CCTSI Pilot Grant Program
Overview

Natalie Julie Serkova, Ph.D.
CCTSI Pilot Grant Program Director

Sue VandeWoude
CSU Pilot Grant Program Director

Christopher Baker, MD
CCTSI CMH-Pilot Grant Program Director

Philip Zeitler, PhD
CCTSI CMH-Pilot Grant Program Director
CCTSI Funding Opportunities

CCTSI awards $3 million/year in pilot grants, microgrants, and pre-doctoral and post-doctoral research scholar awards

Funding Sources
• National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS)
• University of Colorado School of Medicine Dean’s Office
• Children’s Hospital Colorado Research Institute

https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding
CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Eligibility

- CCTSI Members
- Faculty at CCTSI Affiliated Institutions

Graduate, undergraduate, postdoctoral students, fellows and PRAs are encouraged to participate in Non-Key Roles. Underrepresented, female, and minority researchers are particularly urged to apply, as the CCTSI intends to contribute to the creation of a research workforce that is representative of the U.S. population.

CU Anschutz Medical Campus
CU Boulder
CU Denver
Colorado State University

University of Colorado Hospital
Children’s Hospital Colorado
National Jewish Hospital
VA Eastern CO Health Care System
Kaiser Permanente Colorado

https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/aboutus/affiliated-institutions
https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/membership
CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Significance

Figure 1. Reported utilization and needs of CCTSI resources and services (n=668).

| Service                                                    | Have NOT needed | Have USED 
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Translational Pilot Grant programs</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Research Support Center</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCTSI Biostatistical Support (BERD/CIDA)</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical and Translational Research Centers (CTRCs)</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Science for Early Career Researchers</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training/consultation in Dissemination &amp; Implementation research</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTRC Core Resources</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training/consultation in Community-Engaged Research</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biostatistics Core at CSU</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translational Research Studios</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trial Innovation Network</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training/consultation in Pragmatic Trials</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation and product development (I-Corp@CCTSI)</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Ethics Consult Service</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perinatal Research Advisory and Facilitation Committee</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CCTSI Pilot Grant Programs

Colorado Pilot
Child and Maternal Health
Translational Methods
Community Engagement $T_3-T_4$

Goal: Translating Science into High Quality Care

- $T_0$: Preclinical and Foundational Research
  - Informs research with humans

- $T_1$: Translation to Humans
  - Clinical interventions and their initial testing

- $T_2$: Translation to Clinical Settings
  - Inform evidence-based guidelines

- $T_3$: Translation to Practice Implementation in real-world settings

- $T_4$: Translation to Populations
  - Population-based outcomes studies
Colorado (CO-Pilot) Grant Program

To encourage cross-disciplinary and collaborative research in clinical and translational medicine focused on improving human health

Basic research at the cellular and molecular level, pre-clinical research in animal models, clinical research in humans, outcomes, and health services research

Program Directors
Natalie Serkova, PhD
Sue VandeWoude, DVM

Award Categories
• Early-Stage Investigator Diversity Award
• Mentored Faculty
• Junior Faculty
• CSU/ CU Collaboration
Colorado (CO-Pilot) Grant Program

Amount: $30K ($60K for CSU/CU Collaboration)
Duration: 1 year
Eligibly: Post-Doctoral Fellows through Professors

Major goals

• Support junior faculty/ early-stage investigators in their efforts to become an independent PI
• Facilitate developing preliminary data on hypothesis–driven projects to help securing future federal funds
• Foster new collaborations among established CSU/ CU investigators
Child and Maternal Health (CMH-Pilot) Grant Program

Cross-disciplinary and collaborative research focused on children of all ages as well as pregnant women and mothers of newborn and young infants that will ultimately improve child and maternal health.

Basic research at the cellular and molecular level, pre-clinical research in animal models, clinical research in humans, outcomes, and health services research.

Program Directors
Philip Zeitler, MD
Christopher Baker, MD

Award Categories
• Mentored Faculty
• Junior Faculty
Child and Maternal Health (CMH-Pilot) Grant Program

Amount: $30K
Duration: 1 year
Eligibly: Post-Doctoral Fellows through Assistant Professors

Major goals

• Support junior faculty/ early-stage investigators in their efforts to become an independent PI
• Facilitate developing preliminary data on hypothesis–driven projects to help securing future federal funds
Translational Methods (TM-Pilot) Grant Program

Speed the development and application of novel technologies, methods, or analytical assays for clinical and translational research that are presently lacking or not available to CCTSI members.

Facilitate developing functioning and validated methodologies which are not yet available in Colorado, foster new collaborations, and disseminate new technologies across the CCTSI.

Award Categories
- Translational Methods
- Biostatistics & Bioinformatics
- Colorado State University (PI)

Program Director
Natalie Serkova, PhD

2022 New Animal Imaging Applications using NIH-funded MRI/ CT/ Optical Technologies
Translational Methods (TM-Pilot) Grant Program

Amount: $20K  
Duration: 1 year  
Eligibly: Instructors through Professors

Major goals

• Provide support for developing new technologies, assays, algorithms, animal models
• Support new collaborations between a “technology driven PI” and an “application PI”
• Facilitate dissemination of the newly developed technologies among CCTSI research community
Community Engagement (CE-Pilot) Grant Program

Supports community-academic partnerships to perform pilot studies that will strengthen relationships and produce preliminary data for future competitive grant applications.

Funded projects may encompass partnership development, project planning, capacity building as well as T3/T4 translational research projects within specified areas of emphasis with the ultimate goal of reducing health disparities or designed to understand how to decrease health disparities.

Program Deputy Director
Montelle Tamez, PhD

Award Categories
- Partnership Development ($8K)
- Joint Project ($20K)
Review Criteria

1. Innovation - Is the proposal innovative and novel in its hypotheses, approaches, and techniques? For TM-Pilot: Is the proposal innovative and novel in developing new technologies/assays/models?

2. Approach/Scientific Merit - Are the hypotheses and experimental approach sound? What is the likelihood of success given the experiments / proposal as outlined? Are there explicit plans for development of future funding for the project, whether from the NIH, foundations, or commercial sources?

3. Cross-disciplinary or Collaborative Focus - Does the research involve a new collaboration, especially one that increases its translational nature? For TM-Pilot: Can the new method or technology be generalized and translated to other scientific settings/applications?

4. Significance, especially to the CCTSI Mission - Will the results further our understanding / diagnosis / prevention/ or treatment of human diseases?
5. **Investigators** - Do the investigators have the necessary expertise and capacity to complete the proposed research? For Mentored awards, is there sufficient justification for continued mentorship, does the mentor have adequate prior experience and is a strong mentorship plan proposed? **Nonscorable Criteria:** Will the award provide opportunity for individuals from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds to conduct translational research?

6. **Health Equity** - Will the award contribute to improving diversity in translational research at CCTSI affiliated institutions? **Nonscorable Criteria:** Will the proposed research address health inequities and/or the impact of the social determinants of health?

7. **Environment** - Does the research environment improve the likelihood that the proposed research can be completed and have an impact? Does the proposal consider use of CCTSI resources, including Design, Biostatistics, Technology Resources, Patient and Clinical Interaction Resources etc.?

8. **Educational Mission** - Does the proposal explain how the technology will be disseminated among the CCTSI members (giving workshops, collaborating with Shared Resources)? Are students and fellows are involved in the project?
History of Funding

CO-Pilot Program

2019: 19%
2020: 21%
2021: 26%

CMH-Pilot Program

2019: 21%
2020: 16%
2021: 19%

TM-Pilot Program

2019: 17%
2020: 18%
2021: 28%

CE-Pilot Program

2019: 33%
2020: 42%
2021: 43%

*Data does not include C2R2-Pilot
(60 LOI, 55 Applications)
A higher percentage of females received a translational pilot award.

Of grantees who received Translational Pilot Awards were underrepresented minorities (URMs)

Demographics (2009 – 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus Type</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CU-Anschutz Medical Campus</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorado State</td>
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<td>CU-Boulder</td>
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<td>CU-Denver</td>
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<tr>
<td>All other</td>
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</table>

81% 9% 5% 2% 3%

Courtesy of Goldie Komaie, CCTSI Evaluation Core
How to Apply

Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

Funding Opportunities
Each year, the CCTSı awards more than $2 million in pilot grants, microgrants, and pre-doctoral and post-doctoral research scholar awards. You can find more information on each grant and how to apply below

https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding
Colorado Pilot Grant Program (CO-Pilot)

Provides one-year pilot grant awards to encourage cross-disciplinary and collaborative research in clinical and translational medicine.

Translational research is intentionally broadly defined and includes any basic, pre-clinical or clinical research with promise to improve human health. Basic research at the cellular and molecular level, pre-clinical research in animal models, clinical research in humans and outcomes or health services research are all eligible if the ultimate goal is to improve human health.

RFA issued in July. Applications due in October. Selection in February.

CO-Pilot Award Categories

Early-Stage Investigator Diversity Award - $30,000
- Mentored - $30,000
- Junior - $30,000
- CSU/CU Collaboration - $50,000

Request for Applications (RFA)

The RFA describes eligibility, award categories and application requirements.

Applications will be accepted online starting Monday, August 9, 2021

Information & Resources

- 2022 CCTS CO-Pilot Grant Program RFA (pdf)
- 2022 CCTS CO-Pilot Grant Program (pdf)
- PI Eligibility by Academic Rank (pdf)

https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/copilot
https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/cmh
https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/tm
https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/cepilot
# CCTSIPilot Programs: PI Eligibility by Academic Rank

These are typical rank eligibility listings for applicants from CCTSIAffiliated Institutions. If you have eligibility questions for atypical ranks, please contact the appropriate Pilot Program office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missing Data</th>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Associate Professor</th>
<th>Assistant Professor</th>
<th>Assistant Professor</th>
<th>Instructor/Senior Instructor</th>
<th>Post-Doctoral Fellow</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Colorado Pilot Program (CO-Pilot)</strong></td>
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<td>Mentored</td>
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<td>Early-Investigator Diversity</td>
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<td>Collaboration CSU-CU</td>
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<td><strong>Child &amp; Maternal Health Pilot Program (CMH-Pilot)</strong></td>
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<td>Mentored</td>
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<td>Junior</td>
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<td><strong>Translational Methods Pilot Program (TM-Pilot)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Community Engagement Pilot Program (CE-Pilot)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Pilot Projects</td>
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<td>Partnership Develop. Projects</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Later Career Assistant Professors (4-7 years of experience) typically have prior research funding
2. Early Career Assistant Professors (1-3 years of experience) typically have had limited or no prior research funding
3. Includes Research Scientist rank at Colorado State University

[https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/docs/librariesprovider28/cmh-pilot/pi-eligibility-by-academic-rank.pdf?sfvrsn=7e6ac8b9_2](https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/docs/librariesprovider28/cmh-pilot/pi-eligibility-by-academic-rank.pdf?sfvrsn=7e6ac8b9_2)
# Budget Template

**Excel** and **PDF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>ITEM/DETAIL</th>
<th>CU AMC</th>
<th>CSU</th>
<th>CU Boulder</th>
<th>Other Institution (Specify Location)</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key Personnel Salary &amp; Fringe</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Other Personnel</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fee for Services (including Core Services)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Supplies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Equipment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Animals</strong></td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Applicants should customize these Categories
**APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

This checklist is for informational purposes only. All applicants must comply with the requirements of the official Request for Funding Applications (RFA) posted on the CCTSI website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Intent to Apply Form (LOI)</strong></th>
<th><strong>All Applicants</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mentored</strong></th>
<th><strong>CU-CSU Award</strong></th>
<th><strong>TM-Pilot</strong></th>
<th><strong>CSU Faculty</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Select CCTSI Pilot Grant Program</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Select Pilot Award Category</td>
<td>Required</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Certify this project meets RFA Eligibility &amp; Exclusion criteria</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Does this study involve collaboration with non-CCTS1 Affiliated Institution(s)?</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Are any Investigators involved with this project associated with Colorado State University?</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Project Title</td>
<td>Required</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Contact Information: Principal Investigator</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Contact Information: Co-Principal Investigator</td>
<td>If Applicable</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Contact Information: Co-Investigator(s)</td>
<td>If Applicable</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Contact Information: Primary Mentor (or two Co-Mentors)</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Contact Information: Requested Reviewer(s)</td>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Research Topics (Used to pair applications with reviewers)</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Application Form</strong></th>
<th><strong>All Applicants</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mentored</strong></th>
<th><strong>CU-CSU Award</strong></th>
<th><strong>TM-Pilot</strong></th>
<th><strong>CSU Faculty</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Confirm all contact information from LOI is accurate</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Abstract (strict 250 word limit)</td>
<td>Required</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>List all Investigator names, titles, institutions before the abstract</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Research Plan (4 page limit)</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Must be consistent with NIH requirements.</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. References (no page limit)</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Multiple PI Plan (1 page limit)</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Department Letter of Support (no page limit)</td>
<td>Required</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide LOS from CU Investigator’s department head.</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Career Development Plan (1 page)</td>
<td>Required</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Application Checklist ([Excel](#)) or ([PDF](#))
Tips for Success

Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

Resources
- Clinical and Translational Research Centers (CTRC)
- Language For Your Grant Applications
- Protocol Submission
- Clinical Research Support Team (CReST)
- Regulatory Knowledge and Support
- DSMB Assistance
- Translational Informatics
- Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD)
- Trial Innovation Network (TIN)
- Recruit Participants
- Research Ethics
- Research Studio Program
- Find a Researcher (PROFILES)
- IT Campus Research Resources
- Early Life Exposures Research Program (EERP)
- Dissemination and Implementation
- What are you looking for?

ACCELERATING RESEARCH TO IMPROVE HEALTH
The CCTSI helps build research teams of the future, speed the development of new treatments and improve human health

https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/resources
The CU Cancer Center supports a variety of state-of-the-art technological shared resources – *their incorporation into CO/CMH/TM-Pilot proposals is encouraged!*


[https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/colorado-cancer-center#CUMain](https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/colorado-cancer-center#CUMain)
2022 Application Cycle Dates
CO-Pilot and CMH-Pilot

- **July 2021**: Request for Funding Announcement (RFA)
- **Aug 8, 2021**: Zoom Informational Call (link on website)
- **Sep 9, 2021**: CO/CMH-Pilot Intent-to-Apply Form (5 pm)
- **Oct 4, 2021**: CO/CMH-Pilot Application Form (5 pm)
- **Dec 2021**: CCTSI Review Panels
- **Mar 1, 2022**: Awardees Announced
- **May 2022**: Active Funding Period Begins
2022 Application Cycle Dates
TM-Pilot and CE-Pilot

August 2021  
Request for Funding Announcement (RFA)

Aug 23, 2021  
Zoom Informational Call (link on website)

Oct 4, 2021  
CE/TM-Pilot Intent-to-Apply Form (5 pm)

Nov 1, 2021  
CE/TM-Pilot Application Form (5 pm)

Jan 20212  
CCTSI Review Panels

Mar 1, 2022  
Awardees Announced

May 2022  
Active Funding Period Begins
CCTSI Pilot Grant Contacts

https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding

Debra Szuster
CCTSI Pilot Program Administrator
debra.szuster@cuanschutz.edu

Jessica Hunter
CSU Pilot Program Administrator
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Dr. Natalie Serkova
CO/TM-Pilot Program Director
natlie.serkova@cuanschutz.edu

Dr. Philip Zeitler
CMH-Pilot Director
philip.zeitler@childrenscolorado.org

Dr. Sue VandeWoude
CSU Pilot Program Director
sue.vandewoude@colostae.edu

Dr. Christopher Baker
CMH-Pilot Director
christopher.baker@childrenscolorado.org