

Request for Proposals

2021-2022 Development Projects

University of Washington Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (UW ADRC)

Purpose The UW ADRC seeks proposals for Development Projects that advance the understanding, diagnosis, and/or treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD).

Depending on funding availability, the UW ADRC will fund 3-4 projects of up to \$50,000 each. Funds would be awarded for a one-year project period, 5/1/2021 through 4/30/2022. The proposed project must be feasible within this time frame (e.g., with COVID-19 research constraints.)

The Development Projects program replaces and extends the former Pilot Award program, and is closely linked to our new Research Education Component (see below).

Background The UW ADRC is an NIH-funded research Center that belongs to a national network of Alzheimer's Disease Centers and maintains clinical research resources for the benefit of local and national scientific investigators. The current driving focus of the UW ADRC is investigation of the biological heterogeneity of ADRD - the mechanistic and biological underpinnings of Alzheimer's disease as well as the factors countering degeneration and dementia. Another theme of the Center is resilience and resistance to ADRD: from a basic science perspective, we seek a better understanding of the biological basis of resistance to disease, and how to reframe the clinical perspective surrounding dementia around "retained strengths". We also have a unique focus on ADRD research participation in American Indian and Alaska Natives. Nevertheless, proposals need not be limited to these themes, and consideration will be given to any project in the field of ADRD, especially those that benefit from utilization of UW ADRC resources. These include well-characterized human subjects with and without AD and related disorders; biorepositories of tissue samples including DNA, cerebrospinal fluid, skin biopsies, and an extensive brain bank; genomic information; outreach mechanisms and health disparity research; psychometric and diagnostic data; a centralized database; and statistical expertise. Development Projects that leverage the UW ADRC themes and/or resources are preferred. Applicants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these resources.

www.depts.washington.edu/mbwc/adrc/page/research-resources

Eligibility Applicants can be Postdoctoral Fellows, Medical Fellows, or faculty members at any level (Assistant Professor to Professor, or the equivalent). At least two awards will be reserved for junior applicants, defined as senior/postdoctoral fellows with appropriate senior collaborators, or junior faculty up to Assistant Professor (Acting titles accepted). Prior ADRC Pilot or Development Project awardees are ineligible. Senior faculty members are encouraged to apply, provided they have not held UW ADRC funds previously, and either do not have substantial prior experience in AD research or else the proposed project represents a completely new direction for their work.

Applicants need not be affiliated with the UW, but external applicants need to develop or enhance UW ADRC collaborations and effectively use UW ADRC resources, including faculty. Non-UW applicants must collaborate with at least one investigator from the UW ADRC.

All Fellows awarded a Development Project will be designated as ADRC Research Education Component (REC) Trainees, and will have access to a training program designed to support the development of basic, translational and clinical ADRD researchers. Development Project awardees at the rank of Assistant Professor and above will be designated as REC Investigators, with access to a mentorship program and concierge-style coordination with ADRC resources.

<http://depts.washington.edu/mbwc/adrc/page/rec-investigators>

Key Dates**09/14/20, 11:59 pm**

09/28/20

11/16/20, 11:59 pm

02/01/21

05/01/21

Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline

Applicants invited for full application

Full application deadline

Selection of awardees

Earliest project start date

Application Procedure**Letter of Intent Deadline: 09/14/2020, 11:59 pm PT**

The Letter of Intent (LOI) is required. It should be no more than one page (11 pt Arial, 0.5 in. margins), include a descriptive title, brief abstract with specific aims, and list of study team members. The LOI should also describe how it will benefit from and utilize ADRC resources. The ADRC will use the LOI to determine which Cores should be consulted prior to preparing a full application, and the Research Navigator will help to set up these contacts. This will include, at a minimum, mandatory consultation with our Data Management and Statistics Core around study design. In our experience, the most successful applications have taken full advantage of this consultation process. The LOI will not be expected to address COVID contingencies but full applications will, following ADRC consultation.

We encourage applicants to become familiar with our research resources early in the process. The web page (www.depts.washington.edu/mbwc/adrc/page/research-resources) includes a summary of our clinical participant Registry, data collected from our longitudinal study participants in the Clinical Core, other ADRC-managed databases, tissue and sample availability, affiliated studies which can be leveraged, and other information to help guide project development. If you have questions after perusal of ADRC resources online, please email the Research Navigator, Annika Noreen, PhD, annikn@uw.edu.

The LOI should be emailed to annikn@uw.edu by 11:59 pm PT on September 14th, 2020. An invitation to submit a full application, or notification if you are not selected, will be communicated via email by September 28th, 2020.

Full Application Deadline: 11/16/2020, 11:59 pm PT

Applicants invited to submit a full application will receive an email with further instructions and examples of templates to follow from previous successful applications. Full applications will be required to conform to a condensed form of an NIH template (PHS 398 form) and will include: Submission/Applicant Information; Abstract; Biosketches; Budget and Budget Justification; Research Plan (up to 4 pages); References; Human Subjects and/or Animal Use forms.

Review Process ADRC proposals are competitive and peer-reviewed. Proposals will be reviewed by internal and external referees. Reviews will be provided in full or in summary to applicants as appropriate. Awardees will be communicated to applicants by February 1st, 2021.

Reporting requirements

- A presentation at the yearly REC Research Symposium.
- Yearly NIH progress reports for the duration of the ADRC funding cycle (2020-2025), describing outcomes and accomplishments, including publications and grant applications.
- Tracking of career progress for up to 7 years (depending on career stage at award).