

REQUEST FOR PILOT RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Center on Race and Social Problems (www.crsp.pitt.edu)
School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh

Deadline: 5:00 pm, Monday, November 16, 2009

The Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) invites full-time faculty and researchers with a PhD (or similar degree) at the University of Pittsburgh to submit pilot research proposals that address current race-related social problems within any of the areas of focus of CRSP: economic disparities; education disparities; interracial group relations; mental health; youth, families, and the elderly; and criminal justice.

For each area of focus CRSP has created a research advisory panel (RAP) so that faculty and researchers can share information, collaborate on race-related research and publications, and help guide the Center. To be considered for a pilot study, you must indicate on your proposal cover page that you belong to a RAP or would like to join one. Contact Michael Newman (mnewman@pitt.edu) for more information on RAPs.

This initiative is expected to support two new pilot projects. Projects may utilize a wide range of research methodologies, including qualitative and quantitative research, policy analysis and evaluation, and translation of research into practice. Existing or new data may be used. Inclusion of minority investigators as PI, Co-PI, or Mentor is encouraged. To be considered, proposals must have race as a focus.

If you received pilot funding from CRSP in the past, you can be considered for new funding only if the prior project resulted in at least one paper submitted for publication and one proposal for follow-up research.

All proposals should contain a cover page (attached), the body of the proposal, and a budget. The body of the proposal should be no more than SEVEN pages single-spaced and should state:

- Specific Aims (what is the research intended to accomplish or find out)
- Background (what observations or prior scientific findings serve as the basis for the study)
- Importance (why is it important to conduct the research)
- Subjects and Recruitment (who will be studied, how will they be identified, and how will they be approached for participation)
- Methods (what information will be gathered, how will it be gathered, and how will it be analyzed)
- Qualifications of the Principal Investigator(s)
- Plans for Scholarly Publications
- Plans to Seek Federal or Other External Funding for Expanded Follow-Up Research
- Prior CRSP-Funded Pilot Study (if any) and Resulting Publications and Research Proposals

Budgets of \$5,000-\$10,000 will be considered. CRSP funds can be used for measurement, statistical, programming, or research assistant support. Funds cannot be used for University staff and faculty salaries, equipment, or physical plant infrastructure. No indirect costs may be included in the proposed budget.

Megan Soltesz, the School of Social Work Business and Finance Manager, is available to help with budget preparation. She can be contacted at 4-6343 or mms34@pitt.edu.

The deadline for proposals is 5:00 pm on Monday November 16, 2009. Proposals must be submitted in Microsoft Word format as an e-mail attachment to Michael Newman (mnewman@pitt.edu). Internal and external reviews of proposed projects will be conducted. Decisions about proposals will be announced in December 2009. Approved pilot studies should begin in January 2010, if possible, and end no later than December 31, 2010. Regular reports on progress will be required of grantees.

Please distribute this announcement to other faculty and researchers at Pitt who may have an interest in pilot study funding for race-related research.

**Pilot Project Application Cover Page
Center on Race and Social Problems**

Project Title:

Principal Investigator and professional title:

Other investigator names and professional titles (if applicable):

For the PI

Campus Mailing Address:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number:

Email Address:

Specific aims of the pilot study (50 words or less):

Mentor/consultant names, titles, and contact information (if applicable):

Human Subjects Involved? YES NO

Project Start Date:

Project End Date:

Total Funds Requested:

RAP Group Membership (mark the one or ones you currently belong to or wish to join):

- Criminal justice
- Economic disparities
- Education disparities
- Interracial group relations
- Mental health
- Youth, families, and the elderly