

CALL for PILOT GRANT PROPOSALS:

POPULATION STUDIES, POPULATION HEALTH AND/OR AGING
UP TO \$20,000, **DUE DATES ARE MAY 1 AND NOVEMBER 1**

This is a joint call for proposals for pilot grants to be funded by one or more of three related Berkeley initiatives:

- The **Berkeley Population Center** (BPC, www.popcenter.berkeley.edu) has just received 5-years of center grant funding from NICHD, a major portion of which is for pilot grants.
- The **Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Program**, <http://www.hss.medschool.ucsf.edu/>, has funding available for pilot grants.
- The **Center on the Demography and Economics of Aging** (CEDA, www.ceda.berkeley.edu,) continues its long-standing NIA-funded pilot grant program.

We will consider pilot project proposals in any area of population studies, broadly defined, as per the missions of each center. You may indicate which of these initiatives you think is most appropriate for funding the pilot project, but that is not necessary. Our goal in considering pilot proposals jointly across these initiatives is to allocate funds efficiently to the most meritorious proposals.

The deadline for this open and general call for proposals is May 1 and November 1, but applications are accepted at any time. BPC and CEDA plan to issue two of these general calls per year. In addition, there will be calls for proposals in special areas throughout the year. Proposals may request up to \$20,000, to be spent within 12 months of the actual award, after which remaining funds revert to the center budgets. A one paragraph report on the project is also due after this 12 month period. An important goal of the pilot program is to generate regular research proposals to NICHD or NIA, and proposals successful proposals are those viewed as likely to lead to an R01 or R03 submission [an R01 is a typical research grant; an R03 supports small research projects of short duration that usually involve exploratory or feasibility studies or secondary analysis of existing data].

Eligibility

BPC grants: Must have principal investigator status at UC Berkeley. Priority for BPC pilot grants will be given to BPC faculty affiliates, new investigators in population research (particularly junior faculty), and projects likely to lead to new NICHD proposals. BPC faculty and signature themes (including demography, families, labor, immigration, and population health) are listed on the center website <http://population.berkeley.edu>, but pilot grant support is not limited to research on these themes.

- *CEDA grants:* Must have PI status at Berkeley or, if at another institution, be a CEDA member.

- *RWJ grants*: must have PI status at UC Berkeley **or** be a postdoctoral scholar at either UCSF or Berkeley.

Application Format

The application procedure is very simple, requiring a two – four page proposal describing your project, giving motivation, theory, data, method, and any preliminary findings. See the Pilot Grants Guideline document for details. Be sure to indicate whether the project involves human subjects. The proposal should also say whether it is expected that the research will lead to a regular NIH (NICHD or NIA) proposal. A couple of sentences explaining how you plan to spend the money should be attached. If the proposal is selected for funding, either Leora Lawton (Berkeley Population Center) or Bob Barde (at IBER, the Institute of Business and Economic Research) will help develop a more formal budget, if necessary.

Funds can be used for paying a GSR, purchasing data, summer salary, Xlab experiments, and other reasonable purposes (but typically not for equipment). In general, funds can not be sent to collaborators in foreign countries. RWJ funds come with a 1 September start date.

Proposals are due by COB on May 1 and November 1, annually.

If you are thinking of submitting a proposal, you are welcome to email or phone Will Dow, Ron Lee or Ray Catalano first to discuss it. Submit the proposal by email to Leora Lawton, llawton@berkeley.edu. Proposals will be evaluated by separate committees for each of the initiatives, and we will endeavor to respond promptly. You may ask Leora Lawton to review your proposal informally reviewed before submission.