

**CAROLINA CENTER ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND MINORITY RESEARCH (CCADMR)
Request for Pilot Research Proposals**

Announcement Release Date: November 1, 2020

Application Receipt Date: February 15, 2021

Award Period: Summer/Early Fall 2021—June 30, 2022

The mission of the CCADMR is to increase the diversity of the research workforce focused on population health and sociocultural, behavioral, and environmental determinants of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) health disparities through sustained infrastructure that will support underrepresented and racial/ethnic minority faculty (i.e., those from educationally or economically disadvantaged backgrounds and racial and ethnic minorities).



Funds Available: Up to \$30,000 in total costs per pilot grant will be awarded.

Eligibility Criteria: Eligible applicants include—

1. Postdoctoral fellows, junior faculty, or mid-career faculty who are transitioning to ADRD research using population-based methods. Eligible persons must have a terminal degree.
2. Primary investigators must have appointments at Allen University (Allen), Claflin University (Claflin), Clemson University (Clemson), the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), South Carolina State University (SCSU), or the University of South Carolina (UofSC).
3. Investigations using primary data collection, secondary datasets, or mixed methods approaches are invited. Projects should focus on the sociocultural, behavioral, and environmental determinants of ADRD health disparities. If using secondary data, one (or more) of the following datasets is strongly recommended: the SC Alzheimer's Disease Registry, the Health and Retirement Study (HRS), or the Behavioral Risk Factor and Surveillance System (BRFSS).
4. Interested applicants must communicate with a member of the CCADMR Analysis Core before submitting an application.

Selection Criteria: Applications will be reviewed and scored based on the following criteria—

1. Quality of the proposed research—does the proposal have a strong ADRD health disparities focus? Does the proposal address an important ADRD disparities challenge, and if successful, will the findings have an impact on human health?
2. Relatedness of proposed research to the CCADMR mission—does the proposed research focus on population health and sociocultural, behavioral, and environmental determinants of ADRD disparities to enhance the health and well-being of minority elders?
3. Likelihood that the proposed research will lead to further scholarly activity related to ADRD health disparities and subsequent National Institute on Aging (NIA)-funded projects.

Application Procedure: A full application will include—

1. Using NIH PHS-398 forms, submit the following:
 - a. Face page (with signature of authorized institutional official)
 - b. Description of the project/performance sites/senior key personnel
 - c. Detailed budget and justification
 - d. Biographical sketch
 - e. Resources
 - f. Research plan (see required sections described below)
2. The research plan (maximum 3 pages) should include:
 - a. Specific aims—a statement of the objectives of the project
 - b. Research strategy—a description of the rationale for the research; to include the following sections
 - i. Significance—describe the importance of the hypothesis to the field of ADRD health disparities; is there a strong scientific premise for the project?
 - ii. Innovation—describe how the research may be new and unique, e.g., explores new scientific avenues, has a novel hypothesis, or creates new knowledge.
 - iii. Approach—Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted, as well as potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims.
 - c. One paragraph should be devoted to discussing how the proposed research will support the applicant’s career, help to bridge funds, and/or expand the applicant’s research into a new area.
 - d. Proposal should be single-spaced with margins not less than one-half inch, using a font size not less than 11 pt.
3. A letter of support from a home institution faculty colleague familiar with the applicant’s research.
4. **Applicants who are re-submitting a proposal** are required to provide a 1-page response to reviewers and the reviewer comments.

Please note that each institution may have different grant application routing policies and procedures. For example, applicants should check with their institution for details about how to obtain signatures of authorized institutional officials.

Budget:

Allowable Costs

- Salary and fringe benefits of project research personnel including undergraduate and graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and technicians (e.g., non-faculty statisticians)
- Salary and fringe may be included for the PI if used directly to work on this project
- Capital equipment (article of non-expendable, tangible property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition, or valuation cost of at least \$5,000)
- Project supplies
- Travel: essential to conduct project activities or to professional meetings (justification must be provided)
- Student tuition
- Indirect cost rate is 8%

Unallowable Costs

- Costs in connection with faculty degree requirements
- Food (for use in research/as participant incentives)
- Salary and fringe for Co-Investigators

Review Process: Applications that are complete and responsive to this announcement will be evaluated for merit by a committee of faculty comprised of members of the CCADMR Executive Committee, faculty from participating institutions (Allen, Claflin, Clemson, MUSC, SCSU, and UofSC), and faculty affiliates of the UofSC Office for the Study on Aging. The committee will score applications based on the selection criteria noted above.

Additional Information:

Applicants who accept the CCADMR award for pilot research will be accepted into the program as a CCADMR Scientist. CCADMR Scientists will—

- Have access to specialized mentoring in ADRD research
- Gain skills in reviewing applications by participating in the CCCADMR review process for future pilot grants
- Attend monthly research seminars in ADRD research methods, topical content, and professional development
- Present project updates during monthly research seminars
- Participate in annual surveys to track professional development for a minimum of five years after the end of the pilot grant funding period

For more information, please contact:

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To find out more about the CCADMR and our other Team members, please visit our website:

https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/socialwork/research/ccadmr/index.php