Pilot Funding Opportunity.
Focus: Roadway Accidents and Vector-borne Diseases

The Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center (CARERC), a CDC/NIOSH-funded training program led by the University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University, announces the availability of funds to support regionally relevant pilot projects in occupational safety and health. Awards up to $15,000 in total funds (direct plus indirect) will be available for pilot studies from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. We plan to award four to six grants.

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The CARERC will consider any well-designed research, education, or prevention/intervention project addressing occupational safety and health concerns. However, this year we are especially interested in novel assessments of ways to prevent roadway accidents and vector-borne diseases among occupational groups. The types of research conducted may include the following: surveillance of injuries and diseases, the measurement and characterization of specific exposures, or the effectiveness of proposed interventions to reduce exposures and disease and injury risks.

Proposal narratives should not exceed 5 to 7 pages, but must include:
- Abstract
- Specific Aims (enumerated 1, 2, 3...)
- Research plan
- 12-month timeline
- Detailed budget (no salaries may exceed $212,100)

Applicants should attach a biographical sketch for key personnel which will not be counted as part of the page limit.

Proposal narratives should clearly state the proposal’s significance and anticipated outcomes and impact, including expectations regarding any further research (e.g., R01 type projects). Proposals are welcomed from doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows, occupational and preventive medicine residents, junior faculty and graduate students with the knowledge, skills, and access necessary to complete the project. Students must have a faculty mentor serve as principal investigator. Principal investigators must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. According to sponsor guidelines, proposals may not include more than 8% F&A rate in their budgets on all costs minus tuition, fees, and equipment. The University Grants Office must sign off on the proposal budget.
Cost Extensions will not be approved for the pilot study. Pilot project funds must be expended by the budget end date of June 30, 2024. The final invoice must be received and posted by the University of Kentucky within 45 days of the end date of June 30, 2024.

All applicant institutions should have a PHS-compliant financial conflict of interest policy. Applicants must document compliance with DHHS Regulations (45 CFR 46) on the protection of human research participants. Prior to funding, documentation must be provided to demonstrate that the project has met initial Institutional Review Board requirements and will be subject to continuing IRB approval (or has been deemed Exempt). Projects must meet DHHS requirements regarding inclusion of women, minorities, and children, and use of animal subjects, as well as restrictions against use of these funds for lobbying.

Awardees will be required to submit a final summary report within 90 days of project completion describing the results of their project. Awardees will also be required to provide indication of CARERC support on all presentations and publications resulting from the research and provide citations for presentations and publications for CARERC records.

Email proposal and required attachments to: Nurlan Kussainov at: nbku222@uky.edu

**CARERC Pilot Studies Program**
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