T2 - TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE AWARD

The concept of T2 translational research emerged from the observation that many clinical discoveries never advance to accepted healthcare practices. The goal of T2 translational research is to focus on strategies that ultimately lead community health care providers, as well as the public, to adopt clinical research findings.

Proposed research projects should be designed to study new ways to translate evidence regarding efficacious therapies into meaningful changes in practice, leading to improved outcomes or reduced costs. Examples include, but are not limited to:

1) Developing and piloting new disease management programs, patient safety initiatives, or community- or employer-based programs;
2) Testing the effectiveness of a new type of diagnostic method that was previously tested in a research trial in a clinical practice;
3) Demonstrating the efficacy of a novel therapeutic or diagnostic target in humans;
4) Establishing applicability in a human model system;
5) Executing population research exploring the efficacy of novel interventional strategy on clinical or developmental outcomes.

If the Principal Investigator is faculty with the appointment of Assistant Professor or below, he or she must identify an established investigator who is serving as a mentor for the research. Projects performed within the University of Michigan Health System and/or Blue Cross/Blue Shield system are given higher priority. Interdisciplinary work between investigators and in particular, interdepartmental projects, are strongly encouraged.

In addition to the stated expectations, please consult the Eligibility Requirements and Application Guidelines for additional Pilot Grant Program restrictions and requirements.

Duration: Pilot Grant applications can request funds for either one or two years of funding. MICHR will provide up to $25,000/year in co-funding with the understanding that other sponsoring entities will provide at least a 1:1 match. Multiple year applications must have a strong rationale and have documented commitment by the co-funding entities for the entire period. The rationale for a two year funding period must be included in the application and will be taken into account in scoring of the application.

Funding and cost-share requirement: The most common source of co-funding of Pilot Grants will continue to be from Schools or Departments with a maximum contribution of $25,000 from MICHR. However, the Pilot Grant Program will allow other institutional entities to co-fund grants which may include funding by NIH funded Centers, Institutes, or other sources of funds.

The MICHR Pilot Grant Program will also allow the submission of grants that have multiple sources of funding, such as by two Centers, a Center and a Department, or two Departments. The co-support can be of any magnitude with the understanding that other sponsoring entities will provide at least a 1:1 match, and MICHR will provide a maximum of $25,000/year. The application must have sign-off by each of the co-funding entities prior to submission of the application. All other eligibility requirements for the PI or Co-PIs will be enforced.

For the T1 and T2 multiple-year funding opportunities, a detailed budget and justification must be provided for each year. The MICHR Pilot Grant Program reserves the right to withhold and/or not fund the second year of a project if all sponsoring departments, units, centers and/or other institutional entities do not fulfill their agreement and contribute their cost-share in the first year of the project. That is, the second year of funding is contingent on all sponsoring parties putting forth their cost-share on time during the first year of the project.

The grants will be reviewed by the Scientific Review Committee and prioritization will be based on the criteria used for review of all Pilot Grant applications. Centers or other entities can preselect applications for
submission through their own application process, and the reviews from the pre-selection process can be submitted with the application.

Support for this award must be justified by a detailed budget. Applicants must ensure that the co-funding from other sponsoring departments, centers, or other sources is secured prior to submission.

Centers with Pilot and Feasibility Grant Programs may participate as a ‘Department’ for the purposes of this award. A letter from the Center stating its willingness to participate is required PRIOR to the submission of the application.

Any questions concerning the funding should be directed to the PGP administrator, Kate Althouse at 734-998-7626 or at MICHR-PilotGrants@umich.edu.