

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: PILOT AND FEASIBILITY ADVANCE AWARDS TARGETING EARLY CAREER SCIENTISTS FROM UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS

The University of Washington (UW) Nutrition and Obesity Research Center (NORC) are soliciting applications for Pilot and Feasibility Research ADVANCE Awards *targeting talented early career scientists from underrepresented groups*. Proposals may include basic, clinical, translational, or population-based studies with a focus on nutrition, metabolism, and/or obesity and its co-morbidities.

Purpose:

Pilot and Feasibility Research ADVANCE Awards are funded by the NIDDK-funded NORC at the UW as part of an NIDDK initiative to address inequities among the scientific workforce in our field. Their purpose is to provide promising junior investigators from populations underrepresented in biomedical research a mechanism to support their research progress as they launch an academic career in nutrition- and obesity-related research.

Eligibility:

Eligibility is confined to both senior postdoctoral fellows and early career faculty within any school, department or division at UW who meet *NIH criteria establishing underrepresented background*. The proposed research *has to have relevance to nutrition or obesity*.

Support:

Applicants may request up to \$50,000 for one year. The number of awards and funding levels to be granted will be based on the scientific merit of successful proposals. The awards can be used for principal investigator salary (typically no more than 20% of the total direct costs per year, but with justification may be up to maximum of 50%), technical support and research expenses. **Funding begins January 1, 2022.**

Application:

Prospective applicants must submit a **mandatory** letter of intent (LOI) that summarizes pertinent information needed to assess eligibility. This letter must also include a signed statement from the PD(s)/PI(s) clearly establishing the eligibility of the candidate for support under this program. The statement must include:

- *the basis (e.g., race, ethnicity, disability, or disadvantaged status) for the candidate's eligibility as an individual from an underrepresented background.*
- *the relevance of proposed project to nutrition and/or obesity*

LOIs are due by **Friday October 15** and can be submitted to: uwnorc@uw.edu

Eligible applicants will be given detailed instructions regarding the application process. Full applications will consist of a one-page Research Plan and a one-page Candidate section.

Applications require approval by the applicant's departmental chairperson or division head. Approval for human subjects, animal use and/or biohazards must be obtained prior to initiation of funding but are not required for submitting the application. Full applications are due by **Friday December 3**.

If you have questions, please contact UW NORC at uwnorc@uw.edu