INDIANA ALCOHOL RESEARCH CENTER PILOT PROJECT PROGRAM

The Indiana Alcohol Research Center (IARC) is soliciting proposals for a pilot project from investigators who want to develop research on alcohol use disorders. Applications pertinent to basic mechanisms and genetic underpinnings of alcohol preference or compulsive drinking, tolerance, are welcome. The purpose of an IARC pilot grant is to allow an investigator to obtain preliminary data leading to extramural funding. Previous experience in research on alcoholism is not required.

Pilot projects are limited to $50,000 (total cost) for two years (salary support for the principal investigator is allowed up to 5% effort). We will have an open project beginning (December 1, 2020 – November 30, 2022). The application deadline is October 15, 2020. An e-mail to dcrabb@iu.edu indicating the intention to submit a project, proposal title and a few sentences describing the project is required by September 1, 2020.

Applicants should use the PHS 398 forms (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html). Please include PHS 398 Form Pages 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, Biographical Sketch for each Key Personnel, Checklist and if applicable, Targeted/Planned Enrollment Table. A one-page cover letter that includes complete contact information for the Principal Investigator is also required. The Research Plan is limited to 3 pages and must include the following:

1. **Specific Aims (1/2 page limit):**
   - Goals of the research, expected outcomes/impact on the research field(s), and objectives
2. **Significance**
   - Importance of the problem; how this line of research will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, etc.; how and why the preliminary data obtained will support an extramural proposal for the broader line of research.
3. **Innovation**
   - Describe novel approaches, methodologies, instrumentation etc., and any advantage over existing ones; how the application challenges/seeks to shift current research
4. **Approach**
   - Overall strategy, methodology and analyses; how data will be collected, analyzed and interpreted; Potential problems, alternative strategies; add any PI’s preliminary studies, data and experience
5. **Application Plans**
   - Describe plans/timeline to apply for extramural funding related to the pilot project, including funding sources
6. **Connection with IARC**
   - Provide details on how this pilot project is related to the IARC scientific program, uses center resources, and/or brings new expertise or methods to the Center.

The following criteria will be used in evaluating applications:

A. **Scientific merit (impact, significance, innovation, feasibility)**
B. **Investigators (expertise and/or potential contributions)**
C. **Likelihood of the project leading to extramural funding (R01 or similar)**
D. **Relation to the IARC scientific program and use of center resources (facilities, expertise, animals, data, specimens, etc.)**

Applicants should send one electronic version of the entire application in a single PDF file via e-mail to dcrabb@iu.edu not later than October 15, 2020. The funding of the IARC pilot project program is conditional on continued support from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, as well as approval of recommended proposals by the Program Officer. Questions should be directed to David Crabb at 317-880-7060 or dcrabb@iu.edu.