CT
Letter of Intent Due	December 19, 2018 @ 5 PM CT
Invitation to Submit Full	January 2019
Application FAQ Session	February 6, 2019 @ 2 PM CT
Full Application Due Date	March 29, 2019 @ 5 PM CT
Review Process Completed	April 2019
Awards Announced	May 2019
Start Date of Awards	July 2019

1. Letter of Intent (limited to 2 pages, excluding references), to include: Investigative Team, Specific Aims Significance & Innovation, Approach, and Plan for seeking future extramural funding for a future clinical trial.
2. Description of REACT resources that may be sought to support the pilot study (limited to ½ page). See website for description of resources available (address below).
3. NIH Biosketches of the PI and any Co-investigators.

Letters of Intent selected for Phase 2 full application will be expected to submit a 6-page proposal (we will provide a proposal template that will include a cover page), budget and budget justification.

Criteria for Review. Emphasis will be placed on scientific merit and likelihood that the work will advance to a more-definitive clinical trial. Applications responsive to this RFA should focus on medical rehabilitation of a broad range of chronic diseases and acute conditions, e.g., muscle, bone, or joint diseases; neurodegenerative or neurodevelopmental diseases; traumatic injury (e.g., SCI, TBI); stroke; cancer; aging/frailty; or post-surgical rehabilitation.

Funding. It is anticipated that up to four pilot studies will be awarded. Applicants may request up to \$40,000 direct costs. Indirect costs will be awarded at current federally approved rate. Awards are limited to 12 months in duration.

Questions? Application guidelines and answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available on the REACT website: <https://react.center/funding/>. For additional questions, contact **Chelsea Crawford** at (205) 934-9211 or email clcrawford@uab.edu.

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