Intramural COVID-19 Research Grant Program

This is an announcement of a LSU Health Sciences Center School of Medicine (SOM) intramural support program for COVID-19 research studies. The goal of this program is to provide the necessary funding to obtain the preliminary and feasibility data needed support the submission of extramural grants through NIH, NSF, DOD or national foundations. Although this opportunity will only be offered for a limited time, the goal is to review the proposals in a streamlined manner. Proposals can be submitted at any time. Although projects from individual investigators are eligible and will be seriously considered, projects involving interconnected collaborative groups are preferred for this grant opportunity. As extramural grant submission dates on COVID-19 research are expected to be released rapidly, this intramural program is designed to fund proposals with a maximum duration of one year to better position our researchers to compete for this funding.

Eligibility – All full-time faculty members in the SOM are eligible to apply for support from this program.

Application Procedure – Proposals can be submitted at any time, and we will try to expedite reviews. For release of funds, all IBC, IACUC, and IRB approvals will be needed. Proposals should be submitted to SOMResearch@lsuhsc.edu.

Evaluation – Proposals will be evaluated based on feasibility, scientific merit, the likelihood that investigator(s) will be able to submit a competitive extramural proposal, and the development of collaborative teams to address this problem.

Reporting – The major goal of this program is to position our investigators to compete for extramural funding and/or to provide a solution to an aspect of this pandemic. Consequently, an update on the progress of the study will be required 3 months after initiation of the project.

Application Format –

1. Title Page:
   a. Title of the research project
   b. Submitting applicant information (name, degree, academic rank, campus address, e-mail address, and telephone number)
   c. List of applicants on the team
2. Specific Aims (1/2 page suggested: 1 page maximum)
3. Research Plan (1 page; up to 3 pages are acceptable if necessary)
4. Resources needed – As part of this COVID-19 initiative, we are building a biorepository where biological samples may be available for these COVID research projects. Please include the samples required and the amounts. A listing of the available tissues include saliva, nasopharyngeal swabs, blood, plasma, serum. Other samples may become available in the future. If you have a need for these resources, please fill-out this spreadsheet.
5. Plans for Obtaining Extramural Support and expected time-frame.
7. Budget and Justification (The maximum requested budget will be $75,000, with a maximum duration of 1 year).