



**Washington University SPORE in Pancreatic Cancer  
Career Enhancement Program (CEP)  
2019 Request for Applications (RFA)**

**A. Deadlines**

**Application due:** April 30, 2019 (by 4:00pm Central)  
**Earliest possible start:** July 1, 2019

**B. Purpose**

The goal is recruit and support new independent investigators in the field of translational pancreatic cancer research. The research initiatives that will be funded by the CEP are expected to have a major translational component, focusing on pancreatic cancer etiology, diagnosis, early detection, treatment, or population science.

In addition to projects featuring basic and translational science, there is funding available specifically allocated for CEPs focused on understanding or reducing racial, socioeconomic, or geographic disparities in pancreatic cancer. The allocated funds will support highly-focused projects intended to collect preliminary data sufficient to support an application of a peer-reviewed research grant or future incorporation as full Pancreatic SPORE projects.

**C. Eligibility**

Junior faculty (Instructor or Assistant Professor) without R01 or equivalent grant or senior post-doctoral fellows (PhD, MD, or MD-PhD) who have a written commitment from their department chair indicating promotion to Instructor or Assistant Professor by the time of the award will be eligible.

This RFA is open to investigators affiliated with Washington University, Siteman Cancer Center, University of Rochester, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center), and Johns Hopkins Medicine (The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center).

Applications from underrepresented minority investigators are strongly encouraged.

**D. Amount**

Up to two awards of up to \$75,000 (direct cost) will be made for the funding period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. A second year of funding (amount to be determined) is contingent upon adequate progress. Detailed budgets and justifications must be submitted and will be administratively reviewed. The budget should be prepared with your departmental administrator.

**E. Submission Guidelines**

**WU Applicants:** *These are internal awards and are NOT submitted through the Office of Sponsored Research Service (OSRS).*

*Non-WU Applicants:* *This application must be signed by your institutional official.*

**Full Application:** Submit your application to hornj@wustl.edu by the deadline, **Tuesday, April 30, 2019, 4:00 pm (Central)**. Late submissions will not be accepted.

**Required Documents:** Face page, budget, budget justification, NIH biosketch(es), NIH Other Support, Career Development Plan, and Research Plan.

**Formatting:**

- Use Arial 11 point font for all text and ½” margins.
- Type your name (last name, first name) in the header of each page.
- Page numbers should be in the bottom center of the footer of each page and should continue throughout the full application package. (For example, page numbers should not restart for individual sections, such as biosketches.)
- Follow NIH formatting and PHS 398 forms unless otherwise indicated. Forms can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

- 1) **Face Page:** Use form page that is provided. A copy is at the end of this packet, and a stand-alone document is available on the website.
- 2) **Budget & Justification:** Use NIH Form Pages 4 and 5 for the budget. Use NIH Continuation Form pages as needed. (See allowable expenditures below.)

Facilities and Administrative (F/A)/Indirect Costs: Do not include indirect costs at time of submission. If appropriate, based on the funding source, indirect costs will be added post-award.

Expenditures Allowed

- Salary and fringe benefits up to a maximum of 50% effort per year. **Note:** The NIH salary cap applies to these awards.
- Research materials, laboratory supplies, fees for core services
- Tuition reimbursement for coursework taken at the WU Clinical Research Training Center or similar programs at UR, UNC, or JH.
- Travel to annual SPORE CEP meeting and national meetings

Expenditures NOT Allowed

- Secretarial/administrative personnel salary support
- Office equipment and supplies
- Major Equipment
- Computer/equipment maintenance fees
- Indirect institutional costs (Do not include indirect funds on your budget.)

- 3) **NIH Biosketch:** Biosketches are required for all key personnel. Use current NIH format and guidelines, and include PMCID numbers on publications. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>
- 4) **Other Support:** Other Support documents are required for all key personnel. Use the NIH Other Support format. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/2590/2590.htm>
- 5) **Career Enhancement Plan** (1 page maximum): Should concisely describe how the applicant plans to establish an independent research program, including: 1) plan for didactic training; 2) plan to obtain extramural funding; 3) clinical duties. Use NIH Continuation Form page.
- 6) **Research Plan** (6 page maximum. All tables and figures are included in the 6 page limit). *The following headings should be used:*

**Specific Aims:** State concisely the hypothesis to be tested and the specific aim(s) to be achieved during the grant period. The aims must be reasonable to achieve during the two-year period of the grant.

**Significance to Pancreatic Cancer Research:** State the relevance of the proposed project to the planning, conducting, and facilitating the discovery and development of anti-pancreatic cancer

interventions and novel therapeutics. Please specify if the project is translational or will lead to translational research opportunities.

**Background and Preliminary Investigations:** Discuss the pertinent research findings that have been described in the scientific literature and how this proposal will add to these results. Also discuss any preliminary data you have that are relevant to this proposal.

**Experimental Design and Methods:** Concisely present the experimental design and the methods to be used to accomplish the specific aims. Also indicate how the results will be interpreted and how they will lead to future investigations. Well-known methods and standard procedures may be described very briefly or referenced, but novel experimental approaches should be outlined in detail. Please include a statistical review.

**Potential for Progression to Full Scale Translational Studies:** Discuss plans to move this pilot project into a larger and explicitly translational or clinical research study.

#### 7) Appendix:

- References (include PMCIDs)
- Mentor letters. Each applicant will be required to identify clinical and basic research mentors at Washington University or other SPORE institutions to provide mentoring concerning research, manuscript preparation, and grant writing.
- Copies of IRB and IACUC approvals, if applicable.
- If applicant is a post-doctoral fellow, a letter of support is required from his/her Department Chair indicating their promotion to Instructor or Assistant Professor by the time of the award.
- If the project requires a sponsor, consultant, or collaborator, this individual should write a letter of support for the application, including an explanation of how any overlap in effort will be reconciled if the project is funded.

If you have questions, please contact Jody Horn, [hornj@wustl.edu](mailto:hornj@wustl.edu), 314-273-6055.

#### F. Terms of the Award

- Up to \$75,000 will be provided in the first year funding period (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020). The awardee will be eligible for a second year of funding (amount to be determined) contingent upon adequate progress. It is expected that the grantee will completely utilize the full amount by end of each funding period. If you are interested in a two-year funding period, submit a two-year budget with your application.
  - No-cost extensions and carryover are generally not allowed, but will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Requests must be made 90 days prior to the end of the funding period.
  - All unspent funds at the end of the grant period (unless you have requested and been granted a no-cost extension) will be returned.
- IRB & IACUC approvals are not required at the time of submission. However, all awards must have appropriate institutional regulatory approvals before funds will be allocated.
- CEP awardees will present their findings once per year at a SPORE steering committee meeting. An annual progress report is required to be submitted by April 1, 2020.
- CEP awardees are expected to submit an application for extramural funding of their research prior to the end of the funding period. The SPORE Biostatistics Core and CEP committee members are available to assist with grant submission.
- Any publication resulting from research supported by the Pancreatic Cancer SPORE must acknowledge this support. Publications are subject to the NIH Public Access Policy and will need to be submitted to PubMed Central and receive a PMCID. Awardees are required to inform the

Pancreatic Cancer SPORE by contacting Jody Horn (314-273-6055, [hornj@wustl.edu](mailto:hornj@wustl.edu)), if the research supported by a Pancreatic Cancer SPORE award leads to further extramural research funding or publications.

- Please use this acknowledgement in your publications and presentations:

***This research is supported by grant 1P50CA196510 from the National Cancer Institute; Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, the Department of Surgery, and Siteman Cancer Center; University of Rochester, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center), and Johns Hopkins Medicine (The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center).***

## **G. Review Process**

All applications will be reviewed by members of the CEP Review Committee with the statistical review conducted by personnel in the Biostatistics Core (if needed) and scored for merit according to the following criteria:

- Candidate
  - Quality of the candidate's academic and clinical record.
  - Commitment and potential to develop as an independent and productive translational researcher focused on pancreatic cancer.
- Research Plan
  - The degree of relevance of the research plan to developing an independent research program focused on translational pancreatic cancer research.
  - Usefulness of the research plan as a vehicle for enhancing existing research skills as described in the career enhancement plan.
  - Scientific and technical merit of the research question, design and methodology judged in the context of the candidate's previous training and experience.
- Career Enhancement Plan

## **Contacts**

Administrative Contact: Jody Horn; [hornj@wustl.edu](mailto:hornj@wustl.edu); 314-273-6055  
CEP Director: Will E. Gillanders, MD; [gillandersw@wustl.edu](mailto:gillandersw@wustl.edu)  
Associate CEP Director: Channing J. Der, PhD; [cjder@med.unc.edu](mailto:cjder@med.unc.edu)  
SPORE Director: William G. Hawkins, MD; [hawkinsw@wustl.edu](mailto:hawkinsw@wustl.edu)

*The CEP is supported by grant P50CA196510 from the National Cancer Institute; Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, the Department of Surgery, and Siteman Cancer Center; University of Rochester, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center), and Johns Hopkins Medicine (The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center).*

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Title of Project (no more than 81 characters):			
Project Start Date:	7/1/2019	Project End Date:	06/30/2020
<b>Principal Investigator (PI)</b>			
Name: (Last, First, Middle):		Degree(s):	
Title:		Mailing Address:	
Applicant Organization:			
Department:	Division:	E-mail Address:	Phone Number:
<b>Grant Administrator Contact Name:</b>	<b>Grant Administrator Phone Number:</b>	<b>Grant Administrator E-mail Address:</b>	
<b>Clinical Mentor:</b>			
<b>Basic Science Mentor:</b>			
<b>HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	IRB APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	IRB PROTOCOL NUMBER (IF APPROVED)	APPROVAL DATE (IF APPROVED)
Clinical Trial <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	PENDING <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	DATE ANTICIPATED (IF PENDING)	FWA NUMBER
<b>VERTEBRATE ANIMALS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	IRB APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	IACUC PROTOCOL NUMBER (IF APPROVED)	APPROVAL DATE (IF APPROVED)
	PENDING <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	DATE ANTICIPATED (IF PENDING)	AWA NUMBER

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Junior faculty as of 7/1/2019 (Instructor or Assistant Professor without R01 or equivalent grant)
- Established faculty with a new translational focus
- Under-represented minority investigator

**List Co-Investigators/Collaborators expected to participate on project.**

Name	Prime Institution	Department/Division
SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR		DATE
NON-WU ONLY: SIGNATURE AND PRINTED NAME OF INSTITUTIONAL OFFICIAL		DATE

(Electronic signatures are acceptable)