

**Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
School of Medicine –Research Enhancement Program (REP)
CLINICAL RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM**

General Information

The Clinical Research Grant Program was established to provide funding necessary for the development of clinical research projects into competitive applications that are supported by extramural agencies. The goal of this program is to provide institutional support for full-time clinical faculty on either the clinical- or tenure-track who have a research idea that needs to be better developed before it can be submitted for extramural support. Eligibility for this program requires the PI to be an M.D., although a Basic Science co-investigator may be included, and could significantly strengthen the proposal. Basic Science faculty, part-time clinical faculty and faculty who have active start-up packages for their research program (totaling more than \$200,000) are not eligible for this grant mechanism. Established investigators with extramural funding also are not eligible for these awards. Applications will be viewed in terms of potential for generating data that will lead to support from National funding agencies. The duration of these projects is for up to two years. An applicant can resubmit for an additional year of support; this re-application will be critically evaluated based not only on its scientific merit, but also on evidence of submission of extramural grant support during this time. As part of this program, the PI must commit to submitting their research proposal for extramural funding to a nationally competitive agency (e.g. NIH, NSF, DOD, PCORI, etc.).

Application Format (limit of 6 pages for sections 3-6)

1. Title Page.
 - a. Title of the research project
 - b. Applicant information (name, degree, academic rank, campus address, e-mail address, and telephone number)
 - c. Signature of applicant
 - d. Signature of department head, with dates.
2. Abstract
3. Specific Aims. Provide a concise statement of the research aims to be addressed in this pilot project.
4. Significance of the proposed study, including a brief background.
5. A short description of the innovative aspects of the proposal.
6. Approach

7. Plans for obtaining extramural support based on data gathered during this pilot program. Describe your plans to obtain extramural support for your research program. If ultimately planning to submit to NIH, please be specific regarding the institute and the study section being targeted. Has your application been submitted to National agencies? **Include the Specific Aims for the proposal that will be submitted for extramural funding.**
8. Current Research Support. List all current research support by agency number, title, and total direct costs awarded. Make sure that you include all past start-up and institutional support within the last 5 years, including amounts and dates. This section should include a letter from the Department Head indicating that the time and effort to work on this proposal will be made available to the investigator.
9. NIH-type biographical sketch.
10. Proposed Budget and Justification. Support for the applicant's research program should be a shared responsibility between the faculty member, his or her department, and the School of Medicine. Therefore, to the extent possible, applicants should submit evidence of departmental financial support for the applicant's research program. Budgetary requests should be limited to personnel, supplies, and patient incentives (for clinical trials). Faculty salary support can be requested. The salary support requested for all faculty involved with the proposal cannot exceed \$25,000, including fringe benefits (i.e. \$17,606 salary plus \$7,394 fringe). Support for normal operations of central resources, facilities and administrative costs, construction, library, cost overruns, broad institutional planning activities, and travel will be excluded from consideration. The total period of support cannot exceed twelve months, and will not exceed \$75,000. Unfunded extensions for an additional year will be provided upon request to the Associate Dean for Research.
11. The signed original application (by both applicant and department head), and an electronic version of the proposal should be submitted to the Chair of the Clinical Research Grants Evaluation Committee (wbacke@lsuhsc.edu).

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE, INCLUDING ALL TEN COMPONENTS LISTED ABOVE WITH ALL REQUIRED SIGNATURES AND DOCUMENTS PROVIDED ON THE ORIGINAL AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION. APPLICATIONS MUST BE WITHDRAWN IMMEDIATELY UPON NOTIFICATION OF FUNDING BY AN EXTRAMURAL AGENCY.

Evaluation of Grant Proposals

Grant proposals will be reviewed by the Clinical Research Grants Evaluation Committee comprised of clinicians and clinical researchers who are members of the LSUHSC faculty. This grant review committee will operate in a manner similar to NIH study sections. In addition to the criteria used by NIH to evaluate grant proposals

(Significance, Innovation, Investigators, and Approach) , the committee members will also base their recommendations on the potential for the proposal eventually to be competitive for extramural support from national agencies. The committee will score the proposals, and make a recommendation to the Dean based on its scientific merit and likelihood of leading to a competitive extramural grant.