

The Center Of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in Cardiovascular Health Request For Proposals for Pilot Projects

UD's Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in Cardiovascular Health supports multidisciplinary research that is focused on understanding the mechanisms that contribute to both the causes and consequences of poor cardiovascular health, as well as to ultimately develop effective interventions to mitigate these conditions.

The COBRE in Cardiovascular Health is pleased to announce a call for pilot research proposals to expand and enhance the scientific goals of the center. Pilot projects will be awarded for 1 year, have a budget of up to \$50,000 in direct costs and have an estimated start date of February 1, 2025 (pending NIH approval).

Pilot Project Goals: We are seeking proposals that have applications to cardiovascular health in the broadest sense. Investigators have the opportunity to study a wide range of cardiovascular related topics that may be in the form of technology development, basic, translational, clinical or community-engaged research and could occur at the level of the cell or at higher levels up to and including the community.

Eligibility: NIH defined Early Stage and New Investigators are eligible to apply and are required to have a mentor. Faculty who have previously been awarded NIH funding may also apply.

Timeline:

Call Released	July 1 2024
Email notifying of intent to submit a proposal	September 1 2024
Submission Deadline	5pm EST, October 7 2024
Review Period	October 11 – November 8 2024
Funding decisions made	November 11 – November 14 2024
Decisions Announced	November 15, 2024
Proposals sent to NIH for Approval	November 18, 2024
Anticipated project start date (pending NIH approval)	February 1, 2025

Intent to Submit a Proposal

To inform the selection of reviewers for all proposals, investigators who intend to submit a proposal in response to this call should send an email to Freddie Patterson (fredap@udel.edu) on or before September 1, 2024. The email should provide the contact PI name, proposed project title, and 4-6 key words for the proposed project.

Format: Applications should be formatted according to the most recent NIH SF424 Application Guide. The applications will consist of the NIH SF424 face page ([Face Page](#)), Page 2: ([Summary, Relevance, Project/Performance Sites, Senior/Key Personnel](#)), Detailed Budget ([Form Page 4](#)) and Budget Justification ([Form Page 5/Continuation Format Page](#), as needed), Biographical Sketch of PI and any Key Personnel ([Biosketch Format Pages, Instructions and Samples](#)), Research Strategy (see below), References, Success from Prior Awards (PIs who have led a project supported by COBRE, INBRE or CTR grants should include a short section (1 page maximum) outlining the progress on that prior work, including their success in leveraging that research into independent external support and explaining why further support is necessary), NIH Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information Form, if applicable (see below), Vertebrate animals justification and protection, if applicable (see below), IRB/IACUC

approval or proof of submission to IRB/IACUC for approval if applicable, A letter of Support from the PI's Department Head/Chair. NIH New Investigator: A letter agreeing to participate, including support for the project, from a Mentor. Forms can be found here: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

The Research Proposal should contain the project specific aims (1 page) and the research strategy (4-pages). The research strategy section should be comprised of significance, innovation, and approach sub-sections. The page limit for these sections together is 5 pages. Investigators must provide a statistical analysis subsection in the approach. Applicants should be sure to consider the NIH emphasis on the rigor of prior research, rigor and reproducibility, and sex as a biological variable in their proposals.

IRB or IACUC approval may be pending at the time of submission but proof of IRB/IACUC submission should be included in the proposal. [Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form](#) is required for all studies involving human subjects.

Budget: Up to \$50,000 (direct costs) for the 1-year funding period may be requested. Funds can be used to support graduate students or staff, supplies, travel, etc. PI effort to complete the project should be cost shared and not part of direct cost expenses; a letter of support from the PI's department chair (or equivalent) giving permission for the proposed cost shared effort should be included in the application.

Submission: Pilot proposals should be submitted by the deadline using the COBRE Piestar RFX system. UD applicants should log into the Piestar system using their UD credentials <https://rfx.research.udel.edu>.

Review of applications: Proposals will be reviewed by at least two external reviewers using NIH guidelines and scoring. The likelihood of the proposed pilot project to lead to R01 or equivalent funding when completed will also be evaluated. Accepted proposals must fully comply with all applicable federal policies, rules, and guidelines for research involving human subjects, vertebrate animals, and/or biohazards. When comparing proposals with similar impact scores the following preference will be given:

- Junior investigators who do not have or have not previously had prior NIH funding as PI are given priority over funded junior faculty and more senior faculty.
- Faculty with previous CTR, INBRE or COBRE funding are given lower priority than those who are new investigators.

Additional Information: For additional information contact Dave Edwards, COBRE PI at dge@udel.edu or Freddie Patterson, Program Coordinator at fredap@udel.edu.