2016 Spectrum Pilot Grants for Population Health Sciences
Request for Proposals

Spectrum, the Stanford Center for Clinical and Translational Research and Education, is a Stanford independent center supported by a National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA), under the direction of the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS). In keeping with its core mission, Spectrum offers grants for accelerating clinical and translational research (CTR) in a number of biomedical and health-related areas.

The Stanford CTSA/Spectrum Pilot Grant Program has two major goals:

- to stimulate innovative clinical and translational research and
to encourage collaborative, transdisciplinary work.

The primary expectation is that these early-stage translational projects will lead to additional research, external support, information dissemination and most important, will develop into longer-term, comprehensive projects. We encourage transdisciplinary collaborations; participation of investigators from at least two departments or schools is required for funding in the area of Population Health Sciences.

Spectrum Pilot Grants for Population Health Sciences must have a clear focus on the health of populations. The Stanford Population Health Science Initiative aims to facilitate information exchange, collaboration and resource sharing among faculty, staff, students and community partners interested in population health. Some research examples include studies of health-care delivery, physical and social health determinants, comparative effectiveness research, health economics, cost effectiveness and effectiveness of community interventions. Projects involving multidisciplinary teams, particularly those that span schools, are highly encouraged.

Organizers are also working to build interdisciplinary teams to design and implement the learning health care systems (LHCS) of the future (for more information on this initiative, visit http://spectrum.stanford.edu/accordions/population-health-sciences/). These systems will draw on the day-to-day experiences of practicing doctors, as well as information extracted from clinical data warehouses and a variety of diagnostics assays and measurements to create new sources of practice-based evidence. This research area is the subject of a separate RFP (see the Stanford Learning Health Care Innovation Challenge RFP), and Population Health Sciences Pilot Grant applications focused on any of these topics will be reviewed with the LHCS applications. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to submit such grants only to the Stanford Learning Health Care Innovation Challenge. Notably LHCS proposals will NOT require investigators from multiple departments although this is encouraged.

Deadline:
All proposals must be submitted by 6:00 PM PDT on Wednesday, September 30, 2015.

Amount and Period of Funding:
Typical grants range between $15,000 and $50,000 per year and depend on the specific program and the individual proposal. We encourage investigators to consider submitting requests less than the $50,000 maximum, as this will increase the probability of being funded and will enable us to award more grants. If funded through Spectrum, awards will be granted for the period from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and must be completed in that timeframe. All unexpended funds will be forfeited if not spent within the 12-month award period.

Eligibility (for all categories):
Open to all Stanford faculty and instructors. Graduate students, clinical and non-clinical postdoctoral scholars are encouraged to apply and are required to include a Stanford-affiliated, faculty mentor who must be listed as co-PI on the application. Stanford faculty include anyone with Professor, Instructor or Lecturer in his or her official title.
**Award Process:**
Proposals will be evaluated by committees composed of independent faculty and external reviewers, and awards will be based on individual selection criteria and scoring systems. In general, reviewers will select applications for consideration as finalists that have made convincing arguments that the investigator(s) is proposing a bold idea or approach that can have a major impact on health at the population level. Finalists may be invited for oral presentations and awardees will be notified by the end of December 2015.

**Proposal Submission:**
Projects must choose a primary program area for the application and may apply to another area if the project meets criteria for both programs. Please communicate with program staff if it is unclear which program area is the best fit. In all cases, projects will be awarded only one Spectrum Pilot Grant per annual grant cycle.

Please submit your proposal online at: [https://stanfordmedicine.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6tEzZQqAT9d7vHT](https://stanfordmedicine.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6tEzZQqAT9d7vHT)

Applications must include the following information:

- A cover sheet that includes:
  - Title of proposal
  - PI name, title and department
  - Mentor name (if applicable)
  - Co-investigator names and departments – *a second department or school is required*
  - Amount of funding requested

- **Body of proposal (5-page limit)**
  - Structured abstract, including aims, methods, and innovation
  - Research plan, including timeline
  - Problem statement (what need is this project addressing?)
  - Description of potential impact and likelihood of transition to independent funding
  - Description of interdisciplinary collaborations (required)
  - Preliminary data (if any)

- **Budget** (not part of page limit). Allowable expenditures include investigator’s salary, research personnel salaries, travel (if project-related) and project supplies. These grants do not include indirect cost expenses. Capital equipment costing more than $5,000, intellectual property services, and food are unallowable expenses.

- **Bios** (1 paragraph maximum) of everyone involved in the project (not part of page limit)

**NOTE:** *Figures and tables must be included within the body of the proposal. References may be included and are not considered part of the page limit. Do not include appendices to the proposal. Applications that do not comply with the requirements will not be considered for review.*

For questions regarding the application process and requirements, contact the Spectrum Pilot Grant Program Manager: April Watson, aprilw@stanford.edu, or 650-497-7032. For questions regarding scope of the proposal, criteria for awards or the review process, communicate with: Lorene Nelson, lnelson@stanford.edu or 650-723-6854