



## SUNY Upstate Cancer Center Research Pilot Grants

**Purpose of the RFP:** To foster cancer research on novel ideas and generate preliminary data for extramural grant proposals. The projects must have a clear focus on cancer. Proposals must describe the expected preliminary data that will be generated and how that data will support a federal grant submission.

Projects should indicate how they will align with areas of strength at the Cancer Center, including:

- Lifetime survivorship and quality of life
- Interactions of tumor cells with their microenvironment
- Screening, discovery, and validation of novel anti-cancer agents
- Molecular targets and biomarkers in cancer
- Mechanisms of cancer initiation, progression, and metastasis
- Novel models and technologies in cancer research
- Mechanisms of drug resistance, side effects and sequelae from cancer treatments
- Cancer epidemiology

Funded projects typically range from \$25,000 to a maximum of \$50,000 and are to be spent within 2 years after receipt. \$225,000 in total funding will be distributed from the following sources:

- o **SUNY Upstate Medical University Cancer Center: \$200,000**
- o **The Upstate Foundation's Turn 4 A Cure Breast Cancer Research Fund**, (for projects related to breast cancer research): **\$25,000** of supplemental funding

**Priority will be given to collaborative projects between Basic Scientists and Clinical faculty, and for junior faculty. Projects must be for a new line of not currently funded research.**

- Recipients of Cancer Center Pilot Awards in the 2019-2020 cycle are not eligible to apply
- For Award recipients from previous cycles, please include a one-page summary of the papers, proposals, presentations and awards received as a result of your pilot funding. *This will be considered in the grant review process.*

The project will be rated on the following criteria: significance and innovation in cancer research, the ability of the investigator(s) to explain the medical importance of the project, likelihood to lead to National Cancer Institute (NCI) or other federally -funded projects, and the strength the investigator's expertise in the research area.

**Agreement of Expectations:** A signed agreement that acceptance of the funds comes with the expectation that at the time of completion of the project, NCI or other federal sources of funds will be pursued to continue the research. **In addition, investigators will be expected to present their progress at least one of the following: the Cancer Center Retreat, Cancer Center Research Committee, Cancer Center Grand Rounds, and/or the Biomedical Sciences Retreat.** Investigators should also include plans for an additional presentation at a regional or national meeting. Recognition in abstracts and publications derived from this funding should include: The SUNY Upstate Medical University Cancer Center and/or The Upstate Foundation-Turn 4 A Cure Breast Cancer Research Fund.

**Application Submission Procedures:**

- **A Grant Request Form must be created in Self Serve and approved by the investigator's chair prior to submitting a proposal.**
- **Submit one electronic document (PDF) to: Danielle Limer-Nies, [limernid@upstate.edu](mailto:limernid@upstate.edu) by **February 17, 2020 at 4pm.****
- **For questions regarding the application process, contact Katie Keough, [keoughk@upstate.edu](mailto:keoughk@upstate.edu) or via phone: 464-5639.**

## PROPOSED RESEARCH PLAN

1. Title
2. Abstract (limited to 300 words)
3. Specific Aims Page (maximum of 1 page)
4. Research Strategy including Significance, Innovation, Preliminary Data (not required), Approach, and Deliverables (maximum of 3 pages): Preliminary data directly relevant to the specific aims is not required but this section should demonstrate that the investigators possess the technical expertise and assets to complete the experiments. This section should describe how the specific aims will be achieved including possible alternative approaches, the results that are anticipated including the data required for a future grant submission, the biomedical importance, and, if appropriate, possible intellectual property that will be generated.
5. Facilities and Resources (maximum of 1 page) include description of research team and all institutional resources that will support the project.
6. Future Research Plans (maximum of 1 page) including National Cancer Institute extramural grant submissions planned.
7. Budget and Budget Justification (maximum of one page each)
8. References
9. NIH Biosketch

**Formatting Guidelines:** minimum of 11 point font, fonts accepted: Arial, Georgia, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, ½ inch margins, single-spaced. Must be compiled and submitted as a single pdf document.

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**Danielle Limer-Nies**  
[limernid@upstate.edu](mailto:limernid@upstate.edu)

**Grant Deadline: February 17, 2020 @ 4 pm**