



**Request for Pilot Proposals
Center on Aging and Population Sciences (CAPS)**

Proposal Deadline: January 9, 2023

We invite investigators to submit proposals for pilot funding to support research projects for the period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Information and Q&A session: December 2, 2022 at 2 pm

Zoom link: <https://utexas.zoom.us/j/91713154914>

Questions may be addressed to:

Karen Fingerman, kfingerman@austin.utexas.edu or Debra Umberson, umberson@austin.utexas.edu

Submit proposals to caps@utexas.edu

Subject: Attn: Pilot Project Proposal

Pilot Project Goals

We seek cutting edge research to illuminate how biological, psychosocial, and environmental factors intersect throughout the life course to generate disparities in health and well-being at older ages.

Proposals will be given priority that address:

- Life course precursors of later life health and well-being
- Family demography, social engagement, and social isolation
- Place and health including neighborhoods, geographic region, and other indicators of place

Pilot projects should be designed to support the development of a larger research project that will be submitted under an NIA grant mechanism (R03, R01, R21). Pilot projects are not intended to support work to complete a study or as an addendum to an existing project. NIA considers the success rate of grants submitted from the pilot projects when making decisions about funding future CAPS pilot projects.

Budget

Pilot projects may be funded up to the amount of \$40,000. Pilot project budgets may be used to cover expenses related to the proposed study within guidelines for federally allowable expenses. In special circumstances, larger budgets will be considered. Investigator salary may not be included in the budget. A budget prepared for NIA submission is required. Please email caps@utexas.edu to develop a sufficiently detailed budget for the pilot proposal.

Project time periods are for one year, and all proposed work must be accomplished during that period. Again, this is an important metric in reporting to NIA on the success of our pilot program. Depending on NIA allocations, we will typically fund 4 to 5 projects

Pilot Project Proposal Requirements (See template below)

- **Investigators and affiliations**
- **Project title**
- **Text of the Proposal (approximately 2 pages total)**
 - **Specific Aims**
 - **Significance and Methods**
 - **Match with CAPS Themes**
- **End Products**
- **Timeline (approx. ¼ page)**
 - Tasks and goals for the project broken down by quarters.
 - Plan for submitting larger grant to NIA, specifying the mechanism
- **Budget (approx. ½ to 1 page)**
 - Detailed budget
 - Budget justification
- **NIH Biosketch**

Please format your proposal using the template at the end of this announcement

Projects selected for funding will also be required to provide an NIH section on human subjects

- **NIH protection of human subjects information including enrollment table**
- **IRB approval**

Review Criteria

- Topic area: Alignment with CAPS themes and population science
- Potential impact and innovation: Extending prior science via cutting-edge methodology
- Scientific design: Including conceptual framework, methodology, and measurement
- Feasibility: Timeline and budget appropriate for project goals and design
- End product goals: Presentations, publications, and grant submission
- Investigators:
 - Early stage investigators:
 - Track record of publication
 - Strong interest in grant proposal process and intention to submit a proposal
 - Consultants and mentors appropriate for the project
 - Mid-career and senior investigators
 - History of high impact research
 - Funding record
 - Investigative team has high potential for funding from NIA
- Project teams including investigators who are:
 - New to aging research
 - From under-represented groups
 - Multidisciplinary
- Collaboration with other NIA funded P30 centers also is encouraged

PLEASE USE THIS TEMPLATE IN PREPARING YOUR PROPOSAL

Investigator and affiliation

Example Applicant, Associate Professor, Sociology, the University of Texas at Austin

Co-Investigator and affiliation

Example Co-Investigator, Professor, Economics, the University of Texas at Austin

Project Title

Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Life Course Events Predicting Late Life Health

Aims

The project has three aims:

Aim 1. Identify gaps in the literature about racial and ethnic diversity in early XXX experiences

Aim 2. Combine data on XXXXX

Aim 3. Prepare preliminary analyses to be used in an NIA proposal and prepare a proposal.

Significance

Provide scientific premise, public health significance, goals for each Aim

Method

Research design for each Aim.

CAPS Themes

Provide a paragraph that indicates how the proposed Aims and research questions are linked to one or more of the themes.

End product

The ultimate goal of this project is to prepare an R01 application to the NIA about disparities in XXXX. To achieve this goal, the investigators will use the pilot data to XXXX.

Timeline

Prepare a detailed time line for each quarter of the year of the pilot proposal.

| Quarter | Dates | Activities |
|----------------|--------------------|--|
| 1 | July – Sept, 2023 | |
| 2 | Oct – Dec, 2023 | |
| 3 | Jan – March, 2024 | |
| 4 | April – June, 2024 | Prepare R01 for submission date October 2024 |

Biosketch

Provide an NIH formatted biosketch for each investigator.

Biosketch format pages instructions, and samples are available here:

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>