



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Medical School

DULUTH CAMPUS

Announcement
DMRI is offering research grants to support pilot projects

The Duluth Medical Research Institute (DMRI) is issuing its first Request for Proposals (RFP). The Institute will provide up to six internal grant awards for research projects that involve any level of scientific inquiry, e.g., molecular, genetic, preclinical, clinical, epidemiologic, public health policy or combinations of levels and disciplines. Future requests for proposals will be issued at least twice a year based on availability of funding.

The purpose of this funding program is to foster development of research initiatives directly linked to and supporting the DMRI strategic goal of promoting growth and excellence in basic and clinical research. It is also intended to further promote collaborative interdisciplinary efforts. The immediate goal is to leverage these grants to help investigators compete for national peer-reviewed funding opportunities.

Examples of projects that will be appropriate for this opportunity are those focusing on gene-based therapeutics, cancer biology, brain barrier related research, biological mechanisms of behavioral disorders and psychopathology, or rural and health disparity research. The work may be based in a laboratory, a clinical, or a community setting appropriate to the proposed scope. Additional meritorious proposals in other areas of medical research will also be considered.

Priorities will be to support the following types of proposals:

1. Proposals that have been submitted for funding to NIH or other external funding agencies and/or proposals that were scored but not funded. The purpose is to help investigators complete pilot studies to strengthen their revised applications.
2. Proposals establishing collaborative projects involving multidisciplinary teams. The DMRI is particularly interested in funding collaboration among its members who use basic science approaches and those with interest in clinical research.

Eligibility

The PI must be a DMRI member to apply though individuals who have submitted or are submitting an application for membership may apply.

Membership approval will be required before funding. To receive a copy of the membership application contact Tracy Kemp at (218) 726-8120 or DMRI@d.umn.edu.

Award Amounts

The awards will range from a minimum of \$1,000 to a maximum of \$10,000 in direct cost for one year.

Application Deadline

The application deadline is Wednesday April 30, 2008, by 3:00 p.m.

Application Format (using NIH 398 forms)

Each proposal should have a descriptive title and the name and title of the principal investigator and other key personnel. In addition to the research plan, the proposal should include the following: 1) A summary of the project including the specific aims; 2) How the findings of *this project* will support the goals of the Institute and how it fits the priorities listed above; and 3) The time frame needed to achieve the stated aims of the project.

Please limit the research plan to a maximum of five pages, typewritten, 12-point font, and one-inch margins. The proposal must be accompanied by NIH-style "Other Support", "Budget and Justification", and "Biographical Sketch". Submit an original plus 5 copies to the DMRI office, 308 Med School Bldg, Duluth, MN 55812.

Please submit a paper Proposal Routing Form (PRF) signed by the PIs and department heads (do not submit to SPA).

Awardees will be required to submit a final report within three months of completing the research. Further, it will be expected that publications resulting from the work will credit the DMRI source. Subsequent grant applications submitted to funding agencies that incorporate the data should likewise credit the DMRI pilot funding.

Review

The proposal will be reviewed by members of the Scientific Advisory Committee.

Applicants will be notified of the review outcome in early June. Awards will be made for one year, with an anticipated activation date of July 1, 2008.

For more information please contact Susan Kurki, (218) 726-8894; skurki@d.umn.edu; 308 Med School Bldg, Duluth, MN 55812.