

ANNOUNCEMENT AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Johns Hopkins NIOSH Education and Research Center

» Pilot Project Research Training Awards, 2011-2012 «

Description: The objective of this program is to enhance **occupational research training** through direct support of research activities. Supplemental funds have been awarded by NIOSH to support student and new investigator (junior faculty) research projects with awards up to \$15,000 each. The budget period is July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Because of timing considerations associated with the NIOSH master grant, work must be completed and funds expended by June 30, 2012.

Eligibility: Applicants must be doctoral students, post-doctoral fellows (including Occupational Medicine residents), or full-time faculty affiliated with a NIOSH Education and Research Center (ERC), Training Project Grant (TPG), or other related university-based program within NIOSH Region III. Faculty applicants must be new investigators, not above the rank of Assistant Professor, who have not established support for their research through traditional mechanisms of funding. For student applicants, a faculty member must write a brief letter of support and be willing to be listed as the Principal Investigator for the project budget. Applications must be received by COB on Friday, April 22, 2011. *Prior to the release of funding, investigators must demonstrate approval of the research project by their Institutional Review Board or Animal Use Committee, as appropriate.*

Use of Funds: Budgets will be allocated in the name of the junior faculty member or, for student awards, the faculty advisor, and are to be used exclusively for the described research. This support may be used for research expenses for which there are no other means of support. Examples include: supplies, domestic travel related to data collection or presentation, services such as data entry or laboratory analysis, and printing or photocopying. These funds may **not** be used for student tuition or stipend or for faculty salary. Awardees will be required to present their findings at a symposium at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and provide a written report within 30 days of the end of the budget period.

Evaluation of Applications: A committee representing Region III ERC and TPG programs will review the applications. Evaluation of projects will be based on *relevance to worker health and safety*, merit of the research, need for support, and potential to enhance research training capacity. Inclusion of an aspect of interdisciplinary interaction and research topics that concern priorities identified in NIOSH's National Occupational Research Agenda, which can be viewed at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/sector.html>, will be considered strengths of applications. Note that, in conformance with Federal regulations, exclusion of portions of populations (e.g., based on gender or race) as potential research subjects must be specifically justified.

Application Format:

The following elements *must* be included in the application for it to be considered for

funding:

- Title
- Investigator (include biographical sketch)
- Faculty advisor and collaborators (include biographical sketch)
- Budget (include a detailed itemization of costs for proposed project, with a full description and detailed justification of each item; for non-JHU applications, university F&A may be charged, but is limited to 8%). The total cost, excluding F&A, must not exceed \$15,000.
- Description of research project. In general, the research description should be modeled after the format below, limiting the description of the research to no more than 5 single-spaced pages.
 - Abstract (complete and suitable for reproduction in report to NIOSH)
 - Introduction (1 paragraph)
 - Objectives and Hypothesis (1 paragraph)
 - Research Plan (3-4 pages: fully describe the study population; sample size; data collection methods; analytical framework and methods; timeline; *etc.*)
- References
- List of current funding sources for this project and the investigator
- Documentation of Institutional Review Board or Committee on Animal Care and Use approval (projects need not be approved at the time of application)
- Brief letter of support from faculty advisor (student applications)
- Description of student involvement/enhancement of research training capacity (faculty applications only)

Deadline for Applications: Submit applications electronically to plees@jhsph.edu with a hard copy to Dr. Peter S.J. Lees, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, Room E6624, 615 N. Wolfe St., Baltimore, MD 21205 by COB on April 22, 2011. Direct all questions to Dr. Lees at 410-955-3009 or plees@jhsph.edu.