



The Penn Epigenetics Institute
2020 Chemical/Genetic Screening Pilot Grant Application

Deadline: October 25, 2019

The Epigenetics Institute at Penn in collaboration with the High-throughput Screening Core (HTSC) at Penn is announcing a Pilot Grant Program to utilize the expertise and services of the core available to members of the Epigenetics community. The specific scientific focus of this pilot grant application is non-restrictive, but applications must utilize the services of the HTSC. Applications with a focus to utilize the cores' ability to screen either a) FDA approved drugs and known bioactives library or b) siRNA libraries of Gene Ontology (GO) categories or user defined gene sets to identify/validate candidate gene targets are encouraged. In preparing a proposal, applicants are encouraged to consult with the core directors about the feasibility of a candidate screen, e.g. reporter gene assay, and budget. Importantly, pilot grants that are responsive to an upcoming RFA, future NIH Concept or other future funding mechanisms will be given priority. The science remains a priority; however, it is important to emphasize how results from utilizing the core's services will be used to leverage additional funding to support an expanded study.

[High-throughput screening core](#): The Penn High-throughput screening core (HTSC) provides the PSOM community with technical expertise in HTS to identify genes or organic small molecule inhibitors of signaling pathways and cellular phenotypes in models of human disease. To meet the needs of investigators, the HTS provides advice and assistance with assay developing biological assays (i.e. biochemical-, cell-, and high-content) in miniaturized, multiwell microtiter plates that are laboratory automation compatible for HTS. For a consultation contact David C. Schultz, PhD, Technical Director (dschultz@penncmedicine.upenn.edu)

Important Dates

- Submission deadline for full applications: October 25, 2019 by 11:59PM
- Award decisions will be made by November 15, 2019
- Award period will be from November 25, 2019 – November 25, 2020

Funding Limits

The maximum award for the Chemical/Genetics Screening Pilot Project Grant will be up to \$20,000.

Investigator Eligibility

Only Epigenetics Core Faculty, Interest Group Members, and Program Members that are active participants of the epigenetics institute employed at the University of Pennsylvania or employed at one of our partner institutions (e.g. CHOP, Wistar) are eligible to apply for the Epigenetics Institute Pilot Project Grant. Active participation refers to attendance of monthly meetings, workshops etc.

It is required that the proposed research is not funded through an existing or prior grant, either federal or foundation. The proposed research should be specifically distinguished from Aims in any related funding.

Full Application Instructions

- **Cover Page:** Title of Project, Name of Epigenetics Pilot Grant you are applying for (At-Large, Mass-Spec, Chemical/Genetics Screening), abstract (up to 250 words) and list of approved or pending IACUC/IRB protocols.
- **Research Proposal:** (Aims, Significance and Innovation, Preliminary Results and Experimental Design). Limited to **two pages** including all preliminary data (excluding references; references can be on additional pages).
- Applicants should include an additional half page section devoted to explaining how pilot funds will enable a strong, competitive application to a larger funding mechanism (e.g. multi-investigator NIH application)
- NIH Biographical Sketch for each investigator
- NIH other support page for each investigator
- **Budget and justification:** one year, up to a maximum of \$20,000; one page only
- **Application should be submitted online through the Epigenetics website.** (<https://hosting.med.upenn.edu/epigenetics/research/pilot-grants/>). **All documents should be uploaded at the end of the online application as one single pdf.**

Post Award Requirements

- Once awarded a grant, awardees should be active in the epigenetics community through seminar presentations and participation in local events of the epigenetics community.
- Awardees must submit progress reports and report successful and independent grant applications resulting from the pilot grant.
- Awardees are required to inform the Epigenetics Institute if the pilot project receives external funding during the project period.
- Awardees must acknowledge the Epigenetics Institute support in all scientific posters, presentations, and publications using the specific language listed below:
"This research was supported by a pilot award from the Epigenetics Institute at the University of Pennsylvania."
- Awardees will give a presentation within the 2020-2021 Epigenetics Monthly Seminar Series.
- Awardees must present a poster at the Epigenetics Annual Retreat.
- A final progress report is due one month after the close of the project period. The one-page report will contain a synopsis of scientific progress, a list of resulting collaborations, publications, and grants, and a description of the relationship of the project to our Core usage.

For additional information, please contact:

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