

**Health Disparities  
VCR Pilot Grant  
Request for Applications  
Fiscal Year 2017-18**

**PURPOSE:** Reducing health disparities is one of UNMC's primary goals. Often health disparities are complex and require larger teams with a variety of skills to identify novel strategies to address them. This RFA has been developed to support new or expand existing teams for the development or study of innovative strategies for reducing health disparities. Priority will be given to proposals focused on known health disparities of our region and proposals that will have the greatest reach for numbers of persons impacted.

**Health disparity Definition (per Healthy People 2020):** "Although the term *disparities* is often interpreted to mean racial or ethnic disparities, many dimensions of disparity exist in the United States, particularly in health. If a health outcome is seen to a greater or lesser extent between populations, there is disparity. Race or ethnicity, sex, sexual identity, age, disability, socioeconomic status, and geographic location all contribute to an individual's ability to achieve good health" <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/foundation-health-measures/Disparities>

**AWARD DESCRIPTION:** \$50,000 for one year with potential renewal for an additional year.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any UNMC faculty from any college; including faculty who have a signed employment agreement in place with a start date of November 1, 2017 or before.

**APPLICATION DEADLINES:**

- RFA Announcement: February 1, 2018
- Application submission: March 15, 2018
- Review and notice of grant award: June 15, 2018
- Grant award: July 1, 2018

**REVIEW PROCESS:** All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a committee of UNMC and community reviewers.

- A review group will be finalized once applications have been submitted to avoid conflict of interest.
- Colleges may nominate potential reviewers

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Top priority will be given to projects with the highest scientific merit and potential for new or larger extramural grant applications.

Other criteria:

- Priority will be given to projects aimed at known Nebraska or regional health disparities, and new collaborations or teams that have expanded their membership beyond existing research partners
- Priority will also be given to proposals with the greatest impact, in terms of degree of health disparities or number of persons impacted.
- Integration of community members or groups critical to the intervention is encouraged and those that can show evidence of involvement may be prioritized over those that have not
- A Data Safety Monitoring plan should be included where appropriate; evidence of application to appropriate regulatory bodies (e.g., IRB) should be demonstrated but approval is not required until notice of grant award.

**SECOND YEAR FUNDING REQUIREMENTS:** To be eligible for second year funding the PI must submit a report of progress and accomplishments before the end of year one to the Vice Chancellor for Research. The report should include plans for submitting applications for extramural funding. An internal review committee will determine whether to release funds for year two based on demonstrated progress.

**APPLICATION FORM:** See attached.

# HEALTH DISPARITIES PILOT GRANT APPLICATION

2017-2018

Title of Proposal:

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Principal investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

College/Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Division/Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Secondary investigators (and institutions):**

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Total Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Please check all required Review Committees for this proposal and current status**

<input type="checkbox"/> IRB	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending or Approval # and date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> IACUC	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending or Approval # and date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Biosafety Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending or Approval # and date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy & Therapeutics	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending or Approval # and date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Radiation & Chemical Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending or Approval # and date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Stem cell committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending or Approval # and date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Cancer Scientific Review Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Pending or Approval # and date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Is Intellectual property involved?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or No
<input type="checkbox"/> International Component/Export Control (Does this involve sending or performing any part of the project to or in another country?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes or No
<input type="checkbox"/> Conflict of Interest Disclosure completed?	

## **Principal Investigator**

- I agree that all information on the Application and Budget is true, complete, and accurate
- I agree to accept responsibility for the scientific conduct of the project and to provide the required progress reports if a grant or contract is awarded as a result of the application

# HEALTH DISPARITIES PILOT GRANT APPLICATION

2017-2018

Signature of Principal Investigator \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Mentor (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chair or Dean \_\_\_\_\_

**FORMATTING:** Format application to [NIH page standards](#) (font, margins, line spacing) and include regulatory sections as relevant.

Health Disparities Pilot Grant Applications must include the following:

1. **UNMC Pilot Grant/Foundation Face Page**
2. **250-word Lay Abstract**
3. **Five page Project Description including the following elements:**
  - Page one: Introduction, Hypothesis, Specific Aims or Goals
  - Page two-five: Research Plan
    - i. Background & Significance
    - ii. Innovation
    - iii. Research Design & Methods
    - iv. Timeline/Expected Outcomes
4. **Bibliography:** references or literature citations should be included, but will not be counted as part of the five page limit.
5. **NIH Biosketch with current funding for every investigator that is listed on the Face Page.**
6. **Pilot Grant Budget form with budget justification.**

Excluded budget categories: indirect costs (F&A), faculty effort/salary, UNMC faculty or staff computers unless for developing a community research station, travel other than for the immediate development of the project (e.g., coordinators, patients, collaborators) including any foreign travel or travel to national meetings to present the work, or for manuscript submission.

This grant budget can be supplemented, if eligible, with funds submitted to and approved by the Research Support Fund (see <http://www.unmc.edu/cctr/resources/pilot-grant/>). Please include your intent to apply for these additional funds in your budget justification.
7. PHS Inclusion Enrollment Report.

## **SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM on March 15, 2018. Applications submitted after the deadline will be returned to the applicant without review.

Applications must be submitted electronically as a **single pdf file** to Deborah Hawkins at [Deb.hawkins@unmc.edu](mailto:Deb.hawkins@unmc.edu).

For additional information contact: Paula Turpen, Director of Research Resources (402) 559-6162.