



## March of Dimes Prematurity Research Center at Washington University in St. Louis

### Call for Applications: Pilot Grant Funding for Research in Preterm Birth

The March of Dimes Prematurity Research Center at Washington University in St. Louis (the PRC) announces a Transdisciplinary Developmental Funding Program for investigators with a faculty appointment of Instructor and above to support early-stage, innovative research in preterm birth at Washington University. The PRC was established in November 2014 to study multiple aspects of preterm birth, including three thematic areas: Cervical Remodeling during Pregnancy, Electrical Maturation of Uterine Smooth Muscle, and The Role of Chronodisruption in Preterm Birth. **The PRC fosters discoveries in other novel areas of preterm birth research through this pilot grant-funding program.** Researchers in any discipline within the Washington University community are encouraged to explore high-risk ideas that **specifically investigate ways to detect or prevent preterm birth** that will generate preliminary data for subsequent extramural applications to the NIH or to non-governmental foundations.

Pilot grant funding will be for one year at \$25,000 with matching funds of \$25,000 expected from the Department Chair sponsoring the faculty member. A second year of support will be based on a progress report, yielding a potential for \$100,000/grant.

**Application Due: May 1, 2017 by 5:00 pm**

Submissions will be reviewed for the hypothesis tested, the science and innovation of the proposal, the likelihood for translational research, and the potential for extra-mural funding.

1. Application Face Sheet
2. Budget Page and Justification (Funding cannot be used to support faculty salary.)
3. NIH-formatted Biosketch and Other Support page
4. The Research Plan (not to exceed four pages excluding Appendices)
  1. Specific Aims
  2. Significance to Preterm Birth Research
  3. Innovation
  4. Approach
  5. Potential for progression to translational studies
  6. Plans for subsequent application for extramural funding
  7. Appendices
    1. References (maximum 1 page)
    2. Pertinent publications (maximum 3)
    3. A letter from the Department Chair committing to matching funds
    4. Letter of support from consultants, collaborators, or faculty advisors
5. Awardees will submit a progress report 10 months after initiation of grant funding. The second year of support will depend upon progress made.
6. Each awardee will present at the yearly meeting of the PRC's internal and external advisory committees and at the PRC's annual retreat.

Internal OSRS Grants Office review and approval is not required.

Applicants should read and follow the instructions and guidelines carefully to avoid delays, misunderstandings, and the possible return of an application for clarification or changes.

The deadline for filing an application is 5:00 pm on the submission date. Please direct questions and submissions to:

**Jessica Chubiz, Project Manager**

Prematurity Research Center at Washington University

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Phone: (314) 362-6746

Email: [chubizj@wudosis.wustl.edu](mailto:chubizj@wudosis.wustl.edu)

Awards will be announced by May 26, 2017, with funding to begin June 15, 2017.

Attachments:

 [March of Dimes Application Form 2017.docx](#)