

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

Wright Center Endowment Fund Grant Applications

Eligibility

- Full-time, tenure or non-tenure track faculty who meet the criteria described below are eligible and encouraged to apply.
- Faculty must:
 - Be employed by and paid by VCU
 - Have [NIH new Investigator status](#) and be without other major federal funding (e.g., DOD, NSF, etc.), **OR**
 - Be senior faculty members who are changing the focus of their research and need pilot data before submitting an application for external funding, **OR**
 - Be senior faculty researchers who are between externally funded research projects who need funding to maintain their research programs
- New investigators may be PIs on up to two internal research awards (CCTR Endowment Fund Grants, Presidential Research Quest Fund Grants, Massey Pilot Grants, VETAR grants, etc.) within a four-year period.
- Senior faculty may be PIs on only one internal research award (CCTR Endowment Fund Grants, Presidential Research Quest Fund Grants, Massey Pilot Grants, VETAR grants, etc.) every four years.
- Investigators may submit only one application (as the PI) per funding cycle.
- For faculty who need pilot data before submitting an application for external funding, these funds support basic, clinical and translational, and community-engaged research that intends to:
 - Apply discoveries generated in the laboratory and preclinical studies to the development of clinical trials
 - Understand the biological basis for observed clinical manifestations
 - Enhance the adoption of best practices in the community
 - Conduct cost-effectiveness research
- Funds will support preliminary studies that enable researchers to develop hypotheses, collect preliminary data, and establish methods necessary for submission of highly competitive applications to extramural funding sources.
- Funds must be used to support new projects, although the applicant Investigators may have existing collaborations.
- Funds will not be awarded to support continuation/renewals of previously funded projects.

Award

- Up to \$50,000 awarded for an 18-month period
- Only direct costs allowed

- **Allowed:** Supplies, patient stipends, equipment not otherwise available, cost for use of shared resources, and personnel costs as long as the expense is for the completion of a specific element of the research
- **Not allowed:** Faculty or investigator salary, travel funds, publication costs, remodeling costs, and patient hospital costs/visit fees

Application deadlines

- Application deadline is **5:00PM** on the submission deadline date (February 1, August 1, and November 1). If the deadline falls on a holiday or weekend, applications will be accepted until 5:00PM on the next working day.
- All applications should be submitted electronically through [REDCap](#) no later than **5:00PM**.

Reporting

- The PI will provide semiannual progress reports, using the format supplied by the grantor, to the Scientific Review Coordinator, Dr. Pamela Dillon. Continuation of funding will be contingent on successful progress of the research and completion of the required reports.
- Within one month of the termination of the grant, the PI must submit electronically a final report (one to two pages) summarizing the results of the research and a financial report summarizing expenditures by category to Dr. Dillon.
- One year after the termination of the grant, the PI must submit electronically a list of publications and externally funded grants resulting from the Wright Center-funded work to Dr. Dillon.

Publications

- **Publications resulting from work supported by these funds must acknowledge VCU's CTSA (UL1TR002649 from the National Institutes of Health's National Center for Advancing Translational Science) and the Wright Center Endowment Fund of the Virginia Commonwealth University.**