

Mississippi Institute for Improvement of
Geographic Minority Health

COMPETITIVE RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

FUNDING SOURCE, ELIGIBILITY & POLICIES

I. SOURCE OF FUNDS

Funds for the Competitive Research Grant Program (CRGP) of the **Mississippi Institute for Improvement of Geographic Minority Health (MIGMH)** were awarded by the Office of Minority Health (Grant No.CPIMP061019-01-01) to the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) for its minority and rural health disparities program.

II. ELIGIBILITY

1. The major objective of the Competitive Research Grant Program is to help promising investigators obtain preliminary data so they can begin to develop a research program for external funding. The research must address at least one (1) of the health issues or health indicators identified in Table 1 below and the project must complement the goals and mission of the Institute.

Institute for Improvement of Geographic and Minority Health Disparities							
Mission	Improve the health of rural and minority populations and eliminate health disparities						
Goals	Increase awareness by all populations on healthcare issues impacting rural disadvantaged and minority communities	Increase access to quality healthcare for rural disadvantaged and minority populations	Increase the number of healthcare personnel available to provide services to rural disadvantaged and minority populations	Improve health outcomes for rural disadvantaged and minority populations	Develop a model that can be replicated throughout the U.S. to effectively address national policies and programs to improve the health of rural and disadvantaged and minority communities		
Health Issues Addressed	Diabetes	Heart Disease and Stroke	Cancer	Infant Mortality	Child and Adult Immunizations	HIV/AIDS	
Health Indicators Addressed	Physical Activity	Obesity	Tobacco Use	Alcohol & Illicit Drug Abuse	Mental Health	Access to Care	Environmental Quality

2. Applicants cannot be members of the MIGMH staff, Institutional Advisory Board, or Research Grant Review Committee. If a member of the committee wishes to apply for a grant, he/she must resign from the committee.
3. The committee will not make awards to an established investigator if it is for support of the work of a faculty member. The faculty member's name should be designated as the applicant and his/her title indicated. The faculty member will have a mentor who is an established investigator and who is committed to facilitating the development of an independent research program by the investigator.
4. Grants are awarded by the Competitive Research Grant Program of the MIGMH with the understanding that the recipient will not accept funds for the same purpose from any other granting agency.
5. Citizenship requirements: MIGMH awards may be made only to eligible applicants. The opportunity for continued funding is dependent on the grantee's maintaining eligibility.
 - (a) United States citizens are eligible to apply for a MIGMH competitive research grant.
 - (b) Permanent resident aliens are eligible to apply for a MIGMH competitive research grant. These applicants must provide notarized evidence of their status.
 - (c) The MIGMH is funded by the Office of Minority Health and must adhere to established federal guidelines. Specifically, MIGMH has elected to utilize the NIH guidelines which require the applicant to determine that individuals' visas will allow them to remain in this country long enough for them to be productive on the research project. Applicants must provide notarized evidence of their status for the duration of the award period. If a grant is awarded and an individual's visa will not allow a long enough stay to be productive on the project, the MIGMH may terminate the grant (see [Administrative Requirements—Changes in Project and Budget](#) and [Administrative Requirements—Enforcement Actions—Suspension, Termination, and Withholding of Support](#)).

III. POLICIES

These policies apply to funds granted by the MIGMH:

1. **Award amount:** Awards of up to \$35,000 will be made for one year. A request for up to two years of funding may be considered based upon availability of funds and worthiness of the project. The maximum total award from MIGMH shall not exceed of \$70,000. Awards are nonrenewable.
2. **Application procedure:** Applicants will submit a written proposal as

described in the attached "Application Instructions."

3. **Institutional approval:** All applications require approval by the appropriate administrative officials at the respective institution in which the faculty person is based prior to submission.
4. **Assurances of compliance:** Proposals selected for funding will be required to have an assurance of compliance with regulations stipulated by any appropriate institutional committees, including Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, Institutional Biohazards Committee, Institutional Review Board for Human Studies, and Radiation Safety. *(Note: Applicants must provide documentation (i.e., a memo from the appropriate institutional committee) of approval or submission of IACUC, IRB, biohazards use, and/or radiation safety protocols. Applications that cannot demonstrate approval or submission of IACUC, IRB, biohazards use, and/or radiation safety protocols with a memo from the appropriate institutional committee will not be reviewed by the CPN.)*
5. **Allowable costs:** Research supplies, research equipment (equipment costs should be less than 15% of the total award*), technical assistance, domestic travel when necessary to carry out the proposed research program, publication costs (including reprints and costs of computer time), and salary for research personnel. All travel reimbursements must be in compliance with UMC policies and procedures and the laws of the State of Mississippi.
6. **Unallowable costs:** Indirect costs, research equipment costing more than 15% of the total award*, construction or maintenance of buildings, renovations, therapeutic equipment, consortium overhead costs to other institutions, foreign travel, purchasing and binding of periodicals and books, office furniture, office equipment, per diem charges for hospital beds and/or ordinary medical care, dues and memberships in scientific societies, or tuition.

*Equipment requests costing more than 15% of the total award will be considered with detailed justification of need, including an inventory of similar instruments existing at the institution and a description of why these other instruments are unavailable or inappropriate for the proposed research.
7. **Subsequent grant applications:** If an awardee submits subsequent grant applications, he/she is expected to divulge information on MIGMH funding. If the subsequent grant application receives funding, the awardee must provide written notification to the MIGMH Interim Research Core Director, Dr. Sean Abram (mailing address on page 6) of the type and amount of funding.
8. **Publications:** Publications resulting from research supported by the MIGMH should contain the following acknowledgment:

"This publication was made possible by research funds from the Mississippi Institute for the Improvement of Geographic Minority Health Disparities at The University of Mississippi Medical Center which is supported by OMH Grant No.CPIMP061018-01"

and as appropriate,

“Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of OMH or the Mississippi Institute for the Improvement of Geographic Minority Health Disparities at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.”

Grantees must send a cover letter and two reprints of publications carrying the above credit line addressed to the MIGMH Interim Research Core Director, Dr. Sean Abram (please mail the cover letter and the reprints to the Project Manager’s attention, Janina Daniels, see address on page 6).

9. **Application review:** Proposals will be reviewed by the MIGMH Institutional Competitive Research Grant Review Committee using guidelines established by NIH for R21 applications. These guidelines can be found at the following website: <http://www.csr.nih.gov/guidelines/guidelines.htm>.
10. **Award notification:** Individual awardees will be notified in writing of the award. This award letter will include the following:
 - notification that the MIGMH is funding the award
 - amount of the award
 - duration of award
 - Terms and Conditions of Award.
11. **Grant reporting mechanisms:** All written research progress reports should be mailed to the Project Manager Janina Daniels, (please see address on page 6) for subsequent submission to the MIGMH Interim Research Core Director, Dr. Sean Abram.
 - **Presentation of research progress.** Investigators may be required to present their research progress to the MIGMH Institutional Advisory Board at the advisory board’s regular meeting (usually held once each quarter), at the regular MIGMH Progress Report meetings (held at a scheduled time and place) and/or at other MIGMH Research core sponsored programs. Any problems in carrying out proposed research by an investigator, as revealed in the progress reports, will be brought before the MIGMH Competitive Research Grant Review Committee for evaluation and consideration of the circumstances and the potential for the investigator to solve problems in a timely manner.
 - **Written progress reports.** Investigators will be required to submit two (2) written progress reports annually. One written progress report will be due one month prior to the end of the first year of the competitive research grant funding period; the second written progress report will be due at a time designated in the award letter. If a Year 2 of funding is awarded, one written progress report will be due 60 days prior to the end of the second year of competitive research grant funding period;

Attachment 1

the second written progress report will be due at a time designated in the award letter. Written progress reports should include updated Biosketch and Other Support pages, detailed budget pages, a brief synopsis of progress, a list of grant applications and/or publications submitted as a result of data generated by the research, and numbers of grant applications awarded as a result of funding from the MIGMH Competitive Research Grant Program.

- **Financial reports.** The Competitive Research Grant Program of Mississippi Institute for Improvement of Geographic Minority Health is not responsible for the over-expenditure of grant funds, for commitments against a grant not paid within 60 days after its termination or renewal, or for expenditures made before the starting date of a grant.

The Competitive Research Grant Principal Investigator will be responsible for submitting quarterly invoices for expenditure of funds to the MIGMH Project Manager's attention, Janina Daniels (please see address on page 6). Invoices must indicate the expenditure of MIGMH funds **and** matching funds if applicable. Invoices must be submitted based on the MIGMH funding period (which may differ from the competitive research grant funding period). Quarterly invoices should be submitted by the first of December, March, June, and September.

- **Final progress report.** A final report of research findings will be required to be submitted 30 days following the end of the research award period. Additionally, a final report of expenditures must be submitted to the MIGMH Interim Research Core Director, Dr. Abram (mailing address on page 6), within 90 days after termination of a grant. Unexpended funds from an existing grant cannot be carried forward to a renewal or any other grant.

12. **Personnel:** Personnel compensated in whole or in part with funds from a MIGMH Competitive Research Grant Program shall not be considered as employees of the Office of Minority Health or of the MIGMH at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, but as employees of the grantee institution. In awarding grants to an institution or individual, neither the MIGMH nor OMH assumes any responsibility for the conduct of the investigation or the acts of the investigator, since both are under the direction and control of the investigator's institution and subject to its ethical and scientific policies.

MAILING ADDRESSES

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