

# Clinical Translational Research Center (CTRC) Clinical Research Feasibility Fund (CReFF) Award

**Description:** Funding Available for Junior Investigators Utilizing Schubert Research Clinic (SRC) Resources

**Deadline:** November 1, 2018 at 12:00 Noon

**Submit electronic copy and one hard copy of completed application to:**

Christy Keller, SRC Coordinator, email: [christina.keller@cchmc.org](mailto:christina.keller@cchmc.org). For questions, contact Christy at 513-803-1842. Location: Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training (CCTST), Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) Location S 2.500, MLC 11028, Cincinnati, Ohio 45229.

## Qualifications/Eligibility:

The CReFF award is designed to provide funding for junior investigators who are on a well-planned clinical research career path with committed and supportive mentors. The applicant should describe in the cover letter how the data will lead to a K, R01 or foundation grant application.

- **YOUR STUDY MUST UTILIZE SCHUBERT RESEARCH CLINIC (SRC) RESOURCES.** If not, there are other pilot funding opportunities (see <http://cctst.uc.edu/funding>). The SRC is the clinical research facility core of the NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA)-funded CCTST, with space for outpatient visits available, as well as nursing services. Make sure that you are planning to use the SRC. The available resources are listed on the SRC webpage:  
<https://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/research/cincinnati/support/schubert-clinic>
- Junior faculty (based at UC, CCHMC or Cincinnati VAMC) with a rank of instructor or assistant professor.
- Fellows who are not faculty may be candidates when it is anticipated they will have a faculty appointment during the course of the CReFF Award.
- To be eligible, candidates **must** either have an active SRC-approved protocol or submit one for review with their application. The project **should utilize substantive SRC resources, particularly nursing services, outpatient visits, etc.** The CReFF was not designed for studies that require minimal resources, e.g., sample processing and storage, a few blood draws, etc. **Applicants are strongly advised to contact Dr. Mark Mitsnefes (Program Director, SRC) at [mark.mitsnefes@cchmc.org](mailto:mark.mitsnefes@cchmc.org) prior to submitting their application, and should submit their study protocol documents to the SRC Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at least one month in advance of the CReFF review meeting to facilitate resolving scientific or other issues.**
- The SAC approval process for the study protocol **must** be completed before an investigator is considered for a CReFF award. Protocol submission documents may be obtained from Christy Keller, SRC Coordinator, email: [christina.keller@cchmc.org](mailto:christina.keller@cchmc.org) or on the SRC webpage (see link above).
- Applicants **must** be CCTST members. To join free of charge, go to: <http://cctst.uc.edu/user/register>

## **Not Eligible:**

- **Faculty with independent funding (R01, P01, etc.).**
- **Faculty with training grant funding (K12, K23, KL2, PS2, etc.).** CReFF was designed to support transition to Ks or another initial extramural grant (R or foundation funding). If you are thinking of applying for K funding

# Clinical Research Feasibility Fund Award

## Page 2

in the future and have questions about the timing of CReFF funding vs. K funding or how the CReFF could help you strengthen your NIH application, please contact the Program Director, Dr. Mark Mitsnefes, at [mark.mitsnefes@cchmc.org](mailto:mark.mitsnefes@cchmc.org).

- **Faculty who are recipients of major CCTST grants (≥ \$7,500), Cincinnati Children's Research Foundation (CCRF) Trustee grants, Procter Scholar program funding, or Place Outcomes Research Awards.**

## Required Application Documents:

- **A cover letter** from the investigator for any projects seeking support. The letter should include a description of the applicant's career plan. Specifically, the letter should include a description of how support from the CReFF Program will allow the candidate to seek external support based upon the pilot data collected from it. The letter should also indicate which funding agencies are appropriate for funding the project after the pilot study is completed, and a timetable for potential submission of grants for extramural support.
- **A detailed description of the CReFF support budget** (up to \$20,000). Funds can be expended on costs not usually covered by resources available through the SRC such as coordinator salary, laboratory costs, patient incentives, etc. Investigators' salaries are not an allowable budget item. This detailed budget must be accompanied by a second budget with detail about the entire cost of the project. If the project cannot be carried out for \$20,000, an explanation of the source of additional funds must be included. The person who has authority over the source of additional funds must write a letter indicating they will be forthcoming if the candidate is successful in getting a CReFF award.
- **A copy of the applicant's biosketch in the NIH 5-page format** which should include any current or pending intramural (including CCTST, Procter Scholar, Place Outcomes or Trustee Grant applications) or extramural support.
- **Letters of recommendation by the applicant's research mentor and Division or Department Head.** Specifically detailed in the letter should be a description of how the applicant will be supported by the mentor and Division or Department Head **including a description of the applicant's protected time** (% effort) available for completion of the project. Support is defined as protection of time, funding or allocation of resources to facilitate the project.
- **Current study protocol**

## If Your Application is Funded:

- **The CReFF funds must be spent within two calendar years of receiving the award. The date of the award will be in the CReFF award letter. (Email Dr. Mitsnefes for approval if you need to go beyond one year.)**
- **A final report (limited to no more than 3 pages) will be required at the time of termination of the project (two years).** The report should include a description of the hypothesis, aims, brief description of methods, and results with interpretation and discussion of how they will be used to submit or obtain extramural funding.