



University of Iowa Health Care



2021 DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (DRP) AWARD

University of Iowa and Mayo Clinic

LYMPHOMA SPECIALIZED PROGRAM OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (SPORE)

Letter-of-Concept Deadline:	Noon (Central Time), Friday, April 16, 2021
Invited Full Proposal Deadline:	Noon (Central Time), Friday, May 14, 2021
Project Period:	July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

From: University of Iowa/Mayo Clinic Lymphoma Specialized Program of Research Excellence (UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE)
 George Weiner MD, Co-Principal Investigator
 Steven Lentz, MD, PhD, Co-Director, SPORE DRP
 Thomas Witzig MD, Co-Principal Investigator
 Stephen Russell MD, PhD, Co-Director, SPORE DRP

OVERVIEW

The University of Iowa/Mayo Clinic Lymphoma Specialized Program of Research Excellence (UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE) is a center grant funded through the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The goal of the SPORE is to encourage and support translational research that will ultimately benefit patients with or at risk for lymphoma. More specifically, funds will be awarded to pilot projects that explore innovative ideas (particularly projects that translate basic science discoveries into the clinic) which will have significant impact on reducing incidence and mortality and increasing and improving survival in lymphoma. Developmental Research Program (DRP) awardees will have priority access to SPORE core resources: Biospecimens, Biostatistics, and Clinical Research. The project duration is one year. **We strongly encourage you to speak personally to one of us to obtain advice and guidance if you are considering submitting a proposal.**

Funding is anticipated to start on July 1, 2021. Funding levels are contingent upon the amount awarded by the NCI in 2021.

ELIGIBILITY

Investigators planning to conduct their research in universities, hospitals, research institutions, and federal agencies are eligible to apply. Applicants must hold either a PhD or MD degree or equivalent.

AMOUNT OF AWARDS

A maximum of \$25,000 per year in direct costs will be provided through the UI/Mayo SPORE grant with support from each institution for a **total award of approximately \$50,000**. The exact amount of the award is contingent on NIH funding. NIH funds must be spent by June 30, 2022.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact Tami Thompson 319-353-8987 or Maria Bertorello 319-353-8634 maria-bertorello@uiowa.edu (UI), Cara Thomas 507-266-2040 (Mayo), or the Developmental Research Program Directors: Steven Lentz, MD, PhD (UI; steven-lentz@uiowa.edu) or Stephen Russell MD, PhD (Mayo; sjr@mayo.edu).

Please Submit Materials to:

UI: Tami Thompson/Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center/5970 JPP (tami-thompson@uiowa.edu)

Mayo: Cara Thomas/Mayo Clinic Hematology Research/ST 6-28 (thomas.cara@mayo.edu)

INSTRUCTIONS

APPLICATION PROCESS**Step 1 – Letter-of-Concept: Deadline Noon, Friday, April 16, 2021 (Central Time)**

A 1-2 page letter-of-concept describing the proposed research, in addition to a statement outlining the potential of the research to improve the detection, diagnosis or treatment of lymphoma, should be submitted to the attention of Tami Thompson (UI, tami-thompson@uiowa.edu) **AND** Cara Thomas (Mayo, thomas.cara@mayo.edu). Letters-of-concept will be reviewed by the Developmental Research Committee of the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE with selected investigators invited to submit full proposals.

The letter-of-concept should include the following information:

- a) Title and overview of the proposed project
- b) Area of expertise of the PI and other investigators
- c) Relevance of the project to Lymphoma research
- d) Statement of how the proposed project will lead to a full research project with funding potential

Step 2 – Invited Full Application: Deadline Noon, Friday, May 14, 2021 (Central Time)**SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPY WITH ALL SECTIONS IN ONE PDF DOCUMENT**

A full application will be requested from individuals with meritorious letters of concept that meet the P50 Lymphoma program goals.

1. Instructions: Proposal length: 8 pages **excluding** references, biosketches, budget, and relevant human subjects sections including participation of minorities.

Page 1: (cover sheet)	Title of project Name of Applicant and degrees, current Academic Position, Department Names of collaborators/co-investigators Affiliations of investigators: department/institution Contact information of Applicant: address, phone, and e-mail
Page 2: Pages 3-8:	Abstract Research Plan to include a Specific Aims page with hypotheses to be tested, pertinent background and preliminary data, Methods, and Future Directions. Proposals should be no more than 6 pages and include the relevance of the proposed project to lymphoma and the translational potential to patients. Other areas to consider are the <i>potential integration with other UI/Mayo Lymphoma SPORE projects, any proposed use of Lymphoma SPORE Cores</i> (Biospecimens, Biostatistics, and Clinical Trials). References (not included in page count)

2. *Budget Page with Justification*: Outline expenditures for the project. Funds should be used to support the research project, including partial salary support for the awardee, research personnel, supplies, and other expenses. Equipment purchases, mentor salary support, and travel are not allowed.
3. *Biographical Sketch*: Biographical sketch of applicant and co-investigators and bibliography with five of the most relevant publications of the applicant (NIH format; four-page limit).
4. *For residents or fellows who apply*:
 - a. Mentor's biographical sketch is required. Mentors must have external funding in lymphoma cancer, have a publication record in translational research, and be committed to devoting sufficient time to the applicant to maximize the potential for success. Applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. George Weiner (UI, george-weiner@uiowa.edu) or Dr. Thomas Witzig (Mayo; witzig.thomas@mayo.edu) prior to submitting the application to verify the suitability of the mentor.
 - b. A letter from the mentor evaluating both the applicant's and the mentor's qualifications for the proposed research project and indicating the applicant's potential in lymphoma research.
 - c. A letter from the resident or fellow indicating their commitment to 100% research effort for the duration of the research award.
5. *Other Support*: List of current applicant funding including source, amount, and effort.
6. *Human Subjects*: Please include a section on inclusion of minorities in study populations in accordance with NIH policy and describe the composition of the study population.
7. *Animal Studies* (Per PHS 398): Please include Vertebrate Animal section.

Individuals who were supported by the DRP previously are welcome to re-apply for a 2nd year of funding. **In addition to the other requested items**, please submit a progress report (no more than 2 pages) describing the following:

- a. Major scientific advances
- b. Explanation of any changes in direction or new approaches
- c. Statement of the relevance of the research to lymphoma cancer
- d. Description of the potential of the project to become a full SPORE project or to obtain independent funding
- e. List of abstracts, manuscripts, and grant applications that were supported by SPORE funds
- f. Summary of interactions with SPORE research Cores
- g. Explanation of budget use and justification for carrying forward unused funds

Please note that these applications will be reviewed on an equal basis with new submissions. Therefore, please fulfill all requirements noted in the instructions above.

Full proposals should be submitted before noon (Central Time) on May 14, 2021, and directed to:

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Attention: Cancer Center Administration
Tami M. Thompson
Tami-Thompson@uiowa.edu
Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center,
UI Health Care, 5970Z JPP
(319) 353-8987

AND

MAYO CLINIC

Attention: Cara Thomas
thomas.cara@mayo.edu
Hematology Research ST628
Mayo Clinic Rochester
(507) 266-2040

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Evaluation and Scoring

Priority will be given to the most innovative pilot projects that can be applied to lymphoma so as to have a significant impact on reducing lymphoma cancer incidence and mortality or increasing and improving survival. Projects will be scored in the following categories:

1. Significance of the problem being addressed
2. Scientific merit
3. Innovation and translational relevance
4. Potential for advancement into a full project or external funding
5. Qualifications of key personnel
6. Evidence of interaction across disciplines (e.g. basic, population, and/or clinical investigators)
7. Potential interactions with Cores or other Lymphoma (or other disease site) SPORE projects

Successful applicants will be considered members of the Lymphoma SPORE and will be expected to attend monthly Lymphoma SPORE meetings in person or by teleconference. An annual written progress report and presentation at the SPORE scientific meetings or retreats will be required.

REQUIREMENT OF AWARD

Developmental Research Program (DRP) Award recipients will be considered members of the Lymphoma SPORE and will attend the monthly SPORE meetings. Videoconferencing will be available for monthly meetings and awardee will be expected to attend the SPORE's annual advance. The awardee will provide an annual written progress report and will be expected to present their research project at a monthly SPORE scientific meeting or retreat. Reports should include project accomplishments, publications and presentations, current budgetary expenditures, research impediments and future plans. Additionally, final reports are due within 60 days of completion of the award. It is expected that the applicant will meet with the mentor regularly (at least monthly; preferably weekly). Quarterly meetings with the Director and semi-annual meetings with the Director and mentor are required.

PUBLICATIONS

Publications (including abstracts or presentations at scientific meetings) resulting from projects supported by the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE must carry the acknowledgement: "**Supported in part by Public Health Service grant number P50 CA097274 from the University of Iowa /Mayo Clinic Lymphoma Specialized Program of Research Excellence (UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE) and the National Cancer Institute.**" Electronic copies of all publications must be submitted to the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE with the progress report. Since the SPORE is an NIH grant, all peer-reviewed manuscripts resulting from this support must comply with the NIH Public Access Policy and be submitted to PubMed Central for a PMCID once accepted for publication in a journal.

HUMAN SUBJECTS AND ANIMAL STUDIES

Applications must meet all NIH requirements for human and/or animal studies. Documentation of protocol approval by the appropriate institutional committee will be required. Copies of all assurances and certifications must be provided to UI/Mayo Administration before funds can be allocated.

CORE RESOURCES ACCESS

Access to SPORE Core resources (Administrative, Biospecimens and Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, and Clinical Trials) may also be available if justified in the application.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

The Developmental Research Committee, which is composed of investigators from UI and Mayo Clinic will review all developmental research applications. Applications will be rated on the basis of scientific

merit, originality, and for relevance to the objectives of the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE program. Proposals will be given priority scores for each category and ranked with other submissions. A letter notifying the applicants of the funding decision will be sent subsequent to the deliberations. It is expected that the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE will fund a total of four developmental research projects (2 UI, 2 MC).

TERM OF AWARDS

The term of the award is for one year with the potential of renewal for an additional year. A second year of support is available, depending on availability of funds, based on competitive review for prior applicants who still qualify and have made significant progress toward the research goals during their initial year of funding. The funds are intended to provide initial support for the development of innovative new hypotheses with the long-term goal of securing support from other funding agencies.

FINANCIAL RECORDS

A separate account must be maintained for each funded grant, and this account must be available for audit by program officials at the UI and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Reports of expenditures and the return of any unexpended balance must be submitted to the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE at the end of each year. NIH Funds must be spent by June 30, 2021. No extensions will be granted.

PATENTS

No patent application for work done under a grant from the Specialized Program of Research Excellence at UI or Mayo Clinic shall be filed by the grantee institution or by the investigator, without prior written approval of the National Cancer Institute and the applicant's institution.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Should the investigator discontinue the project, or leave the designated institution, the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE must be notified two months in advance of these changes. Failure to comply with this policy may jeopardize any future awards to the institution(s). Unexpended funds from the award must be returned to the UI/MC Lymphoma SPORE within 60 days.

The University of Iowa and Mayo Clinic are equal opportunity affirmative action employers. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Please note: Actual funding of awarded grants may be delayed if NCI funding for the parent UI/Mayo SPORE grant is delayed.



University of Iowa Health Care

ATTACHMENT I

Approval Form Checklist
Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center
SPORE Developmental Research Program Applicants

(return with application submitted)

Date: _____

Principal Investigator: _____

Department: _____

Title of Proposal/Project: _____

If the answer to any of these questions is affirmative, the proposal must be reviewed by the University's Institutional Review Board (IRB), prior to the initiation of the project or the establishment of an account.

Receipt of Approval copies prior to initiation of account. <i>Note: If any of these uses are involved in the project, then institutional approval is required before award activation. Please allow a maximum of 60 days from the award notification date to obtain relevant approval. Please submit copies of approved IRB and ACURF to the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center.</i>	YES	NO
1. The experiments described in this proposal involve the use of human research subjects.		
2. The experiments described in this proposal involve the use of laboratory animals.		
3. The experiments described in this proposal involve the use of radioactive isotopes.		
4. The experiments described in this proposal involve administration of new or experimental drugs to humans.		
5. The experiments described in this proposal involve DNA recombinant molecules.		

Signed: _____
Principal Investigator