



**Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant  
Seed Grant Program  
2021 Request for Applications**

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center (FPBCC) is soliciting applications for American Cancer Society-supported one-year seed grants of up to **\$50,000**. The American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant (ACS IRG) is a block grant that allows the FPBCC to award funding to early-career independent investigators who have no current national peer-reviewed research grant support. This seed grant program is intended to support junior faculty in initiating cancer research projects, so they can generate preliminary results that will enable them to compete successfully for national funding in all areas of cancer research.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- University of Nebraska investigators at the rank of assistant professor or equivalent who are eligible to apply as principal investigator for grant support from national agencies (e.g., NIH, NSF, ACS), but who do not currently hold such an award. (*Exceptions may be made for those with personnel awards primarily intended to support a junior investigator's salary, such as the NIH K series. However, current recipients of K99/R00 grants that have progressed to the R00 phase of support are not eligible for this exception.*)
- The investigator must be within six years of their first independent faculty appointment and have a commitment from their institution for salary and space.
- Awards to postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and senior faculty are not allowed.
- Previous recipients of FPBCC ACS IRG seed grants are ineligible to apply.
- If not a United States citizen, noncitizen national, or permanent resident, an applicant must hold a visa that will allow them to remain in the U.S. throughout the grant period and long enough to fulfill all obligations of the award.
- Those selected for funding must present their projects to the scientific community and potential donors as requested by the FPBCC and ACS. One written project progress report and one written final report are also required.

**PROPOSAL FORMAT**

The appended FPBCC ACS IRG Seed Grant Program Application must be used; a version of this application with fillable forms is also included and available at: <https://www.unmc.edu/cancercenter/research/research-funding-opp>.

Required proposal components include:

- **Principal Investigator Biographical Information form** (with visa status documentation, as required)
- **Research Project Information form**
- **Detailed Budget with Budget Justification**
- Description of Research Proposed:
  - **Scientific Abstract** (300-word maximum)
  - **Lay Abstract** (300-word maximum)
  - **Research Plan** including the following: **A) Specific Aims**; **B) Background and Significance**; **C) Preliminary Studies** (if any); **D) Research Design and Methods**; **E) Statement of Cancer Relevance** (not to exceed 7 pages for sections A – E); **F) References Cited**; **G) Regulatory compliance information, including Protection of Human Subjects, Vertebrate Animals, and Select Agent Research** sections, as applicable.
- **NIH Biosketch** for the Principal Investigator
- **Other Research Support** for the Principal Investigator

**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.)

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

All applications must be submitted as a single PDF to [buffettcancercenter@unmc.edu](mailto:buffettcancercenter@unmc.edu) no later than **11:59 pm CT on Monday, September 27, 2021**. Please include the last name of the project Principal Investigator in the subject line of the email. Proposals not adhering to the page limitations, formatting requirements, and/or application deadline will not be reviewed. Final funding decisions are expected to be made in November / December.

## **BUDGET GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS**

The requested project budget must be in increments of \$5,000, and total budget requests may not exceed \$50,000. Below is a list of allowable and unallowable expenditures, per ACS IRG regulations.

<b>Expenditures Allowed</b>	<b>Expenditures Not Allowed</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Research supplies and animal maintenance</li><li>▪ Technical assistance</li><li>▪ <u>Domestic</u> (only) travel when necessary to carry out the proposed research program</li><li>▪ Publication costs, including reprints</li><li>▪ Costs of computer time</li><li>▪ Special fees (pathology, photography, etc.)</li><li>▪ Stipends for graduate students and postdoctoral assistants if their role is to promote and sustain the project presented by the junior faculty member</li><li>▪ Equipment costing less than \$2,000 (<i>Special justification is necessary for items exceeding this amount.</i>)</li><li>▪ Registration fees at scientific meetings</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Indirect costs</li><li>▪ Salary of principal investigator</li><li>▪ Honoraria and travel expenses for visiting lecturers</li><li>▪ Foreign travel (<i>Special consideration given for attendance at scientific meetings held in Canada.</i>)</li><li>▪ Secretarial/administrative salaries</li><li>▪ Membership dues</li><li>▪ Student tuition and fees</li><li>▪ Books and periodicals</li><li>▪ Office and laboratory furniture</li><li>▪ Office equipment and supplies</li><li>▪ Rental of office or laboratory space</li><li>▪ Construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings/laboratories</li><li>▪ Recruiting and relocation expenses</li><li>▪ Non-medical services to patients (<i>Travel to a clinical site or patient incentives are allowable.</i>)</li></ul>

FRED & PAMELA BUFFETT CANCER CENTER AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH GRANT  
SEED GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Name (first and last):

Degree(s):

Academic Title

Department

School/College

**CITIZENSHIP STATUS** *Check appropriate box.*

U.S. citizen or U.S. national

U.S. permanent resident

U.S. visa holder\*

(\*Must provide documentation that visa status will remain active throughout the proposed project period.)

**Date final doctoral degree conferred (MM/DD/YYYY):**

**Date first independent faculty position began (MM/DD/YYYY):**

**VERIFICATION OF APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY BY DEPARTMENT CHAIR** *Applicants must be within six years of their first independent faculty appointment, be salaried full-time faculty with appropriate committed research facilities, and not have competitive national research grant funding active at the proposed project start date.*

**Name of Department Chair**

**Signature**

**Date:**

**APPLICANT MENTOR** *(Successful candidates will identify and work closely with an appropriate institutional mentor.)*

**Name of Mentor**

**Signature**

**Date:**

**How did you hear about this program?** *Check appropriate box.*

- Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center email
- Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center website
- UNMC Today
- Other (Please specify)

**RESEARCH PROJECT INFORMATION**

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

**DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE HUMAN SUBJECTS?** Yes  No

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):

**Exemptions:** 1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

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):

**DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE VERTEBRATE ANIMALS?** Yes  No

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):

**DOES THE PROJECT INVOLVE SELECT AGENT(S)?** Yes  No

(See Federal Select Agent Program list: <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>)

**DETAILED BUDGET FOR INITIAL BUDGET PERIOD  
DIRECT COSTS ONLY**

FROM  
1 Dec 2021

THROUGH  
30 Nov 2022

List PERSONNEL (*Applicant organization only*)  
Use Cal, Acad, or Summer to Enter Months Devoted to Project  
Enter Dollar Amounts Requested (*omit cents*) for Salary Requested and Fringe Benefits

NAME	ROLE ON PROJECT	Cal. Mnths	Acad. Mnths	Summer Mnths	INST.BASE SALARY	SALARY REQUESTED	FRINGE BENEFITS	TOTAL
	PD/PI							
<b>SUBTOTALS</b>								

CONSULTANT COSTS	
EQUIPMENT ( <i>Itemize</i> )	
SUPPLIES ( <i>Itemize by category</i> )	
TRAVEL	
INPATIENT CARE COSTS	
OUTPATIENT CARE COSTS	
ALTERATIONS AND RENOVATIONS ( <i>Itemize by category</i> )	
OTHER EXPENSES ( <i>Itemize by category</i> )	

CONSORTIUM/CONTRACTUAL COSTS	DIRECT COSTS	
<b>SUBTOTAL DIRECT COSTS FOR INITIAL BUDGET PERIOD</b> ( <i>Item 7a, Face Page</i> )		\$
CONSORTIUM/CONTRACTUAL COSTS	FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT COSTS FOR INITIAL BUDGET PERIOD</b>		\$

## **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 RESEARCH PROPOSED

**Scientific Abstract** (no more than 300 words)

**Lay Abstract** (no more than 300 words)

**Research Plan** (maximum 7 pages for sections **A - E**):

**A. Specific Aims**

**B. Background and Significance**

**C. Preliminary Studies** (if applicable)

**D. Research Design and Methods**

**E. Statement of Cancer Relevance**

**F. References Cited**

**G. Regulatory compliance information**, including the following sections as applicable:

- **Protection of Human Subjects** (including **1. Risks to Subjects** [with **a. Human Subjects Involvement, Characteristics, and Design** and **b. Study Procedures, Materials, and Potential Risks**], **2. Adequacy of Protection Against Risks** [with **a. Informed Consent and Assent**, **b. Protections Against Risk**, and **c. Vulnerable Subjects, if relevant**], **3. Potential Benefits of Proposed Research to Subjects and Others**, and **4. Importance of Knowledge to Be Gained**, 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.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY

**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)

Sponsor Name

Project Title

Applicant's Role on Project:

The major goals of this project are \_\_\_\_.

Project Dates

Applicant's Effort (Calendar months)

Project Annual Direct Costs

#### **Pending**

Project Number (Project Contact PI Name)

Sponsor Name

Project Title

Applicant's Role on Project:

The major goals of this project are \_\_\_\_.

Project Dates

Applicant's Effort (Calendar months)

Project Annual Direct Costs

#### **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.