

## REQUEST FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

### Case Specialized Program of Research Excellence in Gastrointestinal Malignancies (CASE GI SPORE)

All Faculty members are invited to submit proposals to be considered for the **SPORE Career Enhancement Program Award (CEP)**

All proposals must be directed towards translational research of a GI malignancy, with at least one specific aim that involves direct study of patients or human materials.

Maximum Funding Level – \$50,000 direct cost for one year each, with the possibility of second year funding, pending outstanding progress and development, subject to competitive review with all other CEP proposals submitted at that time.

#### **Proposal Guidelines:**

1. Cover Page listing contact information for applicant and research mentor.
2. Biographical Sketch of applicant with bibliography in NIH format
3. Personal statement of long-term career goals, interests in translational research and past experience including abstract of dissertation, post-doctoral and/or clinical fellowship training (2 pages)
4. Research Proposal (5 pages maximum) excluding references
  - Specific Aims (1 page)
  - Background and significance (1 1/2 pages)
  - Experimental Design and methods (2 1/2 pages)
  - Literature cited (Does not count toward the 5 page limit)
5. NIH Biographical Sketch of research mentor
6. Letter of commitment from research mentor to Translational Research Project and Research Mentoring
7. Letter from Department Head with commitment to faculty position with 75% protected time for research and training for 2 years as SPORE Career Enhancement Research Scholar.
8. Letters of recommendation from 3 individuals knowledgeable about the candidate's clinical, research performance, commitment to a research career and potential for a successful career in GI cancer translational research. One letter must be from anticipated department head at Case Western Reserve University.

#### **SPORE CEP Project Eligibility:**

1. Individuals with junior faculty appointments at all CWRU affiliated institutions, including Cleveland Clinic (CCF), University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center (UHCMC), MetroHealth, and VA, at the instructor or assistant professor level who have not previously served as principal investigator on a NIH Research Program Grant (i.e., R01s), first awards (i.e., R24s), or comparative development awards (i.e., K01, K07, K08, K12, K23); or,

2. Advanced post-doctoral or clinical fellows with commitments to independent faculty appointments at CWRU by beginning of CEP award.
3. Established investigators with faculty appointments at CWRU who seek to refocus their research on GI translational cancer research.
4. Individuals in any of the above categories at other institutions must secure a commitment to a CWRU faculty position by the time program participation is scheduled to begin.
5. All candidates must hold a terminal degree, MD, DO or PhD or equivalent and have completed training by the time program participation is scheduled to begin.
6. Candidates must provide a letter from their department chair that guarantees they will have a minimum of 75% full-time professional effort protected for research and training in the CEP during the period of this award.
7. All candidates must be US citizens or non-citizen nationals or must be lawfully admitted for permanent residence and possess an Alien Registration Receipt card or other verification of legal admission as a permanent resident of the United States. Foreign nationals and individuals in temporary or student visas are not eligible.

### **SPORE CEP Allowable Costs:**

- Salary & Fringe
- Research Supplies
- Equipment less than \$5,000
- Salary support for post-doctoral or technical personnel
- No travel support from CEP award
- No support for renovations
- No indirect costs transferred to department or collaborating institutions

### **Expectation of Funded Projects**

- Establishment of co-investigators-advisors to ensure translational considerations
- Prompt IRB or IACUC application and approval
- Prompt initiation of research project
- Quarterly operational status reports at GI SPORE Meetings
- Semi-annual presentation of research progress reports at biweekly GI SPORE Executive Committee Meeting
- Annual written progress reports for 5 years
- Annual presentation at SPORE annual retreat, attended by the SPORE IAB
- Annual follow-up progress reports of research developments, presentations, publications and progress toward achieving translational goals and independent funding
- Attendance and participation at regular GI SPORE Meetings
- Attendance and participation in Comprehensive Cancer Center annual retreat
- Use of GI SPORE and Cancer Center Core Facilities where appropriate
- Review by GI SPORE Biostatistics Core of plans before starting and data before presentation or publication



CASE  
COMPREHENSIVE  
CANCER CENTER



- Acknowledgement of support by the Cancer Center and GI SPORE in all publications and presentations

Completed proposals must be emailed to Suzanne Morris, [sxm1068@case.edu](mailto:sxm1068@case.edu)

**Application Deadline: May 15, 2019**

More information on GI SPORE, <https://case.edu/cancer/research/gispore>

For questions, please contact Suzanne Morris, [sxm1068@case.edu](mailto:sxm1068@case.edu)

\*Previously submitted SPORE pilot/scholar applications are welcome to be resubmitted

#### **Governing Policies for Career Enhancement Awards**

This program is designed to support research training leading to independent careers in translational GI Cancer research. Applicants may be either junior faculty who are aiming to develop a career in GI cancer research, or may be established senior investigators who are interested in transitioning to working in the field of GI cancer research.

Proposals for a SPORE Career Enhancement Award need to have at least one translational research aim that includes either studies involving primary human materials or studies involving patients. Studies using primary patient samples or patient derived xenografts are consistent with this guideline, but studies that use only cell lines or xenografts from cell lines are not.

Awardees are expected to devote 75% effort to research and training, will conduct a mentored research program in the laboratory or program of one of the SPORE Investigators and have an assigned mentoring team. Applicants must be US citizens. They must have a faculty appointment at the time the scholarship begins or be in the senior year of a training program with a department commitment to a faculty appointment during the first scholarship year.