

**Rochester Resource-Based Center for Bone, Muscle and Orthopaedic Research  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: PILOT STUDIES**

As part of the Pilot & Feasibility Studies Program in NIAMS, P30 AR069655, the Rochester Resource-Based Center for Bone, Muscle and Orthopaedic Research (ROCSTARR) is now requesting applications for funding of pilot projects (\$25,000 maximum for one year).

Eligibility is strictly limited to Musculoskeletal Research as defined by the National Institute for Arthritis, Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases (NIAMS). Priority will be given to Early Stage Investigators (ESI) who have recently submitted grant applications to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) but did not achieve funding due to critiques in their Summary Statements (SS). This RFP is intended to help generate plans and data for submitting NIH R21 or R01 grants.

**Deadlines:**

Proposals must be received by **Monday, September 16, 2024**.

Applicants will be notified of awards by December 18, 2024, which will be initiated on January 1, 2025. The funding must be expended by December 31, 2025.

**NOTE: All animal and human subject protocols must be approved prior to the start date. No funds will be released until these approvals have been documented. If approvals are not received prior to the start date, then the applicant will not receive the award.**

**Background:** The NIAMS awarded a P30 grant to the Rochester Resource-based Center for Bone, Muscle and Orthopaedic Research. This ROCSTARR provides shared facilities and services to groups of established, currently funded investigators addressing scientific problems in musculoskeletal biology and medicine, to improve efficiency, accelerate the pace of research, and ensure greater productivity. It also awards pilot project grants to **Physician-Scientists, Research Assistant or Associate Professors, or Assistant or Associate Professors** who have not received full-tenure, for research aimed at improving the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases and injuries of the musculoskeletal system and its component tissues. Key public health problems addressed by this research include, but are not limited to, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, and muscular dystrophies. The ROCSTARR intends to combine and provide additional resources for research into these areas of human health.

**General inquiries & Submission:** Proposals must be submitted electronically by email to: Martha Young  
[Martha\\_Young@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Martha_Young@URMC.Rochester.edu)

**Required Components**

The following materials must be submitted as part of the revised application package:

1. A face page application form is attached and should provide the following information:
  - a. Title of the project.

- b. Investigators, with clear identification of PI and full contact information.
  - c. Total amount of money requested and budget justification. Please note that if effort is expended, but salary is not taken, cost sharing is involved. If awarded, completed cost sharing forms must be on file with the Center.
  - d. Signed attestation statement if the PI meets the ESI status (please refer to <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-stage/index.htm>).
  - e. IRB and UCAR status.
2. Abstract – Max 30 lines
  3. Other Support Document – active and pending support
  4. Biosketch – 5-page maximum. Verify the current version/format used.
  5. Research Plan – 6-page limit
  6. UCAR/IRB Approval
  7. Vertebra/Human Subjects Section – if applicable.
  8. If the PI is requesting funds to address concerns of a NIH-reviewed grant, the Summary Statement with Introduction responding to the concerns should be submitted as an attachment.

The program will support costs normally allowable for NIH-funded research projects for a maximum funding amount of \$25,000. Funding cannot be used to support faculty salary. Priority will be given to applicants who are responsive to recommendations made by the CMSR Senior Executive Committee during their Friday morning PI presentation.

**Condition of Award:** All awardees are required to attend an annual program meeting to provide input to improve the program, network with other awardees, and share project outcomes. All peer reviewed publications that result from this pilot funding must cite the NIAMS, P30 AR069655 in the Acknowledgements of the manuscript and comply with NIH requirements for open access (obtain NIHMS#).

**Contacts:** If you have questions regarding this RFP, please contact one of the following.

Scientific and Peer Review contacts:

Edward Schwarz, PhD

[Edward\\_Schwarz@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Edward_Schwarz@urmc.rochester.edu)

-or-

Laura Calvi, MD

[Laura\\_Calvi@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Laura_Calvi@urmc.rochester.edu)

## ROCSTARR Pilot Program Application Face Page

**Submission deadline: September 16, 2024**

Proposal Title \_\_\_\_\_

Principle Investigator \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Research \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Investigator (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Research \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Institution (if not URMC) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Requested \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Human Subjects involved – IRB status: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Vertebrate Animals involved – UCAR status: \_\_\_\_\_

I attest that I, the PI, currently meet the Early Stage Investigator (ESI) Status.

- I completed my terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training within the past 10 years.  
 I have not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH independent research award.

PI \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please include page number and name of PI in a footer on the application.



# BUDGET JUSTIFICATION