

## Veteran's ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PILOT GRANT PROGRAM Proposal Solicitation

### Application Deadline: July 30, 2021

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DATE: July 1, 2021

TO: Faculty, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

FROM: Kenneth Reuhl, Ph.D., Pilot Program Director

SUBJECT: Request for Proposals for 2021-22 CEED/EOHSI New Pilot Grant

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The NIEHS Center for Environmental Exposures and Disease (CEED), in collaboration with the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHSI), is soliciting applications for a new initiative focusing on Veteran's Environmental Health. This program, sponsored by CEED and EOHSI, is being developed in partnership with the Gulf Coast Center for Precision Environmental Health-GCCPEH (P30ES03285, Dr. Cheryl Walker, PI; contact individual Dr. Heyreoun An Han at [Heyreoun.anhan@bcm.edu](mailto:Heyreoun.anhan@bcm.edu)) and the East Orange Veteran's Hospital (Dr. Omowunmi Osinubi, Primary Contact).

**Theme of Program:** The Program is intentionally broad in scope and includes environmental threats encountered during active service. The Program is not restricted to events/exposures encountered while 'in-theater'; the exposures/events can have occurred while deployed internationally or within the United States.

**Requirements of Pilot Program Project:**

1. NIH Biosketch (see next page)
2. Preference will be given to projects that will be competitive for NIEHS grants

**A maximum of \$25,000 will be available for each grant.** Budgetary justification and potential for extramural funding will be significant factors in reviewing these grants. The maximum budget may be exceeded only in exceptional cases. The Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator must be a Rutgers faculty member, with special consideration given to new faculty members. Membership in the NIEHS Center or in EOHSI is not required. However, collaborative projects with individuals at the GCCPEH and/or East Orange VA are **strongly** encouraged.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Each proposal must include the following components:

### **PROJECT NARRATIVE:** up to **four pages** (single-spaced, 11 pt. font, 1" margins):

- A. Title of Project
- B. Investigators (include names, titles, addresses, e-mail and phone numbers)
- C. Hypothesis
- D. Background and significance
- E. Specific Aims, with timeline
- F. Methods and data analysis  
\_\_\_\_ Human subjects: **list and attach active or pending IRB protocol** that is appropriate or can be easily amended to include projected studies  
\_\_\_\_ Animal subjects: list relevant **IACUC protocol and attach approval letter**
- G. Expected Results, Outcomes: \*\*
  - Enhance scientific discovery relevant to environmental health; publications;
  - Grant applications to NIH, especially NIEHS
- H. Relevance to CEED theme of Veteran's Environmental Health
- I. Planned Use of CEED, GCCPEH or East Orange VA Facility Cores

### **PROPOSAL APPENDICES (do not count toward page limits):**

- A. Literature references
- B. **Biosketch** in NIH format; <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>
- C. Other Support Page in NIH format: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/othersupport.htm>
- D. **Budget and Budget Justification**  
Budget Considerations:
  - Direct Costs only - Indirect costs are not permissible
  - Undergraduate stipends up to \$6,000/year (\$3,000/semester) are allowable.
  - No equipment, travel, graduate student stipends, or faculty salary can be supported.
  - Awards will not be granted to the same investigators more than 2 consecutive years.

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### **Review Process**

Applications should be submitted by **July 30, 2021**. Review of the Pilot Grant proposals will receive expedited review. The Director of the Pilot Project Program will first review all applications to confirm that the application meets the basic criteria, and will triage any non-adherent applications immediately. *The CEED Director may offer to assist in fine-tuning applications, at his discretion.* All eligible applications will be sent out for review by internal and external reviewers. Applicants will receive copies of external reviews.

### **Awards and Reporting**

Successful applicants will be sent award letters, including instructions regarding expenditure of funds, by August 15, 2021. All funds must be spent by **March 31, 2022**. By one-year post-funding, funded applicants will be required to give an oral presentation of the project outcome at an NIEHS Center members' meeting.

### **Inquiries and Submission of Proposals:**

**Please e-mail your application by July 30, 2021 to:**

Kristin Borbely, NIEHS Center Administrator  
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Website: <http://ceed.rutgers.edu/pilot-project-program/>