

**The University of Maryland
Marlene & Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center
&
The Johns Hopkins University
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**FY14 State of Maryland Cigarette Restitution Funds
Biotechnology Pilot Grant Program**

The University of Maryland Marlene & Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center (UMGCC) and the Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center (SKCCC) are pleased to announce the FY14 State of Maryland Cigarette Restitution Funds Biotechnology Pilot Grant Program.

This initiative is funded by the State of Maryland Cigarette Restitution Funds and is designed to foster collaborative research & support commercialization with Maryland-based biotech companies as well as investigators of both institutions.

We encourage:

- Creative teams of public and private sector investigators working across disciplinary boundaries;
- New research foci and the underlying basic science to pursue future health care improvements and/or technologies; and
- Submission of innovative basic and translational science research proposals to federal, public or private funding agencies.

Projects must promote and further cancer research and/or prevention, including but not limited to: those in the fields of personalized medicine, bioinformatics, bioengineering, complex therapeutics, health care optimization, public health informatics, health information technology and health science research. Projects that directly support, or may lead to commercialization of a technology to diagnose, treat or alleviate cancer related illnesses will be given priority.

To be considered for this pilot grant opportunity, a proposal meeting the attached guidelines must be submitted no later than May 16, 2014. Proposals should address the scientific merits of the proposed research and identify and justify NIH, NSF or other funding programs that would be receptive of a full proposal that contains preliminary results obtained.

Two awards for \$100,000 each will be made.

Individual investigators may submit multiple proposals but can participate as a PI on only one awarded proposal. The top-ranked proposal after peer review will be the one eligible for funding. Investigators can serve as collaborators on an unlimited number of proposals.

If you have detailed questions regarding application guidelines, please contact Robert Mitchell, Associate Director for Administration at the Marlene & Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center at rmitchell1@umm.edu or 410-328-6834.

**Proposals must be emailed to Mr. Mitchell as a combined pdf file prior to 5:00 PM EST
May 16, 2014**

Criteria:

Eligibility: All full-time faculty at the rank of assistant professor or higher at either UMGCC or SKCCC are eligible. Applications must be made by a Principal Investigator at either UMGCC or SKCCC and must include a member of a Maryland biotech firm as a Co-Principal Investigator. Applicants must be a member of either UMGCC or SKCCC. This award program seeks to encourage groups of researchers (minimum of two PIs) to collaborate on new avenues of research that would not otherwise be explored by any one group alone. The program may support cross-campus teams with the inclusion of the private sector. The research project must be original, creative, innovative and directly related to cancer research or prevention, and be beyond the scope of a typical single research group. The research is expected to lead to new external funding.

Expectations: Award recipients are expected to produce sufficient preliminary results so that a proposal for external funding may be submitted within 12 months after award expiration. Such a proposal is a desired outcome, but is not mandatory. However, we expect that publication(s) or manuscript(s) will result from the funded work. Awardees will participate in annual Progress Reviews(s) or other events that bridge campuses and the private sector and bring researchers together. Recipients will remain faculty members of the participating school throughout the course of the grant, with any substitutions requiring approval in advance.

Review: Proposals will be evaluated by a joint UMGCC-SKCCC committee that include faculty from both campuses, as well as commercialization and licensing representatives from either institution. Applicants should not expect detailed written critiques of their proposals. Proposals will be reviewed for: 1) how well the project meets the goals of the Pilot Grant Program, including the composition of the team of investigators; 2) meeting criteria (e.g., relevance to future public health concerns, significance, innovation, approach and qualification of investigative team/environment to carry out the aims); and 3) likelihood of commercialization and attracting outside funding in the future.

Allowable Expenses: Research supplies; travel for research purposes (excluding travel to meetings or symposia); matching funds for research items; and salary support for a temporary position (1 year or less) for technicians, research associates (post-docs) and/or graduate students.

Expenses Not Allowed: Salaries for PIs, secretarial support, general telephone services and postage, equipment purchases, computers/laptops, alterations or renovations of laboratory space, purchase of laboratory or office furniture, purchase of periodicals and books, and dues and

memberships in scientific societies. Facility & Administrative Costs (Indirect Costs) are not permitted.

Conditions of the Award:

1. Awards are made to PIs and are not transferable without prior approval by both institutions.
2. A brief progress report and a final report of expenditures (within 90 days of completion) must be prepared and submitted to Mr. Mitchell
3. For a period of up to two years after completion of the project, periodic surveys must be completed on patent, invention, creation of new companies, technology for commercialization or other areas of interest to the institutions.
4. For a period of up to two years after completion of the project, the PI may be asked to file an updated listing all presentations, published papers and extramural funds that have resulted, in whole or in part, from the project.
5. Funds should be budgeted for completion and exhausted at the end of one calendar year. Remaining or unspent funds are to be returned.

Other: The proposal should also identify specific research goals that will enhance the success of a full proposal, as well as provide a specific targeted timeline by which these objectives can be reasonably achieved. Finally, the proposal should provide a budget that adequately reflects the intended use of the funds with respect to the proposed objectives for each institutional component.

Application Guidelines

Your proposal must contain the items outlined below, under the page limitations provided. Proposals failing to meet these guidelines will not be considered for funding. Anticipated funding start date will be July 1, 2014.

Cover Page (limited to 1 page):

Title of Project

Names of all Co-PIs-(For university employees, specify faculty status, and school/college affiliation. Identify one academic PI as Point of Contact. For private sector/biotech specify name & address. All entities should provide full contact information for the business official responsible for the administration of the award.

Statement of Collaborative Effort – A specific statement as to how the collaboration between the investigators from each campus & private entity is necessary to move this research proposal forward, is requested. This should include processes for maintaining communication and interactions, and monitoring of equitable distribution of intellectual involvement.

Proposed Research (maximum 5 single-spaced pages) including:

Specific Aims - Describe the overall strategy, methodology and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed and interpreted, as well as any resource sharing plans, as appropriate.

Project Description - (including Project Plan, expected outcomes) include two or three sentences describing the public health relevance of the project and commercial benefit (where applicable).

Please comment on how this interaction will impact the research program's future direction and the following:

Significance: 1) Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses; 2) explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields; and 3) describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

Innovation: 1) Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms; 2) describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or intervention(s) to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation or intervention(s); and 3) explain any refinements, improvements or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions.

Budget (limited to 1 page): Total amount of Funds being requested; individual and detailed budgets for each campus. The maximum request is \$100,000 Direct Costs. Facility & Administrative Costs (Indirect Costs) are not permitted.

Additional Information: Biosketches – NIH format (all investigators); Identified Future Funding source - (be explicit- which program in which agency will be targeted for a future application); References (including full titles).