

## **REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS for Research Project Leader (RPL)**

**2-page Letter of Intent Submission Deadline: November 22, 2024, 5:00 PM**

**Oral Presentation by select applicants to ISEC Leadership Committee: mid-December**

**Full Application Submission Deadline for select applicants: February 17, 2025, 5:00 PM**

**Anticipated Award Notification Date: March 3, 2025**

### **Overview**

The Implementation Science for Equity Center (ISEC), a NIH supported Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE), is seeking applications for appointment as a Research Project Leader (RPL). RPLs will receive salary support for 50% effort plus research project costs for up to three (3) years. Projects must be in the area of Implementation Science and address inequities in a pressing clinical or population health problem. Clinical investigators are encouraged to apply. The goal of the funding is to help PI's achieve NIH R01-level funding. RPLs participate in mentoring activities and receive support from ISEC research cores.

### **Eligibility**

Eligibility is restricted to junior investigators who have not held previous NIH R01-level funding or equivalent. Eligible investigators must hold a faculty level appointment at the University of Kansas Medical Center or the University of Kansas. COBRE projects must have a single PI who will commit 50% effort and be responsible for the scientific direction and management of the project. Research projects must fall within the broad area of Implementation Science and clearly aim to advance equity in health outcomes. To consider whether your project has an Implementation Science focus, review *An Introduction to Implementation Science for the Non-Specialist*, PMID PMC4573926. For an overview of framing implementation science questions and selecting conceptual frameworks, study designs, implementation strategies, and measures see: <https://impsciuw.org/implementation-science/research/frame-your-question/>

### **Application Process**

#### **1. Letter of Intent – Deadline: November 22, 2024, 5:00 PM**

Letters of Intent (LOI) should be sent to the ISEC Administrative Core, Erin Powell (epowell2@kumc.edu).

The letter of intent may not exceed **2 pages** (11pt Arial; 0.5" margins) and must include the following information:

1. PI's name, position title, department, campus, and contact information

2. Description of the proposed research including:
  - a. title or overall research question
  - b. specific aims
  - c. summary of the proposed methods
  - d. setting in which the implementation research question applies
  - e. any experience engaging with the target population, partners, or stakeholders
3. A statement of how ISEC cores will be used. Information about the cores can be found at <https://www.kumc.edu/research/implementation-science-for-equity-cobre.html>. Additional information can be provided by contacting the ISEC Core Directors.
4. Description of current mentorship
5. PI's NIH biosketch and Other Support documentation (not included in 2-page limit)

*The LOIs will be reviewed by the ISEC Leadership Committee and selected applicants will be invited to make a detailed oral presentation of their proposal. Chosen applicants will subsequently receive consultation and mentorship in preparing a full written proposal.*

**2. Selected LOIs will be asked to present their work to the ISEC Leadership Committee and answer questions during a brief oral presentation. Oral presentations will take place: mid-December**

**3. After oral presentations, selected PIs will be asked to prepare a full written proposal. Written proposals due: February 17, 2025, 5:00 PM**

After funding decisions have been made, the awarded application will be routed through the KUMC Research Institute Division of Sponsored Programs Administration for approval and signatures before it is submitted to NIGMS for final funding approval.

**Written applications are by invitation only based on approved Letters of Intent and oral presentations.** Applications should be prepared using PHS 398 forms and instructions, available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>. Please use 11-point Arial font and margins no smaller than 0.5 inches. Applications should include the following sections:

1. Form Page 1: Face Page
 

*For non-KUMC applications, face page should be signed by your appropriate administrative official.*
2. Form Page 2: Summary, Relevance, Project/Performance Sites, Senior/Key Personnel, Other Significant Contributors, and Human Embryonic Stem Cells
3. Budget:
  - a. Form Page 4: Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period
  - b. Form Page 5: Budget for Entire Proposed Project Period
  - c. Budget Justification
4. NIH Biographical Sketches for all Key Personnel
5. Research Plan
  - a. Specific Aims (1 page)
  - b. Research Strategy (6 pages) including: Significance, Innovation, and Approach
  - c. References Cited
6. Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information including Study Record(s)
7. Proof of IRB submission for review
8. Letters of Support (optional)
9. Checklist Form Page (Non-KUMC applications only)

## Funding Parameters

The following budget parameters must be followed:

1. Total direct costs may not exceed \$150,000 per year unless the requested PI's salary support at 50% effort plus fringe benefits exceed \$110,000 per year. If the PI's salary and fringe benefits exceed \$110,000 per year, up to \$40,000 may be requested for research project support (described below). The maximum allowable direct costs per year is \$182,016.
2. The PI must commit 50% effort (6 calendar months) to the project for the duration of the project. Funds should be requested to support 50% effort for the PI.
3. Research project support costs may include research personnel costs, supplies, services, external consultants, essential research related travel, participant incentives, and other expenses necessary for the successful execution of the proposed project.
4. Additional support is provided by the ISEC Administrative Core for each RPL to have 1-2 mentors and to attend a national scientific meeting relevant to implementation science each year.

## Submission

Final written applications should be submitted as a single PDF file to Erin Powell via email ([epowell2@kumc.edu](mailto:epowell2@kumc.edu)) **no later than 5:00 PM, Monday, February 17, 2025.**

## Other Requirements

Proposals selected for funding will be required to have human subjects approval from the Institutional Review Board prior to submission to NIGMS for final funding approval. For this reason, applicants invited to submit a full written proposal are required to submit proof that IRB applications are under review at the time they submit the full application. Awardees are expected to participate in on-boarding activities including consultation with ISEC Core Directors, completion of a Career Development Plan and Mentoring Agreement, and participate in ISEC Monthly Club Meetings, intensive mentoring activities, and other implementation science trainings as available.

## Additional Terms and Conditions

1. When an awardee submits subsequent grant applications, he/she is expected to acknowledge COBRE funding. If the subsequent grant application receives funding, the awardee must provide written notification of the type and amount of funding.
2. Publications resulting from research relevant to ISEC should acknowledge COBRE funding and include the grant number P20GM139733.
3. Research Project Leaders are required to provide information needed to complete the COBRE Annual Research Performance Progress Report and other information as requested.
4. Unanticipated new requirements: By accepting COBRE funds, awardees agree to comply with any and all requirements not already mentioned that may be imposed on the COBRE grant by NIH or other institutional authorities.

## Further Information

Administrative and Budget Questions: Erin Powell ([epowell2@kumc.edu](mailto:epowell2@kumc.edu))

Project Eligibility and Scientific Questions:

Christie Befort, ISEC PI: [cbefort@kumc.edu](mailto:cbefort@kumc.edu)

Ed Ellerbeck, Pragmatic Implementation Science Methods Core Director: [eellerbe@kumc.edu](mailto:eellerbe@kumc.edu)

Shellie Ellis, Pragmatic Implementation Science Methods Core Director: [sellis4@kumc.edu](mailto:sellis4@kumc.edu)

Sarah Kessler, Community Engagement and Outreach Core Director: [skessler2@kumc.edu](mailto:skessler2@kumc.edu)

Jason Glenn, Ethics Core Director: [jglenn4@kumc.edu](mailto:jglenn4@kumc.edu)