



**DATE:** September 4, 2015

**TO:** Center for Pediatric Research Faculty; Biomedical Research Center Heads;  
AIDHC Division Heads; COBRE Steering Committee, EAC and IAC members

**FROM:** Thomas H. Shaffer, MS.E., Ph.D., Director, Nemours Center for Pediatric Research  
Robert W Mason, Ph.D., Program Coordinator, Nemours Center for Pediatric Research

**RE: Opportunities for Research Funding**

### **Request for Proposals (RFP) for COBRE Pilot Projects**

#### **Background:**

With the award of the first COBRE (Center for Biomedical Research Excellence) grant in 2004, the Center for Pediatric Research was created at the Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children (AIDHC) to foster the development of translational research programs covering a broad range of pediatric disorders. The multidisciplinary and translational aspects of this center are intended to strengthen the institution's biomedical research infrastructure, catalyze the development of other centers at Nemours and align with Nemours' Research Strategic Plan. Over the past eleven years, the Center for Pediatric Research has become a key center in a state-wide network that will have long-range benefits for research in Delaware and will serve to advance the mission of the COBRE program by increasing the number of NIH-funded investigators in the state.

As part of our *COBRE Phase III grant*, we are requesting applications for *pilot projects*.

#### **Pilot Projects:**

During this cycle, the Center for Pediatric Research will support two pilot projects that permit an investigator to obtain specific preliminary data required to create a proposal for longer term funding or to initiate a novel project collaboration. This funding will be available on a competitive basis. To work within the grant year, **applications for pilot projects will be due by November 2, 2015** to provide for a thorough peer review including internal and external reviewers with final decisions for funding made in December after review by the Steering Committee and approval by the COBRE External Advisory Committee. Supported projects will be comparable to NIH R03 grants (60k with potential for renewal for a second year) and are expected to lead to applications for extramural support.

#### **Candidates:**

Ideal candidates will be junior faculty members who have not previously been a P.I. on an R-21 or R-01 NIH grant. Preference will be given to candidates who have not previously been awarded IDeA project funds.

- Candidates must hold an MD, DDS, DVM, PharmD, PhD or equivalent clinical degree.
- Candidates must be Nemours' Associates working in Delaware.
- Candidates must be committed to a career in research as an independent investigator interested in acquiring external NIH funding.



The Center for Pediatric Research  
NIH COBRE Grant P30GM114736  
Thomas H. Shaffer, MS.E.,PhD.,  
Director and Principal Investigator

**Proposal:**

The Center for Pediatric Research COBRE Applications Committee is seeking the right balance between an application that is not overly cumbersome, yet provides sufficient information for reviewers to make informed decisions regarding the scientific merit and synergistic benefits of each application. Proposals must be in the area of basic biomedical, disease-oriented, translational, molecular, genetic, or pharmacological research. ***Please note: Pilot projects cannot overlap with ongoing funded projects. Funds cannot be used for graduate student stipend, postdoctoral training, alterations and renovations, or as part of the P.I's salary.*** Use PHS398 Face page, project summary, and research strategy pages. Follow the NIH rules for font, margins etc. Any necessary IRB or IACUC approvals must be obtained before awards can be made.

**Section 1:** PHS398 Face page

**Section 2:** PHS398 Summary

**Section 3** Specific Aims (limit 1 page)

**Section 4:** Research Strategy (*limit 3 pages*)

**Section 5:** Biosketch of PI, mentor and collaborators

**Section 6:** Detailed budget beginning on February 1, 2016.

**Section 7:** An appendix may be added consisting of a prior grant review statement and a one page response to the reviews.

**Proposal Deadline:** Electronic applications must be submitted by **November 2, 2015.**

**Applications should be submitted to:**

Barbara E. Gray  
COBRE Administrative Manager  
Nemours Center for Pediatric Research  
A/R 308-B  
Email: [bgray@nemours.org](mailto:bgray@nemours.org)  
Phone: 302-651-6837

Please refer any scientific questions regarding this matter to Thomas H. Shaffer, MS.E, Ph.D. (302-651-6837 or [tshaffer@nemours.org](mailto:tshaffer@nemours.org)) or Robert W. Mason, Ph.D. (302-651-6885 or [rmason@nemours.org](mailto:rmason@nemours.org)).

**THE CENTER FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH**

*A Translational Research Center at Nemours*

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