CCTSI Pilot Grant Program
Overview

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

Christopher Baker, MD
CCTSI CMH-Pilot Grant Program Director

Debra Szuster, M.S., CAPM
CCTSI Pilot Project Administrator

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 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 Programs

Colorado Pilot

Child and Maternal Health

Translational Methods

Community Engagement \( T_{3-T4} \)
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.

Program Director
Natalie Serkova, PhD

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>CO-Pilot LOIs</th>
<th>CO-Pilot Applications</th>
<th>CO-Pilot Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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CMH-Pilot Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>CMH-Pilot LOIs</th>
<th>CMH-Pilot Applications</th>
<th>CMH-Pilot Awards</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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TM-Pilot Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>TM-Pilot LOIs</th>
<th>TM-Pilot Applications</th>
<th>TM-Pilot Awards</th>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>28%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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CE-Pilot Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>CE-Pilot LOIs</th>
<th>CE-Pilot Applications</th>
<th>CE-Pilot Awards</th>
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<td>2021</td>
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</table>

*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></th>
<th>CU-Anschutz Medical Campus</th>
<th>Colorado State</th>
<th>CU-Boulder</th>
<th>CU-Denver</th>
<th>All other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**History of Applicants**

Courtesy of Goldie Komaie, CCTSI Evaluation Core
How to Apply

Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

Funding Opportunities
Each year, the CCTS offers 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 CCTSI CO-Pilot Grant Program RFA (pdf)
- 2022 Applicant Checklist (pdf)
- PI Eligibility by Academic Rank (pdf)
- 2022 CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Budget Template (pdf)
- 2022 CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Required Budget Template (xlsx)
- 2022 CCTSI CO-Pilot Grant Program RFA (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
CCTSI Pilot Programs: PI Eligibility by Academic Rank

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Associate Professor</th>
<th>Assistant Professor(^1)</th>
<th>Assistant Professor(^2)</th>
<th>Instructor/ Senior Instructor(^3)</th>
<th>Post-Doctoral Fellow</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Pilot Program (CO-Pilot)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mentored</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early-Investigator Diversity</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaboration CSU-CU</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child &amp; Maternal Health Pilot Program (CMH-Pilot)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mentored</td>
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<td>Junior</td>
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<td>Translational Methods Pilot Program (TM-Pilot)</td>
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<td>All</td>
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<td>Community Engagement Pilot Program (CE-Pilot)</td>
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<td>Joint Pilot Projects</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partnership Develop. Projects</td>
<td>✓</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
### CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Budget

**Budget and Active Award Period:** 05/01/2022 to 04/30/2023

<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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Key Personnel Salary &amp; Fringe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Personnel</td>
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<td>Fee for Services (including Core Services)</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animals</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Applicants should customize these Categories

Budget Template (Excel) and (PDF)
# 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 CCTS1 website.

## Intent to Apply Form (LOI)

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

## Application Form

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

Application Checklist ([Excel](#)) or ([PDF](#))
ACCELERATING RESEARCH TO IMPROVE HEALTH

The CCTSI helps build research teams of the future, speed the development of new treatments and improve human health.
CTRC Pricing  CCTSI Research Studio Program  Colorado PROFILES
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 2021  CCTSI Review Panels
Mar 1, 2022  Awardees Announced
May 2022  Active Funding Period Begins
CCTSI Pilot Grant Contacts

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christopher.baker@childrenscolorado.org

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

https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/copilot
https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/cmh
https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/tm