FY22 Clinical Research Catalysts Pilot Program
Request for Applications (RFA)

Background: The College of Pharmacy is **currently seeking applications for new Clinical Research Catalyst (CRC) pilot projects**. The overarching goals of this pilot initiative are to enable clinical research, facilitate new collaborations and/or career development, increase the CoP clinical research extramural grant portfolio and, where necessary, provide mentorship for clinical research project/program development. Within this context, the college seeks to support up to one new CRC pilot project in FY22 with a maximum budget of $50K (direct costs).

Principal Investigator (PI) Eligibility: This RFA is open to all CoP faculty. Faculty with limited research experience and/or grant PI experience are encouraged to include a brief research mentoring plan that engages one or more faculty with established extramural research funding record(s).

Project Eligibility: Clinical research projects in any scientific discipline and/or therapeutic area are eligible. Inter-departmental participation is encouraged but not required. Priority will be given to projects with strong extramural funding potential and prospective PIs are encouraged to articulate how pilot funds will enable this objective. PIs currently supported by other institutional pilot grants (*e.g.*, CCTS, COBRE, IRC, KYNETIC, Markey, etc.) are expected to clearly address potential overlap.

Application Process: Applicants should submit an application packet as a single consolidated pdf that includes: i) a specific aims page with project title; ii) a brief research strategy section (3 pages maximum length that highlights the project significance, innovation, general approach and anticipated path to extramural funding); iii) a proposed budget and budget justification; iv) a current NIH-style biosketch; and, v) if applicable, a brief research mentoring plan [one page or less that engages one or more faculty with established extramural research funding record(s)] to Alla Arnold (alla.arnold@uky.edu) by **5 PM, Friday April 30, 2021**.

Budget and Duration: Pilot projects will be supported for one year with the potential to compete for an additional year of support depending on semi-annual progress toward agreed upon milestones (to be established at the time of the award). The annual maximum budget request per pilot is $50K (direct costs). Clinical faculty salary support is an eligible expense.

Review Process: Applications will be reviewed by a select panel of external peer reviewers. Top ranked applications based on peer review will be advanced to a CoP panel comprised of the associate and assistant deans for research and departmental chairs to determine a provisional funding recommendation. The top-ranked proposals following this two-tier review will be advanced to the CoP Executive Committee (EC) for final funding decisions.

Important Dates:
Issue Date: **February 24, 2021**
Application deadline: **5 PM, Friday April 30, 2021**
Anticipated award start date: **July 5, 2021**

Contacts: Director of Research Operations, Alla Arnold (alla.arnold@uky.edu)