



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS PILOT AND FEASIBILITY PROGRAM

Letter of Intent due September 1, 2020 at 10:00PM

The mission of the NIDDK-funded Boston Nutrition Obesity Research Center (BNORC) is to facilitate and support the conduct of cutting edge basic and translational research in the fields of nutrition and obesity science in Boston and the New England area. BNORC's Pilot and Feasibility Program provides funding on a competitive basis for new investigators who are transitioning to an independent line of research or established investigators with novel ideas in the area of nutrition and obesity research. Applications that address the themes of the Center will be given higher priority. These themes are: 1) Nutrient Metabolism in Health and Disease, 2) Brain Control of Feeding Behavior and Metabolism, and 3) Environmental and Genetic Influences on Obesity and Related Chronic Diseases. Please visit the Center's [website](#) for descriptions of these themes.

P&F awards are made with the expectation that the preliminary research supported by the pilot will lead to successful applications for additional external funding. Applicants are encouraged to consult with and use BNORC Cores, which are as follows:

- Adipose Biology and Nutrient Metabolism (at Boston Medical Center, Boston University and Tufts University)
- Epidemiology and Genetics (at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health)
- Functional Genomics and Bioinformatics (at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center)
- Transgenic (at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Tufts University)

Eligibility: Eligible applicants fall into one of three categories, ***listed in order of priority for BNORC support:***

1. New investigator without current or past independent research support (i.e., NIH R01, P01) or equivalent support. Eligible applicants must have a faculty appointment or equivalent. M.D. and Ph.D. fellows and senior postdoctoral fellows who have completed a minimum of 24 months of a fellowship are eligible in this *category* but must have a formal mentor and are required to include a letter of support from their mentor(s) that includes a **description** of the trainee's path to independence and evidence that the proposed project belongs to the trainee as well as a statement of departmental support that will be available to the trainee during the 1-2 year period of the proposed project (please limit letter to 2 pages maximum).
2. Established, funded investigator with no previous work in nutrition- or obesity-related areas who will apply their expertise to a nutrition- or obesity-related problem.
3. Established investigator in nutrition- or obesity-related areas who will test the feasibility of a new or innovative idea that represents a significant departure from their funded research and which initiates a new collaboration with one or more other investigators active in nutrition- or obesity-related research.

How to Apply: The first step in the application process is the submission of a letter of intent, one-page proposal summary, NIH biosketch and letter from mentor (required for MD and PhD fellows and senior postdoctoral fellows only). These materials must be submitted via the [Center's website](#) as a single PDF file no later than September 1. Full proposals (by invitation only) will be due October 22.

Submission forms, additional details about the program and eligibility criteria may be found on our [website](#) and/or contact [Dr. Andrew Greenberg](#) for scientific matters and [Donna Gibson](#) for administrative issues.