

FY21 COBRE Project Request for Applications (RFA)

Background: The UK [Center of Biomedical Research Excellence \(COBRE\) in Pharmaceutical Research and Innovation \(CPRI\)](#) is currently seeking

applications for new COBRE projects. CPRI is a comprehensive multidisciplinary center focused on translational chemical biology. The overarching goals of the center are to support junior faculty career development, advance impactful translational chemical biology research/tools, and stimulate transdisciplinary collaboration, research innovation and early translation. Within this context, the center supports up to four COBRE projects each year with an annual maximum budget per project of \$1800K (direct costs). For more general COBRE information, see the [NIGMS COBRE program](#).



PI Eligibility: Potential COBRE project leaders should be faculty members from UK, or being currently recruited by UK, with no current or prior major external, peer-reviewed research project grant funding. Priority will be given to junior faculty in the tenure eligible track and COBRE PIs are required to commit 50% effort to the COBRE project during their appointment.

Project Eligibility: The proposed research project should align with the theme of translational chemical biology; the nexus of chemical biology (the application of chemical biology principles to develop validated probe/models to advance our understanding of biology) and pharmaceutical science (the application of pharmaceutical principles to advance leads/materials/devices that address unmet clinical needs). Potential nominees are encouraged to contact Tonya Vance (tonya.vance@uky.edu) with questions regarding thematic alignment. The proposed research of COBRE project leader nominees should also demonstrate need for use of at least one of the two CPRI COBRE cores ([Computational](#) and [Translational](#)).

COBRE project leader nomination process:

1. Nominees should submit an application packet that includes: i) a current NIH-style biosketch and ii) a research specific aims page to Tonya Vance (tonya.vance@uky.edu) by August 17, 2020.
2. CPRI leadership will review nominations and select applicants to advance to a brief interview with the CPRI Executive Committee (EC) and 1-2 additional peer reviewers with suitable scientific expertise. During the interview, the nominee will be expected to present a 15-20 minute overview of their proposed research project.
3. Selected nominees based on the initial review will be paired with two COBRE scientific mentors and invited to submit a full NIH style, 3 YR investigator-initiated research project grant application (detailed instructions will be provided) to be evaluated by the CPRI External Advisory Committee (EAC). Upon EAC approval, the research project/PI will be advanced to an appointment to the COBRE grant, pending final CPRI Internal Advisory Committee (IAC) and NIH approval.

Budget and Duration: Project leaders/projects will be supported by the COBRE for two years, with the potential for a third year of funding, depending on semi-annual progress evaluations. The annual maximum budget request per project is \$180K (direct costs). COBRE-supported investigators will be expected to acknowledge COBRE support (**NIH P20 GM130456**) on all publications/presentations/disclosures.

Important Dates:

Nomination deadline: August 17, 2020

Interviews: mid-to-late September, 2020 (to be scheduled)

Full application due: December 1, 2020 (by invitation only)

Anticipated award start date: February 1, 2021

Contacts: COBRE PI, Jon Thorson (jsthorson@uky.edu); COBRE administrator, Tonya Vance (tonya.vance@uky.edu)