School of Health Professions

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Catalyst Award
Spring 2017

Deadline: May 26, 2017

The Catalyst Award is designed to assist faculty in conducting research within the School of Health Professions and support well-formulated projects that show promise for obtaining external funding.

Eligibility, procedures, and criteria:

1. All full-time faculty (tenured, tenure-track, and non tenure-track) of the School of Health Professions are eligible to apply.
2. Budget requests up to $5,500 will be considered. Requests for faculty salary and desktop computers are not allowable.
3. Catalyst awards are intended for one-year projects.
4. Faculty who have previously received Catalyst funds are eligible to request funding for a new project. However, previous awardees may not apply for funding of a new project until the previous project is completed and a written final report, including documentation of project outcomes, has been filed with the SHP Office of Research.
5. Proposals may request continued support of a previously funded successful project. However, such proposals must describe current progress, barriers to completion, and the rationale for additional funding.
6. Verification that IRB/ACUC approved the project, or that IRB/ACUC approval is not needed, MUST be provided prior to funds being released.
7. Specific project start dates will be agreed upon at the time of award. Requests to extend the time frame for completion should be submitted to the SHP Associate Dean for Research for approval no less than 30 days prior to the approved project end date. A final technical and financial report will be due within 60 days of the project end date.
8. Members of the SHP Faculty Research Committee review all proposals and make recommendations for the award to the SHP Associate Dean for Research. Awarded funds are anticipated to be available for project initiation within approximately 45 days of submission deadlines, if all above requirements are met.

Proposals must include the following:

1. Title and Abstract (200 words)
2. Research Plan (may not exceed 4 pages)
   a. Specific Aims: Provide project aims and, as applicable, research hypotheses.
   b. Background and Significance: Include a brief statement about significance and innovation. Provide background information about research that led to the proposed study. Include any preliminary data of your own. Consider that reviewers represent departments within SHP with differing areas of expertise.
   c. Research Design and Methods: Describe the methods, materials, and time frame for project completion. Show that methods are appropriate for the specific aims of the project.
   d. Principal Investigator and Resources: Describe the applicant’s qualifications and available resources (i.e., equipment, facilities) to fulfill the project’s objectives.
e. **Funding Statement**: Describe efforts to secure additional funding. Specify plans to catalyze funding from sources external to the School of Health Professions. Indicate specific sources of funding and planned submission dates.

3. **Budget**: Include anticipated direct costs and cost justification. Salaries, computer hardware, and travel costs for conferences are **NOT** allowable. *Submit the budget on the provided Excel spreadsheet.*

4. **Chair’s Statement**: Include a letter from the applicant’s SHP Department Chair verifying the project is consistent with program scholarship goals and appropriate to the faculty member’s assignment.

**Guidelines**: Proposals may not exceed 4 pages in length (excluding references, Chair’s letter, and budget), single-spaced, with 12-point or larger type, and 1-inch margins. **Include last name of Principle Investigator, abbreviated title, and page number in the proposal heading.**

**Submission Procedure**: Submit completed proposals electronically in a PDF attachment, labeled with the PI's last name, to Michelle Teti, SHP Faculty Research Committee Chair, tetim@health.missouri.edu no later than **5:00 pm, May 26, 2017.**

The following NIH scoring criteria will be used for review of proposals:

a. **Significance.** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?

b. **Investigator(s).** Are the investigators well trained and capable of carrying out the project?

c. **Innovation.** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches, methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, methodologies, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of concepts, methodologies, or interventions proposed?

d. **Approach.** Are the strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to the aims of the project?

e. **Environment.** Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, participant populations, or collaborative arrangements? Are institutional support, equipment, and physical resources adequate for the proposed project?