



## GMaP Region 6

HCI Cancer Health Equity



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# GMaP Region 6 Research Scholar Pilot Fund Program

The Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities (GMaP) Program in Region 6 (Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming) is focused on advancing cancer and cancer health disparities research and training in our region by supporting the next generation of cancer researchers.

The GMaP Region 6 program is pleased to announce the availability of pilot funds to generate feasibility data for larger research and education projects for early stage investigators in GMaP Region 6 focused on cancer and cancer health disparities research. Pilot and feasibility projects must fall into at least one of the following categories: (1) population-based research, (2) basic science research, or (3) clinical/translational research.

### Award Information

- Applicants may request up to \$20,000 (total costs)
- **Application is due by 5:00 pm MST on Friday, May 1, 2020**
- Pilot funding supports a 10-month funding period only (**July 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021**)

### Eligibility Requirements

- Investigator at an institution within GMaP Region 6 (see above)
- Must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident
- Investigator must be new<sup>1</sup> or early stage (ESI)<sup>2</sup>. Applicant must be a minimum PhD candidate and provide proof of enrollment
- Investigator must intend to apply for a competitive, extramurally funded research application or CURE funding opportunity (e.g. R01, R03, K series, etc.)

<sup>1</sup> Investigators are considered new if he/she has not previously competed successfully for a substantial NIH independent research award.

<sup>2</sup> Investigators are considered early stage investigators (ESI) if he/she is within 10 years of completing his/her terminal research degree or is within 10 years of completing medical residency (or equivalent).

*Due to the evolving response to COVID-19 and concerns about delays to research, GMaP Region 6 is accepting applications for **mini pilot fund awards** (\$10,000-15,000). If you are interested in submitting a proposal for a mini pilot fund award, please complete the proposal submission as outlined below and indicate the amount requested.*

### Proposal Submission

- An electronic copy of the proposal application should be sent as a single PDF file attachment by 5:00 pm MST on **May 1, 2020**.
- Proposals must be in at least one of the following categories of focus: population-based research, basic science research, or clinical/translational research.
- Proposals should support cancer and cancer health disparities research projects and have the potential to lead to peer-reviewed external funding and publications.
- Proposals must include a NIH biosketch.
- Proposals must include a one-page career and professional development plan for the ESI, including timeline for application to CURE funding mechanism or other competitive, extramurally funded research application.
- Proposals must include a letter of support/recommendation from the ESI's mentor or department chair (one-page limit).



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### Review Criteria and Process

Accepted applications are evaluated for the following:

- Scientific merit
- Novel concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions to cancer or cancer health disparities research are presented
- Potential for the proposal to lead to a competitive, extramurally funded research application (e.g. R01, R03, K series, etc.)
- Research methods and plans for data collection and analysis are scientifically sound and well-reasoned
- Potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success are presented
- Scientific environment in which the work will be done will contribute to the probability of success
- Do the PI and research team have the training and experience needed to carry out the proposed research?
- **Feasibility to complete work in the proposed time (July 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021)**
- Appropriateness of budget for the proposed work

The GMaP Region 6 Advisory Members will conduct a peer-review of the pilot funding applications. These members are a diverse group of faculty from GMaP Region 6 partner institutions representing all disciplines of cancer and cancer health disparities research. The NIH scoring scale will be used, and the scores will guide the selection of awards.

After the review process, written reviews will be provided to the investigators. Feedback will include whether or not the project represents a good match to the categories of the cancer and cancer health disparities research pilot funding award. Promising proposals will be provided with specific suggestions to enhance competitiveness of the research project. Review and notification will be completed no later than June 1, 2020. Award activation no later than July 1, 2020.

### Awardees' Obligation

The GMaP Region 6 pilot funding award carries several important obligations and responsibilities. Specifically, award recipients agree to the following:

- Awardees must have appropriate institutional regulatory approvals before funds will be allocated. IRB approvals are not required at the time of submission.
- Awardees must submit a one-page six-month progress report. This report is submitted via email and describes: 1) pilot project summary and progress, 2) budget update, and 3) any set-backs.
- Awardees must submit, no later than 90 days after the completion of the project, a two-page report. This report is submitted via email and describes: 1) pilot project progress and results, 2) all publications and funding resulting from the project, and 3) future directions.
- These funds are for one year. It is expected that the grantee will completely utilize the full amount of funding during the one-year term of the award.
- Awardees must acknowledge GMaP Region 6 in any publications or presentations related to their award by including the statement below:

**Statement:** *Funding provided by the National Institutes of Health grant P30 CA042014 (Beckerle, PI). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.*