

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
The Michigan George M. O'Brien Renal Core Center:
2009 Pilot/Feasibility Study Grant Program

The Michigan George M. O'Brien Renal Core Center (MORCC) is an NIH (P-30) funded center for the study of kidney disease. The purpose of the MORCC is to 1) facilitate development of transcriptomic maps of the range of glomerular diseases to supplement traditional phenotype and pathologic characterizations of kidney diseases; 2) obtain biosamples and phenotypically characterize affected individuals; 3) facilitate genotype/phenotype correlations for monogenic diseases for different age groups with glomerular diseases and 4) use a basic science **Research Enhancement Core** to facilitate and enhance kidney disease related basic science and the translation of basic science towards clinical application.

Purpose: New and innovative approaches—clinical, translational and basic—are sought to study kidney disease. The MORCC P/FS Grant Program provides funds to promote research initiatives by new and established University of Michigan faculty in the area of kidney disease. The goal of the program is to enable investigators to generate preliminary data sufficient for successful application for major research funding from national funding agencies. Particularly encouraged are applications from junior investigators and from investigators external to the renal community who have training and expertise that can be applied in innovative fashion to the study of kidney disease. Please refer to the following link for a full definition of this program: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-07-002.html>

Funds Available: up to **\$50,000/year** for up to **two years (see below)**. The anticipated award date is August 1, 2009.

Format: Short proposals should propose a testable hypothesis and clear research plan following NIH RO-1 format. P/FS proposals are anticipated to have limited preliminary data and are reviewed based on the clear development of hypotheses and research approach. Complete research plans must be limited to 5 pages.

Eligibility requirements: Eligible investigators include: (1) new investigators without current or past NIH support as a principal investigator, and whose current or previous support from other sources has been modest; (2) established investigators with limited previous kidney research experience who wish to apply their expertise to a problem in this area; and (3) established renal investigators who propose testing innovative ideas that represent a clear departure from their ongoing research directions. It is anticipated that the majority of the recipients of P/FS grant funding will be from the first category.

Deadlines:

- 1) **Letter of intent: March 17, 2009.** Interested individuals should submit a one page letter of intent that summarizes the hypothesis and research approach to be proposed. Letters should clearly justify that they meet eligibility criteria. Please attach a Biographical Sketch in 3 page NIH format that includes present and pending funding. Letters of intent should be sent or emailed to: Dr. Roger Wiggins, Project Director MORCC, c/o Liz Holzman, 1570 MSRB2 (lizholz@umich.edu). The MORCC P/FS applications committee will rapidly review letters of intent and **successful candidates will be invited to submit a complete application.**

2) **Complete applications: May 4, 2009.**

If you are selected to submit an application, you will need to provide:

- Detailed Budget (NIH 398 Form Page 4)
- Entire Budget (NIH 398 Form Page 5)
- Budget Justification
- Biographical Sketch (NIH 398 Format)
- 5 Page Research Plan

Please submit as one PDF file and send by email to Liz Holzman (lizholz@umich.edu). If you have questions, please send an email or call Liz Holzman at 734-604-3366.

Process and period of funding:

The grants will be externally reviewed and then prioritized by the internal O'Brien Center Pilot and Feasibility Committee. Funding will be for up to two years; a progress report of up to two pages due on June 1 will be evaluated before a second year's funding will be approved.