



Dear Colleagues,

The NIH-funded Texas CFAR is currently accepting Pilot Project grant applications through its Developmental Core. This year, RFAs are open to faculty investigators at participating institutes including Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Biomedical Research Institute, and the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (including Cizik School of Nursing, McGovern Medical School, School of Public Health, School of Biomedical Informatics, School of Dentistry, MD Anderson UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences), and MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Application instructions are attached. Please review them carefully. Proposals in all areas of HIV/AIDS basic, clinical, and implementation science research are welcome. Applications focused on substance use, mental health, and aging are particularly encouraged. ***Clinical trials are not allowed. Projects involving foreign sites are not allowed unless they are approved by the NIH.***

Eligibility. Only faculty (or faculty equivalent) with primary appointments at participating institutes (listed above) and who are early-stage investigators (defined here: <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-investigators/index.htm>); or new investigators who have never been awarded an R01 or equivalent grant as principal investigator in any field; or investigators who have had R01 or equivalent funding in fields other than HIV (new to HIV/AIDS research) are eligible to apply.

LOI and Due Dates. The LOI for application submission is due on **November 2, 2026**, and full applications are due by **November 23, 2026**. While the LOI is recommended, it is not required and will not determine eligibility. However, submitting an LOI is highly recommended because it will help us find the best reviewers for the applicant. It should be one page long and include the project title, a brief description, and a list of key personnel with their titles, institutions, and roles. All investigators who submit an LOI should plan to submit a complete application.

Texas CFAR Developmental Core support. The Developmental Core can assist prospective applicants seeking to identify a mentor to assist with the Pilot Project applications and career development. Additionally, the Texas CFAR Community Engagement Board (CEB) can assist applicants in the development of projects that involve community participants or would benefit

from input from the community. The Developmental Core will offer application pre-reviews and Think Tanks for prospective applicants in September and October 2026. If interested, please email Grace White at texascfar@bcm.edu.

Please see the instructions for details on the application process and budget limits. Please contact us if you have any questions about eligibility criteria or these instructions. Submit requests for assistance, questions, and LOIs to texascfar@bcm.edu. Applications can be submitted here: <https://redcap.link/953wibhq>.

Best,

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The Jane and Robert Cizik Distinguished Chair
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