

The **FAU Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute** is pleased to announce its **2022-2023 Pilot Grant Program**. We seek applications that support research in one of three areas which should be noted in the cover letter: **Neurodegenerative Disease Research, Computational Brain Science and Health, and General Neuroscience**. We encourage applications from Institute Faculty Members (Research or Tenure Track) in support of research that can demonstrably enhance faculty research capability and productivity with the goal of achieving new or renewed extramural funding. Applications are encouraged that 1) will generate critical preliminary data that can reasonably be expected to contribute in a significant way toward a grant submission within 1 year after termination of the award, 2) allow for the resubmission of a reviewed but currently unfunded application, and/or 3) document the ability of a newly assembled team to collaborate on research that will serve as the basis for a grant submission. Support for projects that make use of Institute-sponsored Cores (Cell Imaging and Neurobehavior) are encouraged but not necessary.

Pilot Grant applications are due by 5:00 PM, Friday, September 2, 2021.

Using a format of 11 point font, single-spaced text and 0.5 " margins, applications should contain the following:

- A) **Cover Letter**, co-signed by the Project PI and the applicant's chair and/or dean/director, noting the category under which the application is submitted, how the proposal meets the criteria noted above, and attesting to the availability of adequate space/equipment needed to pursue the project if funded. For research track faculty, the letter should also be co-signed by the laboratory supervisor. For tenure track or Tenured faculty, the Department Chair or Institute/Center Director providing space and/or instrumentation for the research should sign. Should grant funding arrive during the Pilot Award period, the PI must notify the Institute as to return or project reallocation of budgeted funds.
- B) **Research Team** member list with department affiliations
- C) A **Facilities** document identifying where the work will be conducted and essential resources
- D) **Specific Aims** (500 words max)
- E) **Background and Significance** (1 page max):
- F) **Background, Research Approach and Experimental Design** (2 pages max, excluding References). A timeline for execution of different phases of the research should be noted.
- G) **NIH or NSF-style Biosketch** for all faculty-level personnel (5 pages max)
- H) A list of **Current and Pending Research Support**
- I) **Short Tabular Budget** for the project followed by a **Budget Justification**. Please note that salary for tenure track faculty cannot be budgeted. Up to 50% of the award may be used to cover costs of research track faculty so long as sufficient resources are retained to cover the costs of the project. Publication fees must be kept to \$1,000. Travel costs are not supported.

Although the number and value of awards made under this year's program will depend on the quality and needs of submissions received and availability of funds, awards up to \$25,000 are possible.

Awards will be announced in time for projects to initiate on or after October 3, 2022. Review of applications will arise from a faculty committee comprised of Institute Faculty Members who are not themselves listed on submitted applications. Although the intellectual merit and broader impact of the proposed work will play an important role in the evaluation criteria, the most important criterion will be the potential for the proposal to allow for critical data collection that will allow for the submission or resubmission of an external grant application upon the completion of the proposed studies. A short summary of perceived strengths and weaknesses will be provided with the notification of award status. Projects that involve the use of vertebrate animals or human subjects will require evidence of an approved IACUC or IRB Protocol, respectively, prior to transfer of funds unless a coherent portion of the project can be initiated without animal- or human-derived materials. Short progress reports (1 page max) will be requested at 6 months and 12 months post-funding. **A complete submission packet should be emailed to FAU Brain Institute Director of Administrative Operations, Gala Pierce (pierceg@fau.edu).** Please contact Gala at 561-799-8100 regarding any application questions. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.