2022 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
FPBCC Prevention and Control Pilot Projects Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center is accepting applications seeking support for innovative, significant pilot projects in cancer prevention and control research. The objective of this request for applications (RFA) is to help initiate pilot studies that have the potential to develop into nationally funded, high-impact translational cancer research projects. Priority will be given to projects with the highest scientific merit, that align with the goal of enhancing our strengths in cancer prevention and control, and that leverage specialized areas of research strength within the University.

ELIGIBILITY
- All University of Nebraska faculty members with an academic appointment at or above the level of Instructor are eligible to apply for a pilot project award. (Awards to postdoctoral fellows or graduate students are not allowed.)
- All project principal investigators must be members of the Buffett Cancer Center. If you are not currently a member of the Cancer Center, please contact Matt Winfrey (winfreym@unmc.edu) to request membership.
- Projects must focus on some aspect of cancer-related research, and have direct relevance to prevention and control in particular.

FUNDS AVAILABLE
One-year pilot project awards of up to $50,000 will be made for individual proposals. We anticipate two awards.

FUNDING TARGET AREAS
The Buffett Cancer Center and its collaborating organizations have identified research priorities that will enhance the quality of translational research in the Cancer Center and at University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), thereby improving competitiveness for National Cancer Institute (NCI) and National Institute of Health (NIH) funding and facilitating designation as a comprehensive cancer center. Those research programs and areas of research interest targeted for funding through this focused RFA include Cancer Prevention and Cancer Control. Cancer prevention relates to before the development of clinical cancer, while control relates to after it has occurred. In general, prevention encompasses the following: the study of etiology (e.g., basic molecular, risk [inclusive of behavior, diet, lifestyle, biomarkers, genetics], epidemiology), measures to prevent it (therapeutics, behavior, social), and early detection. Control tends to encompass research related to understanding and/or mitigating toxicity (therapeutic, financial), consequences (depression), quality of life, etc.

Engagement across disciplines is encouraged, especially when it serves to ensure focus of the application on prevention and/or control. Alignment with existing expertise and programs that are established, e.g., Cancer Biology (CBP), Targets, Modulators and Delivery (TMDP), and Gastrointestinal Cancer (GICP) Programs, is acceptable. However, the clear focus, intent, and future growth potential must be on cancer prevention and control.

Applications can be submitted for consideration under more than one target area, if applicable. Areas of strategic focus within these targets are described below.
- Focus on population-based research in cancer prevention and control.
- Genetic, environmental, dietary, sociocultural, behavioral, access to care, and/or other risk factors, factors that are modifiable or not, that are focused on prevention and/or control, that are unintentional or not, are welcome.
- A focus on populations unique to our catchment area of Nebraska, such as rural and underrepresented/underserved.
- Grants that focus on Nebraska’s most compelling and tractable cancer-related problems, and its unique attributes as a state where people are dispersed over a large area, with distinct rural and urban populations and economies, will be welcome.
- Clinical and/or Translational Cancer Research, in collaboration with the Great Plains IDeA-CTR

APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS
- Investigators are limited to a total of two applications, with no more than one application as PI. (One PI and one Co-PI, or two Co-PI applications, maximum.)
- Neither Kenneth Cowan, Director of the Buffett Cancer Center, or Ray Bergan, Deputy Director, Buffett Cancer Center, can serve as a co-investigator on any project. Early-career researchers are encouraged to apply. The Cancer Center Associate Directors and Program Leaders may serve as PI/Co-PI or as co-investigator on a project, optimally in a manner that would include early-career scientists on the team.
- All budget requests for travel (allowed only for recruitment and data collection), equipment, and computer purchases must be clearly and strongly justified.
➢ Budget requests for faculty salaries are not allowed.

➢ Regulatory Approvals:
  ❖ For projects involving human subjects, vertebrate animals, and/or select agents research, prior IRB, IACUC, and/or IBC approval is not required at the time of application submission. However, it is expected that the appropriate protocols will be submitted so approval is imminent at the anticipated project start date. All applicable institutional approvals must be in place before awarded funds can be released. IRB protocols should be submitted for review within 30 days of notice of award and final IRB approval provided to Cancer Center administration within 60 days of NOA. Delays will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Under such circumstances, investigators will need to contact and review the situation with the Cancer Center, with Matt Winfrey serving as initial contact.
  ❖ For projects involving cancer studies being conducted at UNMC, the relevant protocols must be submitted simultaneously to the IRB and to the FPBCC Scientific Review Committee (SRC). Contact the FPBCC Protocol Review and Monitoring System (PRMS) office at 402-559-4232 with questions regarding this process.

APPLICATION FORMAT AND SUBMISSION
The appended FPBCC Prevention and Control Pilot Projects Program 2022 Application must be used; a version of this application with editable forms is also available.

Required Application Components:
1. Application Face Page
2. Research Project Information form
3. Detailed Budget with Budget Justification
4. Description of Proposed Research:
   • Scientific Abstract summarizing the research question, the background of the project, the specific aims, the proposed approach, and the expected outcomes of the project (400-word maximum)
   • Lay Abstract that defines the goals and expected outcomes of the project in non-technical terms (250-word maximum)
   • Research Plan with the following sections:
     A. Specific Aims (1-page maximum)
     B. Background, Significance, and Innovation
     C. Preliminary Studies, if any
     D. Approach
     E. Statement of Cancer Relevance (4-page maximum for sections B-E)
     F. References Cited
     G. Regulatory compliance information, including Protection of Human Subjects, Vertebrate Animals, and Select Agent Research, as applicable.
     ▪ Inclusion of preliminary data is encouraged but not required, and appendices will not be accepted.
5. NIH biosketch for each investigator (5-page limit each)
6. Other Research Support information for each investigator. Note: Other Support demonstrates active and pending support; the purpose of this document is to allow the reviewer to examine an investigator’s overall research commitment and to identify any overlap with existing projects.

General Formatting Requirements:
Minimum 0.5-inch margins and Arial 11-point font are required. (Smaller type size may be used for figures and legends.)

Submission Instructions and Deadline:
All applications must be prepared on the forms provided and emailed as a single, complete PDF to buffettcancercenter@unmc.edu by 11:59 pm CT on Tuesday, March 22, 2022. The email subject line should list the last name(s) of the principal investigator(s) and the words “Pilot Project Application” (e.g., “Bergan Pilot Project Application”). A reply email will be sent to confirm receipt of the application. Applications will be reviewed in April, and funding notifications are anticipated by May. See “Application Review Process” section below for additional information regarding review procedures.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS
To expedite and to ensure transparency of the review process, a virtual study section will be assembled to review all submitted pilot project applications.

Study section members will consist of a panel of proposal reviewers, other senior faculty with appropriate expertise, and will meet under the guidance of a designated Chair. Study section participants will be required to excuse themselves from the review of applications for which they have any identified conflict of interest (e.g., serve as PI or Co-I), but will be encouraged to take part in the
discussion and voting process for all other applications. Depending upon the number of applications received, the study section may take place over a single day or be split into two or more sessions.

APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA
- Quality of the proposal with respect to significance, innovation, approach, and feasibility of the research proposed.
- Potential impact on above-stipulated target areas.
- Alignment of the proposed research with above-stipulated goals.
- Potential for future funding from national agencies.
- Potential to lead to interventional clinical trials.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS
- Pilot project award recipients are responsible for working with their departmental grants administrator to monitor and manage award funds.
- All pilot project awardees must submit a written progress report at the end of the funding period.
- Awardees are expected to present their research in seminar format as well as to community groups as part of Buffett Cancer Center education and outreach activities, as requested by Cancer Center administration.
- Awardees are required to provide information regarding any publications and additional funding that result from their pilot project award. Any publications and presentations resulting from a Buffett Cancer Center pilot project award should acknowledge the FPBCC Cancer Center Support Grant (P30 CA036727).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
For questions regarding this funding opportunity, please contact Ray Bergan at rbergan@unmc.edu or 402.559.8343, or Kelly Jordan at kjordan@unmc.edu or 402.559.4660.
# FPBCC Prevention and Control Pilot Projects Program

**2022 Application**

**Application Deadline:** 11:59 PM CT, Tuesday, March 22, 2022

## 1. Principal Investigator

1a. **Name and Credentials:**

1b. **Position Title / Academic Rank:**

1c. **Department / Division:**

## 2. Co-Principal Investigator(s) (if applicable)

2a. **Name(s) and Credentials:**

2b. **Position Title(s) / Academic Rank(s):**

2c. **Department(s) / Division(s):**

## 3. Co-Investigator(s) (if applicable)

3a. **Name(s) and Credentials:**

3b. **Position Title(s) / Academic Rank(s):**

3c. **Department(s) / Division(s):**

## 4. Costs Requested for Proposed Budget Period:

(Indirect Costs not allowed)

Direct Costs ($):

## 5. Will the Project Include Sub-Awards or Sub-Contracts?

- YES  
- NO

## 6. Departmental Financial Official to be Notified if Award is Made:

- **Name:**
- **Title:**
- **Tel:**
- **Email:**
## RESEARCH PROJECT INFORMATION

**PROJECT TITLE:** (200-character maximum)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE HUMAN SUBJECTS?</th>
<th>Yes [ ]</th>
<th>No [ ]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

If “Yes” to Human Subjects, is the project exempt from federal regulations?  
Yes [ ]  No [ ]

If “Yes” to exempt, check appropriate exemption number below and provide justification in the space below (attach additional pages if necessary):

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Exemptions</th>
<th>[ ] 1</th>
<th>[ ] 2</th>
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If “No” to Human Subjects, does the proposed research involve human specimens and/or data?  
Yes [ ]  No [ ]

If “Yes” to human specimens and/or data, provide an explanation of why the project does not involve human subjects research in the space below (attach additional pages if necessary):

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<tr>
<th>DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE VERTEBRATE ANIMALS?</th>
<th>Yes [ ]</th>
<th>No [ ]</th>
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If “Yes” to Vertebrate Animals, are the animals euthanized?  
Yes [ ]  No [ ]

If “Yes” to euthanasia, is the method consistent with AVMA guidelines?  
Yes [ ]  No [ ]

If “No” to AVMA guidelines, describe the method and provide scientific justification in the space provided below (attach additional pages if necessary):

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<th>DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE SELECT AGENT(S)?</th>
<th>Yes [ ]</th>
<th>No [ ]</th>
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(See Federal Select Agent Program list: [https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsList.html](https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsList.html))

If “Yes” to Select Agent(s), is/are the agent(s) excluded from federal regulations?  
Yes [ ]  No [ ]

(See FSAP exclusions: [https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsExclusions.html](https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsExclusions.html))
<table>
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<th>NAME</th>
<th>ROLE ON PROJECT</th>
<th>Cal. Mnths</th>
<th>Acad. Mnths</th>
<th>Summer Mnths</th>
<th>INST.BASE SALARY</th>
<th>SALARY REQUESTED</th>
<th>FRINGE BENEFITS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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**SUBTOTALS**

CONSULTANT COSTS

EQUIPMENT (Itemize)

SUPPLIES (Itemize by category)

TRAVEL

INPATIENT CARE COSTS

OUTPATIENT CARE COSTS

ALTERATIONS AND RENOVATIONS (Itemize by category)

OTHER EXPENSES (Itemize by category)

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**TOTAL DIRECT COSTS FOR INITIAL BUDGET PERIOD**

PHS 398 (Rev. 03/2020 Approved Through 02/28/2023)
BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

**Personnel:**
List all personnel, including names, effort, and roles on the project.

For each person named on the project, it is recommended that the following information be included for clarity:

1. Role, position, department/institution, and suitability to project: Enter relevant work or accomplishment here, which demonstrates suitability to project.

2. Specific role in project (e.g. directing the project, contributing a specific expertise, showing how this is the best person to lead the project.)

3. Commitment of effort to project: S/He is committed to the project for x calendar months.

Example: **John Smith, Ph.D., PI, (1.5 calendar months)**, will serve as Principal Investigator and Project Director on this project. Associate Professor in the Department of X at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, he has researched XYZ extensively, and has over X years of highly regarded work in the field. He will have overall responsibility for all aspects of the project, and will be responsible for organizing and chairing meetings of the advisory committee. In addition, he will be serving as the lead investigator of the XYZ investigation.

**Supplies:**

**Other Expenses:**
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED RESEARCH

Scientific Abstract (400-word maximum)

Lay Abstract (250-word maximum)

Research Plan:

A. Specific Aims (1-page maximum)

B. Background, Significance, and Innovation

C. Preliminary Studies, if any

D. Approach

E. Statement of Cancer Relevance (4-page maximum for sections B-E)

F. References Cited

G. Regulatory compliance information, including the following sections as applicable:
   • Vertebrate Animals (including 1. Description of Procedures, 2. Justifications, and 3. Minimization of Pain and Distress); and
   • Select Agent Research (including 1. Identification of Agent(s), 2. Entity Registration Status, and 3. Description of Facilities).
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME:

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE:

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION AND LOCATION</th>
<th>DEGREE (if applicable)</th>
<th>Completion Date MM/YYYY</th>
<th>FIELD OF STUDY</th>
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</thead>
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A. **Personal Statement**

B. **Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors**

C. **Contributions to Science**
OTHER RESEARCH SUPPORT

**PI Name**

**Active**
Project Number (Project Contact PI Name)  Project Dates  Applicant's Effort (Calendar months)
Sponsor Name  Project Annual Direct Costs
Project Title
Applicant's Role on Project:
The major goals of this project are ___.

**Pending**
Project Number (Project Contact PI Name)  Project Dates  Applicant’s Effort (Calendar months)
Sponsor Name  Project Annual Direct Costs
Project Title
Applicant's Role on Project:
The major goals of this project are ___.

**Overlap**
Summarize any potential overlap with all active or pending projects and this application in terms of the science, budget, and an individual’s committed effort