



◆ **Pilot Funding Available for UCLA Researchers** ◆

3/07/2012

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 7, 2012 (Monday 5 pm)

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$25,000 per project (direct costs)

BUDGET PERIOD: August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2013

The UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART) invites applications for grants to fund pilot and/or feasibility studies for biomedical, epidemiological or behavioral research. This funding is made available with departmental “Autism Initiative” funds to CART, and through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Autism Centers of Excellence (ACE) program which funds the UCLA center. The UCLA CART is one of six ACE Centers, as well as one of five ACE Network grants, funded by NIH as part of a nationwide set of research programs. The UCLA center’s activities are wide-ranging and include the integration of clinical, imaging, genetic, and basic science research to create a synergistic milieu that maximizes the productivity of the participants and attracts other investigators to the field of autism.

PURPOSE: The purpose of these awards is to foster interactions and interdisciplinary research projects in the basic and clinical areas of autism. Preference will be given to projects that are likely to lead to successful future funding (by R01-type awards, etc). Proposals addressing the mechanism and treatment of autism are encouraged. Projects can also build upon the UCLA CART’s mission and current research activities; descriptions of CART’s mission and research, including the previously funded pilot grants, and this announcement are available at our website www.autism.ucla.edu.

ELIGIBILITY: Funds are available to the UCLA academic community including new investigators, investigators from other fields willing to bring their research expertise to autism studies, and for investigators whose proposed research would constitute feasibility testing. Funds are not intended to supplement ongoing supported research of an established investigator. Postdoctoral fellows are eligible only if they have a UCLA appointment by August 1, 2012 and provide documentation of support of a faculty sponsor (who must serve as the Co-PI on the grant application), confirmed space allocation and a UCLA appointment, each through the entire award period.

AWARD TERMS: These pilot project awards are for one-year only and are limited to \$25,000 (direct costs) per project. Funds will not be awarded for equipment costs or for salary or benefits for the principal investigator (or postdoctoral fellow or any study personnel who hold an academic appointment). An investigator is eligible only once for the pilot support unless the additional proposed study constitutes a substantial departure from the previous research. All applications involving humans or animals must have IRB or ARC approval at UCLA or an UCLA-affiliated institute before the funds will be released. The funding period for 2012 awards is August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2013.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES: The proposals must present a testable hypothesis, clearly delineate the question(s) being asked, detail the procedures to be followed and discuss how the data will be analyzed. Specifically, the proposals may be up to 5 pages and must include: Abstract (250 words or less), Specific Aims, Background, Preliminary Studies, Experimental Design and Methods, and Significance. *In addition*, the literature references should be attached along with the following NIH (PHS 398) standard forms: the investigator’s 2-page biographical sketch, budget with detailed justification, and other outside funding support. If funded, the investigator also will need to provide a summary of the project in lay language and be willing to present the findings at CART lecture series and meetings.

Please **submit 3 hardcopies (and email the complete application as one PDF)** of your application on or before May 7, 2012 (Monday, by 5 pm) to CART’s Director of Operations & Outreach:

Candace J. Wilkinson, Ph.D., Semel/NPI Institute, Room 68-237; 760 Westwood Plaza; Los Angeles, CA 90024
If you have questions, you may contact Dr. Wilkinson at 310.825.9041 or e-mail: cwilkinson@mednet.ucla.edu