

**Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute and Melanoma Center  
Amended Request for Applications  
to support Translational Cancer Research**

***Open depending on funding***

**Background:** The Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute and Melanoma Center announces the availability of funds to support Translational Research Initiatives that will lead to better treatments for cancer patients.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Principal investigator must be a member of the Penn State Hershey Melanoma Center or applicants need to collaborate with a member of the Center serving as Co-Principal Investigators (Melanoma Center members can be identified at <http://www.pennstatehershey.org/web/melanoma/aboutus/membership>)

Proposals are expected to meet one or more of the criteria listed below:

1. PI or Co-PI must be a Penn State Cancer Institute and Melanoma Center Member or student or Postdoctoral of a member of the Melanoma Center or serve as Co-Principal Investigator with a Melanoma Center Member.
2. Propose novel translational research that has the potential to lead to better treatments for cancer patients.

**Program Guidelines:** Applications for the research initiative may request up to \$20,000 in direct costs (no indirect costs will be allowed) for a period of up to 12 months. Salary support will be allowed for PI, Co-PI and support staff. Awards will run from for a period of up to 12 calendar months. Each application should be written taking into consideration that the scope of work must be accomplished in one-year or less. The feasibility of being able to accomplish the proposed studies within one-year will be taken into consideration in evaluating the application. It is expected that these funds will result in publishable results and will provide preliminary data that will lead to independent support from the National Cancer Institute or other national agencies. A Progress Report needs to be submitted to Dr. Gavin Robertson.

**Review Process:** Applications will be reviewed by an ad hoc panel appointed by the Penn State Melanoma Center Director.

**Awards:** It is anticipated that one to three awards will be made based on the receipt of meritorious applications.

## **Applications Should Follow the Following Format:**

Arial 11 font, 1-inch margins, single-spaced.

### **1. Face Page**

Should be titled “Penn State Melanoma Center Translational Research Initiative Application” and include a descriptive title of the project and the name, position, department, contact information (phone & email) and signature of the Principal Investigator and any Co-Investigator(s).

### **2. Abstract**

Briefly summarize the objective, specific aims and significance of the project. Include a brief description of the Melanoma Focus that will be understood by a non-scientific lay audience.

### **3. Research Plan**

Sections a-d of the Research Plan should not exceed five (5) single spaced pages (including figures and tables), organized as follows:

- a. Specific Aims (Indicate in a few sentences how the Specific Aims of this Research Initiative meet the Eligibility Criteria described above.)
- b. Background and Significance
- c. Preliminary Studies (if available)
- d. Research Design/Methods/Anticipated Results
- e. Human Subjects – describe involvement, if any
- f. Vertebrate Animals – describe involvement, if any
- g. Literature Cited

### **4. Budget**

Use PHS 398 Detailed Budget <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp4.pdf> and include budget justification (relating funds to scientific plan.)

### **5. Biographical Sketch**

Enclose a biographical sketch of Principal Investigator and all collaborators. Use PHS 398 Biographical Sketch Format, <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc>

### **6. Future Plans**

Describe anticipated plans to apply for external funding making use of data obtained from this research initiative. Include the identity of the most probable sponsor and the expected date for submitting the first such application.

### **7. Attachments**

Attach letters from all collaborators documenting participation in the project.

Investigators should submit an electronic version of the application via email to Teah Batdorf, Penn State Melanoma Center Administrator, at [cbatdorf@hmc.psu.edu](mailto:cbatdorf@hmc.psu.edu). Any questions regarding these instructions or other aspects of the RFA should be referred to Gavin Robertson, Melanoma Center Director at extension 8098 or [gpr11@psu.edu](mailto:gpr11@psu.edu).