



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Community outreach and engagement (COE) is a fundamental activity of National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Cancer Centers. COE is expected to span all aspects of Centers' programs, including basic, clinical, translational, and population research. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) encourages Cancer Centers to support and generate examples of research projects where outreach to and engagement of communities informed and resulted in high-impact science. In addition, NCI-Designated Cancer Centers are expected to work with communities to disseminate and implement evidence-based interventions (EBIs) and guidelines, public education, and public health policy recommendations. This bidirectional relationship between communities and Cancer Centers promotes an understanding of cancer that is more holistic (bench-to-bedside-to-community), transdisciplinary, encompassing of different views and experiences, culturally sensitive, and reflective of mutual goals.

The Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center is accepting applications seeking support for innovative, significant Community Outreach & Engagement pilot projects in cancer research. The purpose of the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center COE Pilot Projects Program is to sponsor high-quality, novel, cancer focused Community Outreach & Engagement research to foster the development of early-stage projects and encourage their transition to securing external funding.

ELIGIBILITY

- All University of Nebraska faculty members with an academic appointment at or above the level of Instructor are eligible to apply for a pilot project award. (Awards to postdoctoral fellows or graduate students are not allowed.)
- All project principal investigators must be members of the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center. If you are not currently a member of the Cancer Center, please contact Matt Winfrey (winfrey@unmc.edu) to request membership.
- New multi-disciplinary Multi-Principal Investigators projects are encouraged.

FUNDS AVAILABLE

One-year pilot project awards of up to \$50,000 will be made.

FOCUS AREA:

Community-based and/or community engaged participatory research study to focus on cancer disparities affecting underserved populations** in Nebraska.

- Studies that focus on cancer disparities in Nebraska in terms of incidence, morbidity, and mortality. For example, breast, lung, prostate, colorectal, and pancreatic cancer related issues among underserved populations.
- Studies that focus on cancer disparities in Nebraska in terms of cancer screening and risk behaviors. For example, cancer screening, tobacco use, obesity, diabetes, and pancreatic cancer, and HPV and other transmittable cancer risk factors among underserved populations.
- Increase collaboration and education between basic and translational science programs and the community; use this as a springboard for screening and clinical trial outreach/enrollment including creating affirming environments of trust.

**Population groups that may experience cancer disparities include groups defined by race/ethnicity, disability, gender identity, geographic location, income, education, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and/or other characteristics.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS

- Investigators are limited to a total of two applications, with no more than one application as PI. (One PI and one Co-PI, or two Co-PI applications, maximum.)
- Kenneth Cowan, Director of the Buffett Cancer Center, cannot serve as a co-investigator on any project. The Cancer Center Deputy Director, Associate Directors, and Program Leaders may serve as PI/Co-PI or as co-investigator on a project.
- All budget requests for travel (allowed only for recruitment and data collection), equipment, and computer purchases must be clearly and strongly justified.
- Budget requests for faculty salaries are not allowed.
- **Regulatory Approvals:**
 - ❖ For projects involving human subjects, vertebrate animals, and/or select agents research, prior IRB, IACUC, and/or IBC approval is not required at the time of application submission. However, it is expected that the appropriate protocols will be submitted so approval is imminent at the anticipated project start date. All applicable institutional approvals must be in place before awarded funds can be released. *IRB protocols must be submitted for review within 30 days of notice of award and final IRB approval provided to Cancer Center administration within 60 days of NOA.*
 - ❖ For projects involving cancer studies being conducted at UNMC, the relevant protocols must be submitted

simultaneously to the IRB and to the FPBCC Scientific Review Committee (SRC). Contact the FPBCC Protocol Review and Monitoring System (PRMS) office at 402-559-4232 with questions regarding this process.

APPLICATION FORMAT AND SUBMISSION

The appended FPBCC COE Pilot Projects Program Application must be used; a version of this application with editable forms is also available.

Required Application Components:

1. Application Face Page

2. Research Project Information form

3. Detailed Budget with Budget Justification

4. Description of Proposed Research:

- **Scientific Abstract** summarizing the research question, the background of the project, the specific aims, the proposed approach, and the expected outcomes of the project (400-word maximum)
- **Lay Abstract** that defines the goals and expected outcomes of the project in non-technical terms (250-word maximum)
- Research Plan with the following sections:
 - A. Specific Aims (1-page maximum)
 - B. Background, Significance, and Innovation
 - C. Preliminary Studies, if any
 - D. Approach
 - E. Statement of Cancer Relevance (6-page maximum for sections B-E)
 - F. References Cited
 - G. Regulatory compliance information, including **Protection of Human Subjects, Vertebrate Animals, and Select Agent Research**, as applicable.
- Inclusion of preliminary data is encouraged but not required, and appendices will not be accepted.

5. NIH bio-sketch for each investigator (5-page limit each)

6. Other Research Support information for each investigator. Note: Other Support demonstrates active and pending support; the purpose of this document is to allow the reviewer to examine an investigator's overall research commitment and to identify any overlap with existing projects.

General Formatting Requirements:

Minimum 0.5-inch margins and Arial 11-point font are required. (Smaller type size may be used for figures and legends.)

Submission Instructions and Deadline:

All applications must be prepared on the forms provided and emailed as a single, complete PDF to coe@unmc.edu, by **11:59 pm CT on February 28, 2022**. The email subject line should list the last name(s) of the principal investigator(s) and the words "COE Pilot Project Application" (e.g., "Watanabe-Galloway COE Pilot Project Application"). A reply email will be sent to confirm receipt of the application. Applications will be reviewed in March, and funding notifications are anticipated in April. See "[Application Review Criteria](#)" section below for additional information regarding review procedures.

APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA

- The applications will be peer reviewed, and reviewers are selected by BCC senior leadership based on their expertise.
- Quality of the proposal with respect to significance, innovation, and approach of the research proposed.
- Potential impact on cancer diagnosis, therapy, or outcomes.
- Alignment of the proposed research with the programs and goals of the Cancer Center, as well as with the aims of the relevant funding target area.
- Potential for future funding from national agencies.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

- Pilot project award recipients are responsible for working with their departmental grants administrator to monitor and manage award funds.
- All pilot project awardees must submit a written progress report at or near the end of the funding period.
- Awardees are expected to present their research in seminar format as well as to community groups as part of Buffett Cancer Center education and outreach activities, as requested by Cancer Center administration.
- Awardees are required to provide information regarding any publications and additional funding that result from their pilot project award. Any publications and presentations resulting from a Buffett Cancer Center pilot project award should acknowledge the FPBCC Cancer Center Support Grant (P30 CA036727).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For questions regarding this funding opportunity, please contact Shinobu Watanabe-Galloway at swatanabe@unmc.edu or Bev Luma ladybeverly.luma@unmc.edu

RESEARCH PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT TITLE: (200-character maximum)

DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE HUMAN SUBJECTS? Yes No

If "Yes" to Human Subjects, is the project exempt from federal regulations? Yes No

If "Yes" to exempt, check appropriate exemption number below and provide justification in the space below (attach additional pages if necessary):

Exemptions: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

If "No" to Human Subjects, does the proposed research involve human specimens and/or data?

Yes No

If "Yes" to human specimens and/or data, provide an explanation of why the project does not involve human subjects research in the space below (attach additional pages if necessary):

DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE VERTEBRATE ANIMALS? Yes No

If "Yes" to Vertebrate Animals, are the animals euthanized? Yes No

If "Yes" to euthanasia, is the method consistent with AVMA guidelines? Yes No

If "No" to AVMA guidelines, describe the method and provide scientific justification in the space provided below (attach additional pages if necessary):

DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE SELECT AGENT(S)? Yes No

(See Federal Select Agent Program list: <https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsList.html>)

If "Yes" to Select Agent(s), is/are the agent(s) excluded from federal regulations? Yes No

(See FSAP exclusions: <https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsExclusions.html>)

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

Personnel:

List all personnel, including names, effort, and roles on the project.

For each person named on the project, it is recommended that the following information be included for clarity:

1. Role, position, department/institution, and suitability to project: Enter relevant work or accomplishment here, which demonstrates suitability to project.
2. Specific role in project (e.g. directing the project, contributing a specific expertise, showing how this is the best person to lead the project.)
3. Commitment of effort to project: S/He is committed to the project for x calendar months.

Example: **John Smith, Ph.D., PI, (1.5 calendar months)**, will serve as Principal Investigator and Project Director on this project. Associate Professor in the Department of X at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, he has researched XYZ extensively, and has over X years of highly regarded work in the field. He will have overall responsibility for all aspects of the project, and will be responsible for organizing and chairing meetings of the advisory committee. In addition, he will be serving as the lead investigator of the XYZ investigation.

Supplies:

Other Expenses:

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED RESEARCH

Scientific Abstract (400-word maximum)

Lay Abstract (250-word maximum)

Research Plan:

A. Specific Aims (1-page maximum)

B. Background, Significance and Innovation

C. Preliminary Studies (if applicable)

D. Approach

E. Statement of Cancer Relevance (6-page maximum for sections B-E)

F. References Cited

G. Regulatory compliance information, including the following sections as applicable:

- **Protection of Human Subjects** (including **1. Risks to Subjects** [with **a. Human Subjects Involvement, Characteristics, and Design** and **b. Study Procedures, Materials, and Potential Risks**], **2. Adequacy of Protection Against Risks** [with **a. Informed Consent and Assent**, **b. Protections Against Risk**, and **c. Vulnerable Subjects, if relevant**], **3. Potential Benefits of Proposed Research to Subjects and Others**, and **4. Importance of Knowledge to Be Gained**, as applicable);
- **Vertebrate Animals** (including **1. Description of Procedures**, **2. Justifications**, and **3. Minimization of Pain and Distress**); and
- **Select Agent Research** (including **1. Identification of Agent(s)**, **2. Entity Registration Status**, and **3. Description of Facilities**).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME:

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE:

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY

A. Personal Statement

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

C. Contributions to Science

OTHER RESEARCH SUPPORT

PI Name

Active

Project Number (Project Contact PI Name)

Sponsor Name

Project Title

Applicant's Role on Project:

The major goals of this project are ____.

Project Dates

Project Annual Direct Costs

Applicant's Effort (Calendar months)

Pending

Project Number (Project Contact PI Name)

Sponsor Name

Project Title

Applicant's Role on Project:

The major goals of this project are ____.

Project Dates

Project Annual Direct Costs

Applicant's Effort (Calendar months)

Overlap

Summarize any potential overlap with all active or pending projects and this application in terms of the science, budget, and an individual's committed effort