



CFAR International Developmental Research Awards OVERVIEW & INSTRUCTIONS

Overview

Core Director: Rahm Gummuluru, PhD (rgummuluru@bu.edu)

Core Director: Benjamin Linas, MD (Benjamin.linas@bmc.org)

Core Director: Ira Wilson, MD (ira_wilson@brown.edu)

Project Coordinator: Rhonda DiCesare (rdicesare@lifespan.org)

The CFAR International Developmental Research Program offers initial and pilot awards to investigators in Kenya, Philippines, South African, Russia, Uganda, and Ukraine. Each of these focus countries offer an existing academic affiliation with Brown or Boston University, in the academic institutions noted below:

- Kenya – Moi University & Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital
- Philippines – University of the Philippines
- Russia - First Pavlov State Medical University of St. Petersburg
- South Africa - University of Cape Town, South African Medical Research Council, Stellenbosch University, and the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS)
- Uganda – Makerere University
- Ukraine - Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy (UIPHP), Kyiv, and Bogomolets National Medical University, Kyiv

International Developmental grant recipients are expected to successfully apply for subsequent grant funding and to publish manuscripts related to their CFAR-supported research. The extent of further funding of the International Developmental Program will be primarily determined by the scientific productivity of pilot grant recipients.

Eligibility

The Providence/Boston Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) accepts International Developmental grant applications for Initial and Pilot Awards from investigators who meet the criteria below. In you have any questions about these criteria, please [contact us](#).

Credentials

To be eligible for an International Developmental Award, applicants must possess a doctoral-level degree and have an academic appointment at or above Assistant Professor (or equivalent) at **one of the international institutions noted above**. Each of these six universities have existing University-University affiliations with either Brown or Boston Universities.

Postdoctoral fellows may **not** apply for International Developmental Awards nor can funds be used to provide salary support for postdoctoral fellows.

CFAR Collaborator

All international applicants must collaborate with a CFAR faculty member on the International Developmental Award. CFAR collaborators must have faculty appointments at either Brown University or Boston University at or above the level of Assistant Professor. The CFAR collaborator should help with the preparation and submission of the application while strengthening the professional relationship between the Providence/Boston CFAR and the international academic institution. Additionally, if funded, the CFAR collaborator will help obtain the necessary domestic IRB approvals for the project through the collaborators home institution.

Postdoctoral fellows may not serve as the CFAR collaborator on International Developmental Awards.

In Country Contact

The role of the in-Country Contact is to ensure that the applicant has a doctoral degree and an academic appointment of at least Assistant Professor (or equivalent) at the international site and that the project proposed aligns with the research goals of the international site. In Country contacts must sign the application prior to submission.

KENYA

Moi University & Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital

- In country contact: Winston Nyandiko (nyandikom@yahoo.com)
- US Contact: E. Jane Carter (e_jane_carter@brown.edu) or Rami Kantor (rami_kantor@brown.edu), Janet O'Connell (jvoconnell@lifespan.org)

PHILIPPINES

University of the Philippines

- In country contact: Laufred Hernandez (lihernandez@up.edu.ph)
- US Contact: Susan Cu-Uvin (scu-uvn@lifespan.org) or Don Operario (don_operario@brown.edu), Eileen Caffrey (Eileen_Caffrey@brown.edu)

UGANDA

Makerere University

- In country contact: Moses Joloba (mlj10@case.edu)
- US Contact: Manish Sagar (manish.sagar@bmc.org)

SOUTH AFRICA

University of Cape Town

- In country contact: Chris Colvin (coldvine@gmail.com)
- US Contacts: Mark Lurie (mark_lurie@brown.edu)

South African Medical Research Council

- In country contact: Cathy Mathews (Cathy.Mathews@mrc.ac.za) or Bronwyn Myers (Bronwyn.myers@mrc.ac.za)
- US Contacts: Mark Lurie (mark_lurie@brown.edu) or Karen Jacobson (kjacobso@bu.edu)

Stellenbosch University

- In country contact: Robin Warren (rw1@sun.ac.za)
- US Contacts: Karen Jacobson (kjacobso@bu.edu)

University of the Witwatersrand (WITS)

- In country contact: Ian Sanne (Ian.Sanne@righttocare.org) or Jacqui Miot (jmiot@heroza.org)
- US Contacts: Sydney Rosen (sbrosen@bu.edu) or Matthew Fox (mfox@bu.edu)

RUSSIA

First St. Petersburg Pavlov State Medical University/Global Health Institute

- In country contact: Dr. Evgeny Krupitsky (kruenator@gmail.com)
- US Contact: Kaku So-Armah (kaku@bu.edu)

UKRAINE

Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy (UIPHP), Kyiv

- In country contact: Tetiana Kiriazova, PhD (kiriazova@uiphp.org.ua)
- US contact: Natasha Rybak (nrybak@lifespan.org)

Bogomolets National Medical University, Kyiv

- In country contact: Maria Dolynska, MD, PhD (dolynskamaria@gmail.com)
- US contact: Natasha Rybak (nrybak@lifespan.org)

Types of Applications

Applications are accepted for the CFAR International Developmental Awards and provide support for two types of projects:

1. Initial AIDS Research Projects: International basic or clinical investigators that do not have any previous or current independent NIH research support or equivalent foundation research support. The major goal is to provide support for international junior investigators to carry out mentored research that will provide the background for an application to NIH or another International Agency (USAID, UNAIDS, WHO, etc) for HIV/AIDS funding.
2. Pilot Projects: Awards will be made for Pilot Projects to established international basic or clinical investigators in other disciplines who are new to HIV/AIDS research. The major goal is to provide support to foster interdisciplinary research among our international researchers and their institutions.

Instructions

1. Applications will ONLY be accepted from investigators who have submitted a Letter of Intent (LOIs are due on November 1st) and received notification from the CFAR Administrative Office that approval has been granted to submit a full proposal.
2. Each application must be submitted by an international Principal Investigator who is based at one of the academic institutions in Kenya (Moi University & Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital), Philippines (University of the Philippines), Uganda (Makerere University and Mbarara University of Science and Technology), or South Africa (University of Cape Town, South African Medical Research Council, University of Witwatersrand), Russia (First St. Petersburg Pavlov State Medical University/Global Health Institute), and Ukraine (Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy and Bogomolets National Medical University). In addition, a CFAR collaborator/mentor with an academic appointment at Brown or Boston University must be named as a participating investigator on the study.
3. Application packets must be completed, signed, and include the following documents:
 - Application Cover Sheet for International Awards
 - Abstract describing the research (500 words or less)
 - Budget: Most of the budget must be intended for the international Principal Investigator's home country/institution. Budgets can include salary/fringe for the international Principal

Investigator and research staff. Budgets may not include salary support for CFAR collaborators, equipment, or indirects. Please use the PHS398 form page 4 for the budget detail.

- a. Travel: The budget may include travel between New England and the international investigator's institution, or other destinations as deemed essential. Travel between countries must be well-justified in the application. Grant funds can not be used for travel to scientific meetings. The only exception is that unfunded junior investigators may include travel to a scientific meeting to present the results of the awarded CFAR International Developmental grant.
- Budget justification: The budget justification must include a detailed explanation for all expenses noted in the budget. Describe the role of each person (paid or unpaid) who is listed under Personnel.
 - A statement of how the awarding of the international developmental grant will enhance chances for outside funding. For established investigators applying for Pilot Awards, please provide an additional statement addressing how the CFAR International developmental application avoids duplication of any current NIH funded research or International Agency (USAID, UNAIDS, WHO, etc.) funding.
 - A statement of how the proposal directly addresses the [NIH HIV/AIDS Priorities](#) must be included.
 - A Research Plan (maximum 4 pages excluding references and timeline) which includes:
 - a. Specific Aims (1/2 page)
 - b. Background and Significance (1/2 – 1 page)
 - c. Preliminary Studies/Data (1/2 – 1 page)
 - d. Approach/Experimental design and methods (2 pages), which should include appropriate analytical program for the proposal as well as a data management plan, if appropriate.

Excluded from 4-page limit:

- e. 12-month timeline – must include table with expected timeline of completion
 - f. References
- An NIH-format biosketch for the international Principal Investigator, CFAR Collaborator(s) and co-investigators. It is expected that each application will contain at least two biosketches: one for the international PI and one for the primary CFAR Collaborator. The NIH biosketch format must include other support information such as current and pending support, percent of effort, grant number, grant title, and total project beginning and ending dates.
 - Letters of support from the international site Departmental Chair/Chief or Dean and the CFAR Collaborator. All letters from the Chair/Chief or Dean must include a statement on the availability of institutional resources for the proposed study; assurance of protected time for Principal Investigator; and a statement of institutional commitment to the development of the PI's career. Letters should be addressed to: Providence/Boston CFAR Review Committee, 164 Summit Avenue, CFAR Building, Room 134, Providence, RI 02906 and included with the application packet.
 - If your proposal is selected for funding, appropriate international IREC and domestic IRB will be required prior to activation. Specific checklists and required documents will need to be submitted within 4 weeks of award notification. Additional information regarding this supplemental information will be included in the notification of award.

You are encouraged to contact the relevant Core Directors when designing your study, your CFAR Collaborator should be able to help you identify the Cores most relevant and facilitate the request for services. A listing of the CFAR Cores and services can be found [here](#).

Format

1. Minimum margins for additional test pages are 1/2 inch on all sides. Minimum font size throughout the application in 11 point.
2. Number pages consecutively at the bottom. Include applicant's name at the top right-hand corner on all but cover page.
3. Submit one complete electronic copy including all support letters by email to the CFAR Administrative Office at: cfar@lifespan.org. The CFAR office should receive the electronic copy of the application no later than 5:00pm EST on **Friday, January 10, 2022**.
4. For additional information, please contact Rhonda DiCesare, CFAR Project Coordinator, at 401-793-4867 or via email at rdicesare@lifespan.org.

You may contact the CFAR Project Coordinator with any questions regarding the submission of an application or to check on the status of your submitted application.

Evaluation

International Developmental Award applications are evaluated based on investigator eligibility, relevance to the [NIH HIV/AIDS research priorities](#), scientific merit, relevance and potential for generating subsequent funding and publications.

All international developmental applications must address an aspect of HIV/AIDS research relevant to the primary investigator's home country. We encourage applications in areas related to the basic, clinical and behavioral approaches to HIV/AIDS research. Applicants are strongly encouraged to use the [CFAR Core Services](#) when appropriate.

Review Process

Under the direction of the Developmental Core Directors, each application will be evaluated by a team of at least two reviewers with expertise related to the science addressed in the application. Applicants may suggest or request exclusion of specific reviewers. Reviewers will provide an evaluation of the application along with a numerical score. The CFAR Executive Committee will consider these evaluations in making final funding decisions. Written Critiques of the proposed research will be provided to all applicants.

Reporting Requirements

Investigators are required to notify Rhonda DiCesare (rdicesare@lifespan.org) in writing of significant changes in the focus of the research, conduct of the research plan, or significant rebudgeting of funds during the project.

Interim progress reports and mentor evaluation forms (if appropriate) must be submitted to the CFAR Administrative office (cfar@lifespan.org) every six months. The interim progress reports must include a brief report on the progress to date, copy of the appropriate committee approval letters (i.e., IRB, Animal Welfare, DNA, etc.) if appropriate, and include any resulting collaborations, resulting publications, resulting awards or applications submitted to outside funding agencies and foundations. We are required by NIH to obtain IRB

and IREC approvals on an annual basis. We are not able to provide funding to institutions that do not perform annual IRB/IREC reviews.

Within 30 days of completing the project, the investigator is required to submit a final progress report stating preliminary scientific findings, a report of any possible research applications that may stem from the project, and any publications that resulted from the research. Recipients will also be required to report applications or publications that result from this project on an annual basis for three years after the completion of the project.

Expected Outcomes

It is expected that all awardees will publish results from the CFAR International Developmental project in a peer reviewed journal and/or present their research at a research forum either at the international or domestic site. It is also anticipated that awardees will utilize the data obtained from the developmental project to apply for subsequent funding from NIH or other external funding agencies.