



NEBRASKA REDOX BIOLOGY CENTER

PILOT FUNDING RFA

The Nebraska Redox Biology Center (RBC), funded by a Center for Biomedical Research Excellence grant from the NIH, invites applications for its pilot grant competition from faculty engaged in research in the area of redox biology. The primary objective of this program is to stimulate research in the area of redox biology and to enhance competitiveness in obtaining extramural support.

ELIGIBILITY: The principal investigator and another co-investigator must be members of the RBC, and each collaborative team must include at least three investigators. Collaborations across UNL/UNMC are strongly encouraged. Proposed research should be based on a collaboration, which may involve research cooperation, sharing of resources, and use of core facilities and services in the RBC. Only one proposal per principal investigator is permitted per competition. However, there is no limit on the number of proposals a RBC investigator may participate in as a co-investigator.

The RBC is most interested in funding projects that satisfy all of the following: (i) collaborative, interdisciplinary research, (ii) research that directly addresses the most critical areas in redox biology (e.g., redox and energy imbalance in disease, stress response, mitochondrial dysfunction, redox signaling and regulation, redox PTMs, and metal ion homeostasis), and (iii) projects with a high likelihood of future funding.

REQUIREMENTS: Project leaders will be expected to present their research progress at monthly work-in-progress seminars of the RBC and once to the external advisory council at the RBC annual review meeting. In addition, principal investigators will be required to submit an annual report to the RBC each year their project is active. A final report documenting progress, publications, and grant proposals submitted and awarded, will be due to the RBC office 30 days prior to the end of the funding period. Funded research team should submit a collaboration-based R01 grant proposal to NIH or a similar type of grant proposal to another federal agency before the end of the funding period.

BUDGET SPECIFICATIONS: The maximum budget per project will be \$50,000 for one year of funding. Applicants may request less funding than the maximum limit as deemed appropriate for the proposed project. Equipment requests should not constitute the major portion of the budget. All budgeted items must be justified and relate directly to the research project. Salaries for personnel are permitted.

APPLICATION: The application form for pilot awards is available on the RBC website at <http://redoxbiologycenter.unl.edu/>. Application forms can also be obtained from Paula Adams, Administrative Coordinator, Nebraska Redox Biology Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, N200 Beadle Center, Lincoln, NE 68588-0662, phone 402.472.3173, fax 402.472.7842, e-mail: aadams@unl.edu.

The application is in the general format of an NIH R01 proposal, however, with different page limitations. The face page, should be followed by a first year budget, summary of overall budget, biographical sketch (NIH style, 4 page limit including other support), and research plans (specific aims, background, preliminary results and research plan not to exceed 5 pages including figures and tables) and bibliography. The margins should be 1 inch on all sides and use of the Arial font, size 11 is recommended.

DEADLINE: Applications (original only) must be received in the RBC office no later than 5 PM on Friday, July 10, 2015. Electronic applications will be accepted at aadams@unl.edu.

SELECTION: The scientific merit of each proposal will be assessed by the RBC's internal leadership, including the Director, Co-Directors, Program Coordinator, and Internal Advisory Council. Should conflicts of interest arise, reviewers will be excused accordingly. The review criteria will follow NIH guidelines with the overall scientific merit of the proposal based on overall impact, significance, innovation, approaches, and investigators. Additional review criteria will include relevance to RBC strengths and foci, strength of collaboration, relevance to funding priorities of major external funding agencies, and budgetary feasibility. The review will use the NIH scoring scale of 10-90. Successful applicants will be notified as soon as possible. The start date for funding is anticipated to be October 1, 2015.

SECOND YEAR FUNDING: Awarded projects will be eligible to apply for a second year of funding in the 2016 competition. Second year funding decisions will be based on progress in the first year, availability of funds, and competitiveness against new applications that are received for the 2016 cycle.