



Pediatric Research

Center for Endothelial Biology (CEB)

Request for Applications for Funding

Mature Research Project (MRP; \$100,000)

Pilot Research Project (PRP, \$50,000)

Purpose

The Center for Endothelial Biology (CEB) has received funds from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (Children's) to award research projects in endothelial cell biology related pediatric research. Mission of the CEB is to enhance human health by conducting vertically integrated research and training aimed at developing innovative approaches to preserve, augment and restore endothelial function in vascular disorders of global importance. The objectives of this Program are:

- a) To increase understanding of how blood disorders, inflammation, infectious diseases and medical interventions, including device and cellular therapies alter endothelial function in children, and influence the development of serious cardiovascular complications.
- b) To increase the number of investigators affiliated with Children's with a primary research focus on the endothelium, or other vascular related tissues, towards the development of a program (P01) project in endothelial cell biology.

These awards will fund new meritorious projects that have **NOT** previously received extramural support. We are particularly interested in projects that would have been submitted to the NIH for peer-review as R01 or R21 application at the time of the CEB award. Projects should propose basic physiological, cellular and molecular investigations to elucidate the mechanisms that alter endothelial function in children in one of the following areas:

- Infectious disease
- Blood disorders and blood transfusion
- Inflammation and regenerative medicine

- Biomedical engineering
- Nutrition

Please note that projects that focus entirely on cultured cells would not be responsive to this request for applications

Eligibility

At least one investigator must be a member of the Children's professional staff or faculty member in Emory Department of Pediatrics. The PI and co-investigators must have the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research. Senior investigators with established independent programs as well as junior investigators on a pathway to independence (as reflected by a tenure track position and/or career development funding such as a K award from NIH or foundation support such as the American Heart Association) are encouraged to apply. In all cases, an important goal of the Program is to encourage collaborations focused on the endothelium. We therefore strongly encourage submission of **collaborative projects** by two independent investigators or a senior/junior investigator partnership.

Key Dates

Submission Deadline	February 1, 2010
Award Decisions	February 26, 2010
Funding Period	March 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010
Interim Progress Project Report	September 1, 2010

Application Format

Please submit a PDF version of the application that includes the following:

- 1) Face Page: Use NIH SF424 face page
- 2) 10-page (MRP) or 5-page (PRP) single-spaced, Arial 11 font, 1" margin scientific plan document that provides the following:
 - **Specific Aims** (Clearly state the hypothesis-driven questions being addressed.
 - **Significance** (Note that exhaustive background is not required. Just highlight why this research is significant generally, and making sure to include the relevance of the research problem in child health.
 - **Innovation** (Use this section to explain why this research is new, and important. How would information gained from this work improve current clinical practice, or shift or change existing paradigms).
 - **Approach** (Include preliminary data and experimental design and methods in this section. While the amount of preliminary data may vary for the two award mechanisms. It is essential to demonstrate

Conceptual and **Practical** feasibility for the proposed research for both MRP and PRP applications)

- 3) 1-page summary addressing the following two additional review criteria:
 - **Extramural Funding Plan:** Provide specific plans for extramural funding applications related to this project for PRP applications, and the date of submission of the NIH application for the MRP applications.
 - **Leveraging of resources:** Explain how the seed grant will stimulate additional opportunities and resources from the parent institutions that will promote sustainable interactions and ongoing collaborations.
- 4) **Letter of Support** from Department Chairs or Institutional Officials agreeing to the goals of the project and the terms of the award, including absence of institutional overhead costs if award is funded.
- 5) **NIH format Bio-sketch for Principal Investigators**
- 6) **NIH format Other Support page for Principal Investigator**
- 7) **Budget with the following details and documentation:**
 - Total direct costs maximum of \$100,000 (MRP) and \$50,000 (PRP)
 - Principal Investigator salary is allowed at not more than 20% of total cost
 - Postdoc/Research Specialist salary allowed at no more than 35% of total cost
 - A minimum of 70% of total budget should be directed towards project cost which includes salary for postdoc/research specialist (maximum 50%) and consumables. Budgets must be fully expended by December 31, 2010 – no carry-forward will be allowed.
 - **Travel and equipment are not allowed.**

Review Criteria

The new NIH enhancement review criteria will be used. In addition, additional criteria used in making recommendations for funding will include relevance to center goals, need for conducting project, and the likelihood that findings will lead to submission of an R-type grant application that would fit into a P01 application.

Each proposal will be reviewed by at least two members of our external and internal scientific advisory board. Based on these reviews, the research advisory council of Children's will make recommendations to the Center Director for funding.

Additional Information

For additional information regarding the Center for Endothelial Biology please contact Center Director Solomon Ofori-Acquah at _____ or 404-727-2293, or refer to _____.