



Updated July 23, 2019

## **Policy Concerning Matching Funds for NC TraCS \$5K - \$50K Pilot Grant Program**

### Overview

The NC TraCS \$5K - \$50K pilot grant program is designed to encourage and facilitate novel clinical and translational research. Proposals are solicited from teams of investigators from different disciplines, institutions and diverse communities for discovery-to-bedside and bedside-to-practice and community research. Preference is given to new and unfunded ideas, including high-risk projects with potentially high rewards. Individual investigators are encouraged to apply for funding of projects that move their work in new directions or to fund experiments for technology development. Research that directly involves human subjects, including clinical trials, epidemiological studies, community-based research, and cross-disciplinary basic science research addressing the development of therapies and diagnostics applicable to human disease will be considered for these awards. Proposals must promote the development of novel mechanisms that ultimately will improve patient and community health outcomes for citizens of North Carolina. Projects in partnership with community organizations may focus on improvements in access to care, provision of high quality care and patient-centered, culturally competent care. Proposals are due for submission in March, July, and November each year.

### Eligibility

Faculty members with a primary appointment at UNC-Chapel Hill and faculty members of external NC TraCS Institute-affiliated institutions collaborating with UNC-Chapel Hill faculty may serve as principal investigators (PIs). To qualify for matches from the School, PIs must have a primary appointment in the School. Senior faculty investigators applying for pilot grant program funds must make it clearly evident that the proposed research is a departure from their previous research direction. These pilot grant awards are not meant as bridge funds or as supplementary funding for existing grants.

### Funding Guidelines

Up to three times per fiscal year, the NC TraCS Institute will make awards of \$2,500 up to \$25,000 that must be matched with equal funds from participating schools, departments, centers or partner organizations, for total awards of up to \$50,000, under this mechanism. Match fund sources must represent funds not previously committed to the PI or pilot project. Multidisciplinary proposals are highly prized

so matches that come from more than one school, department, center, or partner organization are encouraged.

#### Matching Funds Policy for the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

Matching funds may be provided to UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health Faculty via several mechanisms, including:

- Departments (including doctoral student support for a student devoted to the project)
- Centers or Partner Organizations
- Dean's Office

One project may solicit matching funds from more than one source (e.g., Department could contribute half and a Center could contribute half).

For faculty who wish to be considered for the Dean's Office match, the budget allows for up to \$25,000 in matching funds per fiscal year (which would cover all of one project's match or parts of several projects' matches). Once these funds are awarded, the account is depleted until the next Fiscal Year. It is likely then, that matching funds will be given to the first grant awarded to a PI who has a primary appointment in the School and who does not have an alternative source for a match (i.e., his/her Department cannot provide the match etc.). PIs may wish to apply during the first round (July) to maximize the potential to be considered for the Dean's Office match. If more than one SPH PI is awarded funding during one funding session, then the reviewer scores will be considered when determining how to award the match. The disbursement of support may be in the form of a transfer of funds to TraCS according to the awarded budget period or by direct payment for the budget items. The disbursement arrangements will be confirmed between the School of Public Health Business office and the TraCS Business office once the nature of the support is known. The School of Public Health will determine the type of funds used if a transfer of funds is required to meet the match.

Please visit <https://tracs.unc.edu/> for more information regarding the NC TraCS pilot funding program.

#### Required Notifications and Approvals

Principal Investigators wishing to apply for NC TraCS pilot funding should work directly with NC TraCS regarding the submission instructions and deadlines. However, the applicant must send notification that he/she applied for the grant to Penny Gordon-Larsen, Associate Dean for Research at [pglarsen@email.unc.edu](mailto:pglarsen@email.unc.edu). Department Chair approval is required for consideration of matching funding from the Dean's Office.