

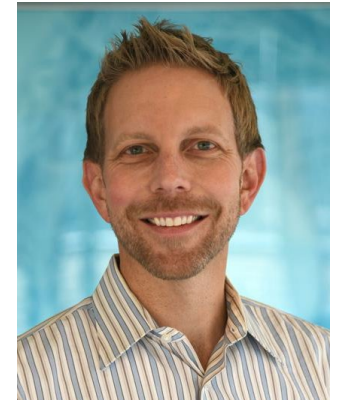


Colorado Clinical & Translational Sciences Institute

2025 CCTSI Pilot Grant Program Overview



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



Christopher Baker, MD
CMH-Pilot Grant Program Director



Matt Hickey, Ph.D.
CSU Pilot Grant Program Director

Kristen House
CCTSI Pilot Grant Program Administrator



CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Eligibility



- CCTSI Members
- Faculty at CCTSI Partner 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

Denver Health

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/partnering-institutions>

<https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/membership>



Exclusions/ Restrictions

1. An individual may apply in a Key Role on only one application between the CO-/ CMH-/ CE-Pilots. This restriction is not applicable to the TM-Pilots, nor to Non-Key Roles.
2. Key Role individuals on a no-cost extension (NCE) Pilot award are not allowed to apply for the new cycle.
3. Applications proposing to continue the work of a previously funded CCTSI Pilot Grant Project are not allowed.
4. CCTSI Pilot Grant Awards may not be used to support research conducted outside of the United States. However, proposals that use data or samples collected at international sites through other means may be considered for funding if the portion of the work conducted locally occurs at CCTSI Affiliate Institutions.
5. The CTS-Pilot Program **is not designed to fund** “translational research projects” (which are only focused on crossing a particular step of the translational process for a particular target or disease) that do not also address to some extent a generalizable translational roadblock in **translational science**.



What is new in 2025 Pilot Grant Cycle?

- We are in the new NCATS UM1 Cycle (2023-2029)
- Under the new NCATS guidelines, a pilot project should address overcoming a barrier or roadblock in [translational science](#) as well as a research question
- No-cost extensions will not be allowed for the 2025 award cycle (all projects must be completed by 7/31/2026)



2025 Pilot Grant Cycle Timeline

	CO-Pilots	CMH-Pilots	TM-Pilots
RFA Announcement	11/4/2024	11/4/2024	11/11/2024
Informational Call #1	11/13/2024	11/13/2024	11/18/2024
Letter of Intent Due	12/9/2024	12/9/2024	12/16/2024
Informational Call #2	12/18/2024	12/18/2024	01/06/2025
Application Due Date	01/13/2025	01/13/2025	01/21/2025
2024 Award Cycle	<u>08/01/2025 – 07/31/2026</u>		



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: \$30K

Duration: 1 year

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



Review Criteria

TM-Pilot



CCTSI Review Panels will use the NIH 9-point scoring system and rate based on following criteria:

- a. **Innovation** in proposed methods to be developed, approaches, and techniques.
- b. **Approach/Scientific Merit** based on rigor, transparency and **one-year feasibility** of the proposed study design.
- c. **Principal Investigators'** research qualification and collaborative potential of team
- d. **Significance** to the CCTSI Vision to “Accelerate and catalyze the translation of innovative science into improved health and patient care.”
- e. **Translational Science Roadblock:** does the Pilot proposal address a [translational science roadblock](#) that could be generalizable to other research studies?
- f. **Dissemination** of the to-be-developed methods/ technology among CCTSI members
- g. **Environment** and institutional support to the PI and the proposal
- h. ***Health Equity and Diversity (Non-Scoring Criteria)***





National Center
for Advancing
Translational Sciences

Transforming Translational Science

NCATS Strategic Principles

Whereas “translational research” focuses on crossing a particular step of the translational process for a particular target or disease, translational science is focused on the general case that applies to any/multiple targets or diseases.

A key tenet of translational science is to understand common causes of inefficiency and failure to complete translational research projects in a timely fashion, which may present a common barrier across various research targets, diseases, and therapeutic areas.



[Examples of Translational Science Roadblocks](#)

In the application, the PI must state clearly what is your “translational science roadblock” that you will be addressing in your proposal:

- improved study design by improving rigor and transparency in major generalizable areas of translational discovery
- technical execution of complex mechanistic studies in humans or animal models
- challenges to data acquisition, integrity and analysis
- translational barrier from animal models to human trials; or between adult and pediatric patient populations
- Using novel methods to translate findings from the laboratory, clinic, or community into treatments and interventions
- Developing data acquisition methods or post-processing that will facilitate use of complex technologies and datasets in clinical research
- Novel use of informatics or big data to answer important clinical questions
- Validating natural animal models of human disease in companion animal

Spanning the Full Spectrum of Translation

NCATS' programs, initiatives and other resources span the entire spectrum of translational science.



Translation Science Examples ([PDF](#))



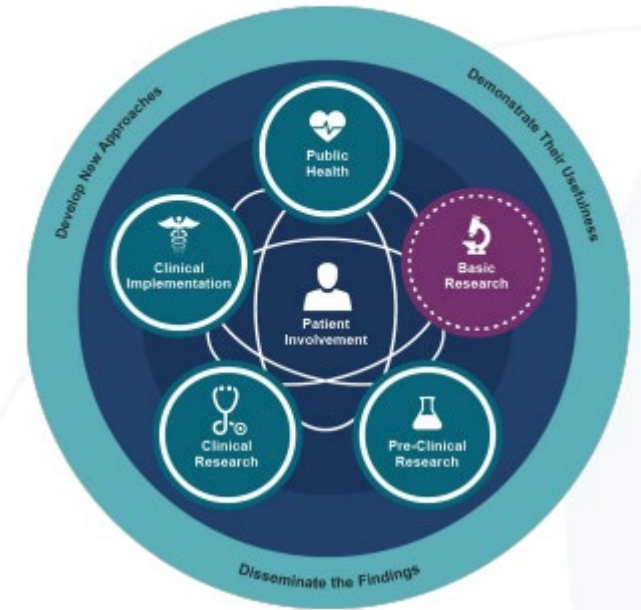
Some Examples of Translational Science Pilot Focus

Validating Natural Animal Translational Disease Models: Many diseases of dogs, cats, horses and other animals are more similar to diseases in people than induced diseases in traditional rodent models. For example, osteosarcoma in dogs is genetically similar to the same tumor in people and responds to similar therapies. Idiopathic epilepsy in dogs has many symptoms that mimic childhood epilepsies. Accordingly, validating the molecular, diagnostic, and therapeutic features of these diseases in veterinary clinical trials (so called “T0.5”) is a mechanism for improving translational science, addressing translational barrier from animal models to human trials.

Retrospective Analysis on Multi-Institutional CU-CSU Omics Data: These pilots could leverage the pilot to address the issue of performing team science across institutions and data harmonization and transfer between institutions, etc. Address challenges in data acquisition, integrity and analysis

Spanning the Full Spectrum of Translation

NCATS' programs, initiatives and other resources span the entire spectrum of translational science.



Tips for Success

Please make sure that your application includes all scientific sections:

- ABSTRACT: strict 250 words
 - State clearly the scientific problem, your working hypothesis, the proposed methods, and the expected results.
- SPECIFIC AIMS:
 - usually 2 specific aims,
 - with an additional third one being your Translational Science Roadblock
 - please do NOT copy and paste specific aims from a larger applications (such as yours, or your mentors, R01) – this is a PILOT grant
- Background, Significance and Innovation:
 - here, you can include also your preliminary data (not required)
 - Clearly describes your translational science roadblock
- Approach:
 - Experimental Design (don't forget anticipated challenges and alternative approaches)
 - Explain (2-3 sentences) how the rigor of your experimental design and data will address the translational science roadblock(s)
 - Don't forget (i) data analysis and statistics; (ii) shared resources; (iii) feasibility and timeline



Tips for Success

Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

Resources Training Funding Community Engagement News and Events About Us Volunteer for a Study

- 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 (ELEP)
- 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



Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

<https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/resources>





Regulatory Knowledge and Support

The Regulatory Knowledge and Support Core (RKSC) of the CCTSI provides a support structure to deal with the complexities of research regulatory compliance.



Research Ethics

This free consultative service is sponsored by the CCTSI and is available to all biomedical and behavioral researchers at CU Anschutz, as well as its institutional partners and clinical affiliates, who seek advice about ethically complex aspects of their research.



Trial Innovation Network

The Trial Innovation Network is a new collaborative initiative within the CTSA Program and is composed of three key organizational partners – the CTSA Program Hubs, the Trial Innovation Centers (TICs) and the Recruitment Innovation Center (RIC).



Clinical Research Support Team

Provides a pool of experienced study coordinators and regulatory staff to assist with clinical research study start-up, implementation and closeout.



Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design (BERD)

Providing statistical collaboration and resources to CCTSI investigators and trainees. We facilitate clinical and translational research through statistical consultation, improved statistical literacy, through seminars and short courses, and advanced tools.



Recruit Participants

Access the many resources necessary for successful recruitment of participants for clinical research studies. Learn how to develop and implement a well-planned strategy.



Funding

Each year, the CCTSI awards more than \$2 million in pilot grants, microgrants and pre-doctoral and post-doctoral research scholar awards.



Language for Grant Applications

CCTSI resources and other support details for your grant applications.



Protocol Submission

The Research Submission Portal process will ensure that your human subject research is ready for IRB submission.



Find a Researcher

The Colorado PROFILES search engine and social networking platform for biomedical researchers provides tools to help investigators and students find experts, potential collaborators or mentors.

[CTRC Pricing](#)

[CCTSI Research Studio Program](#)

[Colorado PROFILES](#)

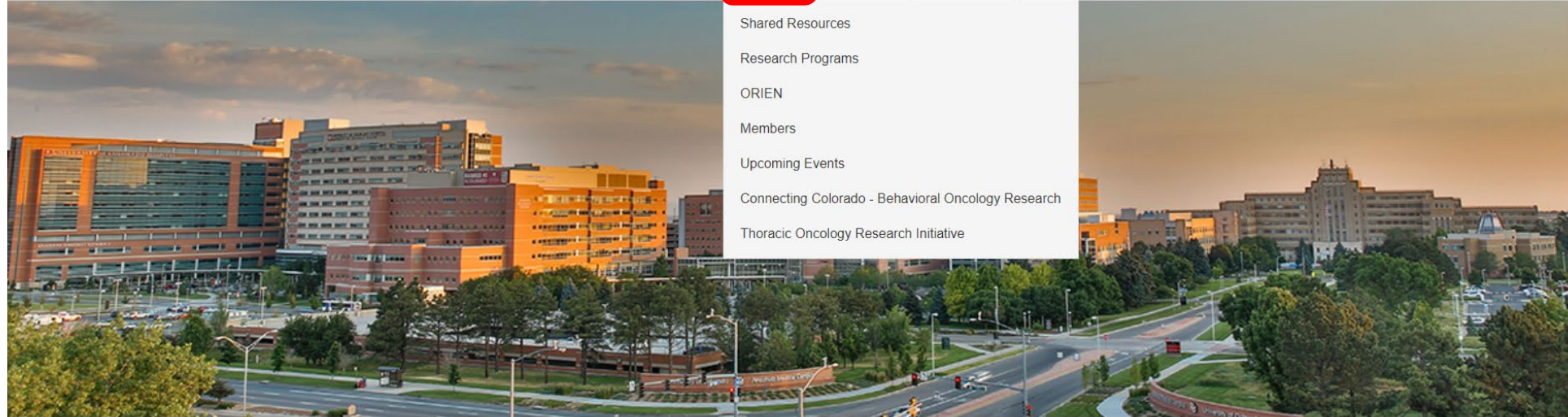


University of Colorado Cancer Center

School of Medicine

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Patients & Families](#) [Clinical Trials](#) [Research](#) [Education](#) [Community](#) [News](#)

- Shared Resources
- Research Programs
- ORIEN
- Members
- Upcoming Events
- Connecting Colorado - Behavioral Oncology Research
- Thoracic Oncology Research Initiative



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!*

Animal Imaging – Biostatistics and Bioinformatics – Cell Technologies – Drug Discovery and Development – Flow Cytometry – Functional Genomics – Genomics – Human Immune Monitoring – Mass Spectrometry – Population Health – Structural Biology – Pathology

<https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/colorado-cancer-center#CUMain>



Application Process

Kristen House
CCTSI Pilot Program Administrator



How to Apply



University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Webmail | UCD Access | Canvas | Quick Links | Search

Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

Resources | Training | **Funding** | Community Engagement | News and Events | About Us | Volunteer for a Study

- TL1 Pre and Post Doctoral Program
- KL2 Mentored Career Development Award
- CCTSI COVID-19-Related Research Pilot
- CO-Pilot Grants**
 - Child and Maternal Health Pilot Grant (CMH-Pilot)
 - Community Engagement Pilot Grant (CE-Pilot)
 - Translational Methods Pilot Grant (TM-Pilot)
- CTRC MicroGrants
- CCTSI Membership

Funding Opportunities

Each year, the CCTSI 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>




<https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding/tm>


 **2025 CCTSI TM-Pilot Grant CTS Program RFA** (pdf)
318 KB

Information & Resources


 **Translational Science Examples** (pdf)
Download (122 KB)

 **CCTSI Pilot Grant Applicant Checklist** (xlsx)
Download (19 KB)

 **2025 Required Budget Template** (xlsx)
Download (18 KB)

 **2025 Required Budget Template** (pdf)
Download (123 KB)

 **Sample Budget and Justification** (pdf)
Download (263 KB)

 **2025 PI Eligibility by Academic Rank** (pdf)
Download (286 KB)



Save
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email!



LOI Confirmation -- CCTSI Pilot Grant Program -- Record ID 33 - Message (HT...

File Message Help Acrobat

Delete Archive Report Reply Reply All Forward Share to Teams All Apps Questions To Manager Team Email Move Mark Unread Categorize Follow Up Immersive Translate Zoom Reply with Scheduling Poll Report Message Viva Insights

LOI Confirmation -- CCTSI Pilot Grant Program -- Record ID 33

HK CCTSI Pilot Grant Awards <kristen.house@cuanschutz.edu>
To

CCTSI Pilot Grant Intent To Apply Fo_2024-11-14_1428.pdf
47 KB

[External Email - Use Caution]

Hello,

Thank you for submitting your Intent to Apply Form (LOI) to request funding through the CCTSI Pilot Grant Program. A backup PDF of your submission is attached to this email for your records.

The next step is to complete the online [CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Application Form](#) prior to January 13, 2025 at 5 pm.

If this link does not work, please copy and paste into your browser: <https://datastore.cctsi.ucdenver.edu/surveys/?s=Ehko47YAHUCs3bNE>.

Awardees will be officially announced in July 2025 on the CCTSI website.

If you have any questions, please contact me by replying to this email.

Thank you,

Kristen

Kristen House



CCTSI Pilot Grant Award Budget

Budget and Active Award Period: August 1, 2025 to July 31, 2026

CATEGORY & ITEM(S)	Indicate Budget for Each Location					Total Amount
	CU AMC	CSU	CU Boulder	CHCO	Other Institution (Specify Location)	
Key Personnel Salary & Fringe Benefits						\$ -
Other Personnel						\$ -
Fee for Service (including Core Services)						\$ -
Supplies						\$ -
Equipment						\$ -
Animals						\$ -
Participant Incentives						\$ -
Meetings & Travel (Costs are permitted for attendance at one scientific conference)						\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	

TOTAL AWARD BUDGET \$ -

Applicants
should
customize
these
Categories



Unallowable expenses include but may not be limited to: publication costs, international entities, computers, telecommunications, food, furniture, administrative support, non-project specific office expenses, and professional dues/fees/membership, costs that support future grant applications, training costs (unless specifically required to carry out the investigations in the proposed project).



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 CCTSI website.

Intent to Apply Form (LOI)

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

Application Checklist ([Excel](#))



Application Form

		All Applicants	Mentored	Junior	CU-CSU Award	TM-Pilot	CSU Faculty
1	Confirm all contact information from LOI is accurate. Combine all documentation required in the RFA and combine into a single PDF to upload with you online Application Form. Refer to RFA for specific formatting guidelines.	Required					
2	Project Overview (2-3 sentences) List all investigator names, titles, institutions before the Project Overview	Required					
3	Abstract (strict 250 word limit)	Required					
4	Specific Aims, including a Translational Science Roadblock	Required					
5	Background, Significance and Innovation, including the description of the translational science roadblock	Required					
6	Approach, including Experimental Design, Translational Science Roadblock, Data and Statistical Analysis, Feasibility, Shared Resources, Timeline	Required					
7	References (no page limit)	Required					
8	Multiple PI Plan (1 page limit)				Required	Optional	
9	Mentor Letter of Support (no page limit) If there are two co-Mentors, a combined letter or two separate letters will be accepted as a single PDF.		Required				
10	Career Development Plan (1 page)		Required				
11	Letters of Support (no page limit) May include department chairs, consultants, foundations, commercial sources, manufacturers, etc.	Optional					
12	Budget (1 page limit, vertical alignment only) Please use the CCTSI Budget Template (available on the CCTSI website)	Required					
13	Budget Justification	Required					
14	Biosketches (no page limit)	Required					
15	CSU OSP Proposal Transmission Letter (no page limit) Contact Jessica Hunter (jessica.hunter@colostate.edu) for details.				Required		Required
16	Cost Share Budget (1 page limit) Applications may include collaboration with non-CCTSI Affiliated organizations. Refer to RFA for specific instructions.	See RFA, Check with Kristen House					
17	Other: Institutional Prior Approval (no page limit) Applicants based at CCTSI Affiliated Institutions are strongly encouraged to work with the sponsored programs office at their institution to meet all pre-application requirements specific to their organization, including applications for federal and non-federal (internally funded) seed grant programs.	Check with institution					

Application Checklist ([Excel](#))



Tips for Success

- DEADLINE:
 - Applications are due on **January 21, 2025** at 5pm MST
 - No late applications will be accepted
- FORMAT:
 - Arial 11 pt font, single-spaced, with ½ inch margins, no headers/footers
 - Maximum of **8 pages**
 - Including cover page, specific aims, background and significance, approach, budget template (1 page), and budget justification (1 page)
 - Excluding references, letters of support, Biosketches, and any institutional approvals

If formatting is not followed or the proposal exceeds the page limit, the application will be administratively withdrawn



CCTSI Pilot Grant Contacts

<https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/funding>

Kristen House

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Jessica Hunter

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Nikki Leonardo

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Dr. Natalie Serkova

CO/TM-Pilot Program Director

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Dr. Christopher Baker

CMH-Pilot Director

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Dr. Matt Hickey

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