

## FRONTIERS Clinical and Translational Research Special Request for Proposals: Letter of Interest Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019

Funding Opportunity Title	Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Clinical and Translational Research Pilot Study
Awarding Organization	Frontiers: University of Kansas Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Federal Prime Sponsor	National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
Federal Award Number	UL1 TR002366
Summary of the Funding Opportunity Purpose	COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency: Novel research solutions to address challenges faced by individuals and communities.
Eligibility	Letters of Interest are invited from eligible faculty investigators from all Frontiers partner institutions: University of Kansas Medical Center (Kansas City, Wichita and Salina campuses), University of Kansas, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, Children's Mercy Kansas City, St. Luke's Health System and Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine.
Process	Frontiers will invite up to six full applications following review of a required Letter of Interest. Funding is available to support up to two awards.
Funding	Maximum award amount: \$50,000
Project Duration	July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

The Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic is a public health emergency. Successful management, containment and recovery from this virus requires efforts at all levels of society. Frontiers: University of Kansas Clinical and Translational Science Institute invites letters of interest from investigators for funding to develop novel solutions to challenges posed by COVID-19. Up to two grants of up to \$50,000 will be made to support new research initiatives that will make immediate progress towards reducing the harm to individuals, groups, and society from COVID-19. Applicants should describe how these pilot studies will help them to compete successfully for extramural funding.

Key Dates	
Posted Date	April 1, 2020
Required Letter of Interest Due Date	April 8, 2020, 11:59 pm
Notifications to Applicants Selected for Full Applications	April 10, 2020
Full Proposals and IRB/IACUC Applications Due	April 24, 2020, 11:59 pm
Notification of Award Decision	May 1, 2020
Funding Received/Project Start (pending NCATS approval)	July 1, 2020

## Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed through a two-stage process:

- Eligible investigators will submit a Letter of Interest outlining the significance, innovation and impact of the project and how they will take advantage of available Frontiers resources.
- Up to six applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Selected finalists are encouraged to consult with Frontiers leadership to ensure maximal use of Frontiers resources in the development and execution of their project, which should be detailed in the application. Frontiers resources will be matched with individual project needs in consultation with each finalist.

## Eligibility

- Applicants must have an appointment at a Frontiers institution and be eligible to submit extramural research grant applications.
- Only one proposal will be accepted per principal investigator. An applicant may be a collaborator on other proposals.
- Questions regarding eligibility should be directed to the Administrative Office at [frontiers-info@kumc.edu](mailto:frontiers-info@kumc.edu).

## Eligible Types of Research

All research must directly be related to COVID-19. The types of clinical and translational research supported include, but are not limited to:

- Screening candidate drugs to prevent viral entry into cells, replication, or spread
- Designing strategies to prevent infection after exposure
- Characterizing virus-host interactions in the whole body and in specific organ systems during acute COVID-19 illness
- Safety or feasibility testing of novel therapeutics (Phase 1 testing)
- Assessing impact of COVID-19 illness on caregivers, dependents or relatives
- Understanding genetic or other host factors that alter response to COVID-19 infection
- Understanding individual, regional, or social factors increasing or decreasing community spread of COVID-19
- Determining optimal safety precautions, prophylaxis for health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Optimizing quarantine, containment and eradication strategies using current and projected availability of testing
- Providing evidence-based risk communications and/or outreach services tailored to vulnerable populations (e.g., elderly, limited English proficiency; multigenerational dwelling families, etc.) in high risk/under-resourced communities
- Case tracking and epidemiological approaches to understanding COVID-19 from a global health/international partnership perspective

## Budget Information

Applicants may request up to \$50,000 in direct costs. F&A costs are not awarded. Principal Investigator salary, if requested, cannot exceed \$10,000. Equipment may not exceed 10% of the total budget (i.e., cannot exceed \$5,000). All funds must be expended during the funding

period – extensions are not allowed.

The following costs are **not** covered by these awards:

- Non-Frontiers institution staff salaries (with the exception of required consultants, if justified)
- Administrative or office costs (e.g., office supplies, telephone, etc.). However, videoconferencing costs, if justified, may be allowed.
- Meals or hospitality (e.g., food, beverages, or alcohol)
- Travel that is not directly related to the conduct of research
- Items typically supported by Facilities and Administration costs

### **Letter of Interest Requirements**

All LOIs will be submitted [here](#).

The link to the LOI can also be found on the Frontiers website [here](#).

A preview of all required information in a full application is available [here](#).

### **Additional LOI Guidance**

Notice of Proprietary Information: Applicants are discouraged from submitting information considered proprietary unless it is deemed essential for proper evaluation of the LOI or full application. Applications containing information that constitutes trade secrets, that is financial or commercial, or that is confidential or privileged, should identify the pages that contain this information by marking those paragraphs or lines with an asterisk (\*) at the beginning of the paragraph. Indicate in the REDCap LOI that you have included this notation.

### **Finalists**

Applicants who are invited to submit full applications will be notified and receive Phase 2 application requirements. Because of the short timeline of this funding opportunity, potential applicants may PREVIEW the full application [here](#).

Finalists will be expected to prepare Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Institutional Care and Use Committee (IACUC) documents, if necessary, to be submitted simultaneously with the full application.

Funded awardees are required to provide Frontiers with mid-term and final progress reports and to present results at Frontiers Research events. They are also required to provide details of all published manuscripts, meeting abstracts, and grant applications that result from pilot grants.

### **Contact for Additional Information about the Letter of Interest**

Administrative Office – [frontiers-info@kumc.edu](mailto:frontiers-info@kumc.edu).

**Required naming convention of LOI:** *PILastNameFirstInitial\_LOI*