



The Texas Medical Center Digestive Diseases Center
Announces the Availability of

PILOT/FEASIBILITY FUNDS

The Texas Medical Center Digestive Diseases Center (DDC) announces the availability of grant funds to support pilot/feasibility (P/F) projects in the area of GI-related research. These funds will support projects related to the theme for the DDC - **GI infection and injury**. *GI* is defined as the gastrointestinal tract, liver and pancreas. *Injury* is defined as drug, genetic, ischemic, inflammatory, surgical, nutritional, or stress-induced injury to the gastrointestinal tract. *Injury* also includes gastrointestinal adaptation and stem cells. Projects should relate to this theme. Awards will be for ~ **\$15,000 to \$35,000** for a period of one year (start date is March 1, 2010). A committee composed of the DDC Internal Advisory Board plus ad hoc members will evaluate proposals.

These projects may support:

- ◆ **New investigators without current or past NIH research support** who are seeking to obtain preliminary data to establish a research program in GI-research.
- ◆ **Established, funded investigators with no previous work in digestive-disease** related areas but who wish to test the applicability of their expertise to a digestive disease-related problem.
- ◆ **Established investigators in digestive diseases** or digestive disease-related areas who wish to test the feasibility of a new or innovative idea, which constitutes a significant departure from their funded research and initiates a new collaboration with another researcher in digestive diseases.

Trainees who are recipients of an NRSA individual award (F32) or are supported by an training grant (K08, K22, T32) are eligible for P/F funds, **if** they are in their last year of training, have had at least one year of research laboratory experience, and have suitable expertise and independence to design and carry out the planned experiments. Trainees should have a mentoring plan and a commitment from a senior scientist to sponsor their projects. Trainee applicants must be United States citizens or possess a permanent resident visa.

Specific information and application guidelines can be obtained from Dede Fox, DDC Administrative Office, Baylor 920E, PHONE: (713) 798-35841. FAX: (713) 798-3586. E-MAIL: dfox@bcm.tmc.edu.

Please credit the "NIH/National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease, Center Grant P30 DK56338" in publications resulting from core usage or pilot funds.

Notice of Intent Due September 11

*All persons interested in submitting an application should first submit a **Notice of Intent** with a tentative application title, the name of the PI and any co-PIs, and their affiliations to dfox@bcm.tmc.edu by **September 11, 2009**.*

Applications are Due October 12, 2009