

Table of Contents

Deadline: CEnR Grant Application – Monday, April 11, 2022, 5 pm (Eastern Time).....	2
CEnR GRANT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS	2
CEnR GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES	3
A. Eligibility	3
B. Regulatory Requirements/Approvals and Training Certificates	3
C. Conflicts of Interest (COI).....	4
D. Potential Project Topics.....	4
E. Funding Restrictions.....	5
F. Reporting Requirements.....	5
ROLE OF THE ICTR NAVIGATOR.....	6
CEnR APPLICATION PROCESS	6
A. Cover Letter	6
B. Abstract	7
C. Specific aims, objectives, or hypotheses	7
D. Research plan	7
E. Comprehensive budget/Detailed budget justification	8
F. Biographical sketch information.....	9
G. Project Milestone Timeline.....	9
H. Reference list of up to 30 references	9
I. CEnR Key Personnel Information	9
J. Regulatory Approvals	9
K. Multiple PI Leadership Plan.....	9
L. Formatting Guidelines	10
ICTR PILOT GRANT REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCESS.....	10
ACKNOWLEDGING UMB ICTR.....	10

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM**

- Deadline:** CEnR Grant Application – Monday, April 11, 2022, 5 pm (Eastern Time)
- Eligibility:** Faculty at the level of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor from the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), or University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP)
- Budget:** Up to \$35,000 in direct costs
- Grant period:** July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023; Awardees Announced early June 2022
- Application:** Form templates and electronic submission instructions are available [HERE](#)

CEnR GRANT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) is pleased to announce the **Inaugural round** of the UMB ICTR **Community Engagement Research (CEnR) Pilot Grant** competition to provide starter funds for projects specifically focused on innovative Community-Engaged Research (CEnR). This round will test novel approaches to addressing health problems through community-engaged implementation that involve faculty from the UMB Schools of Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, or Social Work; UMBC, UMCP, and UMB-community partnerships. Funding is provided through the UMB ICTR internal funding mechanism.

Applications will be accepted via the ICTR Accelerated Translation Incubator Pilot (ATIP) application system housed in the UMB REDCap.

Applications using an evidence-based framework focusing on diverse populations with regional/national relevance and including collaboration between UMB and partner institution(s) (UMCP, UMBC) will be especially encouraged.

Applicants should consider the resources needed for the following grant activities **PRIOR TO SUBMISSION** to ensure successful and sustained community-academic partnerships:

- Develop a community-academic research partnership infrastructure (e.g., advisory boards, partnership roles and responsibilities, policies and procedures, memorandums of understanding)
- Facilitate formal and informal meetings for partners to identify shared goals, priorities, research interests, and sharing of resources and funding
- Facilitate open dialogue and bidirectional learning around challenges and opportunities to address community health needs
- Explore and seek involvement of potential partners
- Build research capacity for community partners (e.g., IRB training, training on research design and methods, etc.)
- Build CEnR capacity for academic partners (e.g., principles of community engagement, 10-Step Framework, etc.)

Applications should utilize a milestone-driven approach for proposed projects that will ensure timely generation of tangible products and outcomes within the strict funding period and the approved budget.

To be considered for one of the UMB ICTR CEnR Grant Program opportunities, proposals must be received by the application deadline. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

For questions regarding application guidelines, please email the ICTR Navigator at ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu. Further details are on following pages.

CEnR GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

A. *Eligibility*

- Any faculty member at the level of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor from the UMB Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing, Law, Social Work or UMBC, or UMCP is eligible to apply as a Lead Principal Investigator (PI) for an ICTR CEnR Pilot Grant. **UMBC or UMCP Lead Principal Investigators (PIs) must name a UMB Co-PI.** Adjunct or visiting faculty are not eligible to apply.
- Multiple PI applications are allowed – limit to 1 Lead PI (the applicant) and 1 Co-PI. A Multiple PI Leadership Plan describing the respective roles must be included with the application. In multi-PI applications, the Lead PI will serve as the point of contact for communications.
- In addition to a community partner, eligible submissions are encouraged to include collaborations between faculty from a UMB School, UMBC or UMCP. Eligible **community partners** include non-profits such as community service organizations, advocacy groups, neighborhood associations, faith-based organizations, or coalitions, public agencies, and private organizations.
- An investigator may submit only one proposal in response to this funding opportunity announcement. The Lead PI or the Co-PI (if applicable) cannot serve as a PI on another application. However, the PI may serve as a non-PI collaborator on other proposals as long as there is no scientific overlap.
- Undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows are **not eligible** to apply and cannot be listed as Co-PIs or Co-Investigators. However, they may be listed in other roles in the proposal.
- Eligible submissions must include a timeline of one or more milestones for each Specific Aim with clear outcome endpoints. The timeline must be realistic for completion within the funding period and with the approved final budget. **Regulatory submissions/approvals should not be considered a milestone.**
- The ICTR will consider an application that is ancillary to an existing grant if it adds new specific aims that could successfully leverage a new award or renewal.
- PIs with previously funded ATIP awards may apply for a CEnR grant as a Lead PI or Co-PI if their ATIP project was successfully completed and there is no scientific overlap.
- Research projects submitted to a previous ATIP call for proposals but not selected for an award may be re-submitted. An accompanying cover letter should note how the current proposal differs from the original submission and how the reviewers' comments are addressed.

B. *Regulatory Requirements/Approvals and Training Certificates*

Human Subjects Research

Awarded projects that propose research that involves human specimens and/or data must provide a Letter of Determination or Approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB). The PI on the IRB letter **must match** the Lead PI's name and the IRB protocol title **must match** the

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

CEnR project title. If the IRB determines that the project is Human Subjects Research (HSR), you will need to provide current CITI human subjects research and HIPAA certifications for all team members. If the HSR project is also a clinical trial ([ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov)), the protocol will also need to be registered in ClinicalTrials.gov and all team members listed on the IRB protocol must also have current Good Clinical Practice (GCP) training. More information about training can be found on the [UMB IRB website](#). UMBC and UMCP applicants should contact their IRB for information on how to complete this training. Additional institutional requirements may include a Data Use Agreement.

Due to the accelerated nature of this program, investigators are strongly encouraged to initiate necessary approvals prior to grant submission or during the grant review period. Projects with regulatory approvals in place or underway at the time of submission will receive additional consideration.

C. Conflicts of Interest (COI)

At the time of application, review process, before funds are awarded, and throughout the project period, it is the responsibility of the awardee and all members of the study team to report any financial or fiduciary interests that might appear to present a conflict of interest (COI). These interests must be reported to the ICTR and the Conflict-of-Interest Officer, UMB Research Integrity Office. The presence of a COI does not automatically disqualify investigators from receiving this award but will require the review and management of this conflict by the COI Officer. The failure of any member of the study team to disclose all outside interests could result in the termination of this award and the disallowance of all study costs.

UMB's COI Policy information, including examples of what constitutes an outside interest, may be found at <https://www.umaryland.edu/oac/areas-of-responsibility/conflict-of-interest/>

UMBC's COI Policy information may be found at <https://research.umbc.edu/office-of-research-protections-and-compliance/>

UMCP's COI Policy information may be found at <https://research.umd.edu/coi/>

D. Potential Project Topics

- Projects may cover a wide range of topics, including but not limited to the representative topics below:
 - Development of clinically relevant applications
 - Develop apps and devices that improve delivery and exchange of health information
 - Comparative effectiveness research studies
 - Knowledge transfer to providers or community
 - Novel approaches to partnering with communities to enhance research
 - Community-based research focused on an area of health disparity such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease/hypertension, mental health, cancer, and kidney disease
 - Tests of innovative implementation strategies to optimize uptake of solutions at the community level.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

- Examples of UMB ICTR-supported community-engaged type projects in the past:
 - Adapting a Parent-Child Group Intervention for Mothers with Substance Use Disorder
 - Addressing Racial Disparities in Autism Diagnosis and Treatment
 - Exploring recovery-oriented capital support factors to sustain opioid addiction recovery
 - Psychosocial Screening Methods for Dental Settings
 - Evaluating relationships between interventions, social determinants of health and hospital readmissions in a community
 - Social capital and psychological burden during the COVID-19 outbreak
 - Policies to Prevent Spread of COVID-19: Implications for Health Equity among Maryland Families of Preschool and School-Age Children
 - Eliminating Asthma and Obesity Disparities among Children in Baltimore City
 - Identification of barriers to recovery following traumatic brain injury in older adults

E. Funding Restrictions

- Requests must be no more than \$35,000 in direct costs. Budget requests must be realistic and well-justified in the budget justification.
- **Allowable expenses:** Research supplies (purchase or equipment rental; new equipment costs should be no more than 20% of the total budget); recruitment and compensation of study participant costs; research training for community partners. Salary support for all faculty-level team members listed on the grant cannot exceed \$5,000 of the **total** budget. The \$5,000 allowance is inclusive of fringe benefits. Faculty on more than one application cannot exceed the \$5,000 salary limit across all projects.
- Official quotes from the provider of services, supplies, and/or equipment are required.
- **Unallowable Expenses:** Administrative support, alterations or renovations of laboratory space, purchase of laboratory or office furniture, purchase of periodicals or books, phone services and professional societies membership dues are not allowed.
- Travel: CEnR funds up to \$1,000 may be used for travel with strong justification establishing the essential need for the conduct of research. CEnR funds **cannot** be used for travel to present results at established meetings or conferences.
- **Funding will be for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. No-cost extensions may be granted on a case-by-case basis with strong, written justification for those with funds remaining at the end of the award period.**
- We will consider payments to an outside partnering organization, where appropriate, as a “service provider” (not as a sub-award). This expense should be justified and itemized under “Other Expenses” in the budget template form.
- Indirect costs should not be included in the budget.
- Required regulatory approvals (see the previous section C) **must be obtained** prior to disbursement of funds. **Due to the limited time between this announcement and the July 1st start date, applicants are strongly encouraged to begin IRB submissions well before the anticipated notice of award.**
- Funds will be distributed in two disbursements, with the second disbursement contingent upon submission of a satisfactory progress report at 6 months and spending down the first disbursement.

F. Reporting Requirements

- PIs and Co-PIs of all funded projects are required to have a **milestone telephone update** three, six, and nine months from the July 1, 2022, start date. A **written report**

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM**

on the progress of the milestones and budget expenditures will be required at the sixth-month time period and a final, written progress report will be due within 30 days of the end of the award period. Failure to attend milestone telephone updates and submit progress reports in a timely manner can have significant implications for the project and may result in termination of funding.

- Follow-up, semi-annual reports on subsequent applications/awards, publications, and technological/intellectual property development/licensing resulting from the project will be requested for up to 10 years to track grant

ROLE OF THE ICTR NAVIGATOR

ICTR Navigators will provide guidance and answer questions related to the application and review process, the scope of work that is suitable for funding, and post-award activities. They will assist research teams in identifying resources needed for successful completion of research projects, including the referral of researchers to appropriate services, university cores and additional sources of support for translational research. They will review applications to ensure compliance with submission guidelines and may contact investigators to provide additional information. Throughout the award, research navigators serve as project managers, monitoring the progress of the projects, and may provide guidance, resources, and feedback to ensure the proposed translational milestones are met.

CEnR APPLICATION PROCESS

UMB applicants: Please access the CEnR Application in the [Required Templates and Electronic Application Link](#) section of the UMB ICTR website. You will be prompted to enter your UMID username and password.

UMBC and UMCP applicants: Please request an application via this [link](#) or paste in browser <https://rs.igs.umaryland.edu/surveys/?s=TFXHYDRCPF> (*created in REDCap*). Please provide the following information:

- Name
- Department/Section
- Campus email
- Best contact number
- UMB Co-PI name

Once your request is submitted, you will receive an ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu email with a link to the application. Please email the ICTR Navigator if you do not receive the application link within 3 business days. Please make sure to request application in time to allow for a complete application submission. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Prepare each of the following sections and submit electronically via the CEnR Application link. **Information about formatting is found in Section L.** The electronic application is maintained in the UMB REDCap system. See the **[required budget and milestones templates](#)** available on the **[UMB ICTR website, CEnR RFA](#)**

A. *Cover Letter (Limited to one page)*

- Title of Project. Title of project must match the title on the IRB Letter.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

- Names, academic ranks, and appointments of the designated primary (Lead) PI and one Co-PI (if applicable). Lead PI name must match the PI on the IRB letter.
- Salary support amounts requested for each faculty listed on the grant. Combined salary for all faculty-level team members cannot exceed \$5000 of total budget.
- Signature of PI(s)
- Signature of School Dean (or designee [e.g., department chair]) indicating support for submission for the Lead PI, and the Co-PI (if applicable).

B. *Abstract (Limited to one page. See section L below for formatting)*

The abstract is **not included** in the 5-page Research Plan. The abstract **should not** contain proprietary confidential information. The abstract should include:

- A brief background of the project;
- The significance of the proposed research;
- The unique features, new collaborations, and innovation of the project;
- The methodology (action steps) to be used;
- Expected results;
- Relevance to the translational nature of the ICTR CEnR Pilot Grant Program; and
- Potential for improving the health of patients within the next 3-5 years

C. *Specific aims, objectives, or hypotheses (Limited to one page. See section L below for formatting)*

D. *Research plan (Limited to five pages. See section L below for formatting). The abstract, specific aims, and references are separate from the research plan.*

The research plan should include the following sections:

- **Brief Introduction:** This section is intended to help orient the reviewers to better understand the scientific basis for the project, why the work is being proposed as well as the suitability of the research for ICTR CEnR Pilot Grant funding. Any new collaborations or highly innovative aspects should be succinctly noted. Relevance to the translational nature of the CEnR program should also be indicated.
- **Project Milestones and Timeline:** Submissions must include a timeline of one or more milestones for each Specific Aim with clear outcome endpoints. The timeline must be realistic for completion within the funding period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, and with the approved final budget. This summary may be presented as a chart, a paragraph, or incorporated throughout the experimental design. Milestones should highlight specific goals to be attained relative to the specific aims and, when appropriate, hypotheses to be tested. Milestones must include both the scientific objectives of the application and the procedural issues involved in executing them in a realistic and achievable way. If new techniques, new populations, or new collaborations are utilized to reach these milestones, they should be emphasized. All grants must be organized towards the completion of project- and/or time- dependent milestones.
NOTE: *In addition to the milestone/timeline summary presented in the research plan, you must include a **Project Milestone Timeline** document (see section G below).*
- **Background (including Preliminary Results, if available), and Significance:** In addition to scientific background and significance, this section may indicate how success of the pilot grant will affect subsequent research and how it enhances translation. Please describe the community health concern that will be addressed through the academic-community partnership. The material on Significance should indicate relevance to the overall target of

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

clinical translation. It should also clarify how the research will advance the field and **should also discuss the project's potential for improving the health of patients within the next 3-5 years.**

- **Research Design:** Method description should be sufficiently detailed to convince reviewers of feasibility and validity. Details should focus on the novel aspects of the project rather than published or standard techniques. If obtaining data from human subjects, provide inclusion/exclusion criteria for study group(s), and briefly outline recruitment and number of participants, recruitment site(s), consenting, and compensation plan if applicable. Statistical approaches to data analysis should be outlined where applicable. Quantifiable goals for the completion of each milestone should be delineated. A brief section outlining any collaborative links to any other clinical or laboratory cores is necessary. **A power calculation and statistical plan must be included to support the study hypothesis and/or specific aims.**
- **Statement of Collaborative Effort:** Include a specific statement as to how the collaboration between investigators from each school or community partner is necessary to further the goals of the proposal. Include processes for maintaining communication and interactions between the schools and between UMB, UMBC, UMCP and community partners and monitoring equitable distribution of intellectual involvement. Describe what will be the roles of each partner during project implementation and what are the expected contributions/benefits of the partnership for the academic and community partners.
- **Anticipated Problems and Possible Solutions:** Any anticipated experimental or interpretive problems should be addressed, with alternative approaches described when possible. The feasibility of using alternative approaches to complete the project within the constraints of the presented ICTR CEnR budget as well as the strict 12-month time limit of this grant must be assured in the application. All risks and drawbacks from using any proposed alternative approach must be addressed, especially if human subjects are involved.
- **External Funding Plan:** Provide a description of how the results of this pilot project will inform or support subsequent applications for extramural funding. Specifically, identify NIH, PCORI, AHRQ, or other external funding opportunities that the team will be prepared to apply for within 18 months of the start of the award.

E. Comprehensive budget/Detailed budget justification

- Applicants must use the budget template available on the [UMB ICTR website, CEnR](#)
- The school affiliation of team members must be noted on the budget template, including the school affiliation of the to-be-determined team members.
- Cross institutional applications must specify which institution will incur each expense listed on the budget.
- The budget **should** be **itemized** to less than \$1,000
- List each component of equipment with amount requested separately and justify each purchase.
- The budget **MUST** include an explanation of other funding sources that will be used to cover costs not covered by ICTR CEnR pilot grant funds.
- A **detailed** budget justification is required for salary, supplies, equipment, travel for the conduct of the research, and any other expenses required to complete the study. For individuals receiving salary support, provide a brief paragraph in the budget justification about the role of each support staff and their qualifications.
- Recent, official quotes for budgeted services, supplies, and equipment
- ALL changes to the budget must be submitted **BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION** for review and final approval by the ICTR Leadership Council and may result in withdrawal of

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

funding if the project did not receive the appropriate approvals.

F. *Biographical sketch information*

- A biographical sketch in NIH-format for the PI(s) and other faculty level study team members and resumes for non-faculty team members (5-page limit each). Team members are individuals who have any role in the project regardless of whether they will or will not receive salary support.
- Full “Other support” pages from PI(s)

G. *Project Milestone Timeline*

- **Applicants MUST use template provided on [UMB ICTR website, CEnR](#).** The project timeline must include one or more milestones for each Specific Aim described in the research plan and the time required for each activity.
- The timeline **must** be realistic for completion within the funding period and final approved budget.
- Please note that IRB submissions/approvals or subsequent grant applications/planned publications **should not** be included in this milestones’ timeline.

H. *Reference list of up to 30 references*

I. *CEnR Key Personnel Information*

You are required to complete a brief CEnR Key Personnel Information form in the electronic application for each person on your proposal’s team. For your convenience, we have provided a **template as a guide only** to what information is needed to be entered into the fields in the electronic application. For the Lead PI and Co-PI (if applicable), you will also need to provide additional, NIH-required information on gender, race, etc. as well as the NIH eRA Commons Username and a **16-digit ORCID author ID**. Information about the 16-digit ORCID author ID can be found here <https://guides.hshsl.umaryland.edu/impact/authorid>. If you believe you have an ORCID, but cannot recall, type your name in the search field on the ORCID home page <https://orcid.org/> or submit a request via <https://support.orcid.org/hc/en-us/requests/new>.

J. *Regulatory Approvals*

If already available. Do not upload regulatory documents that are not specific to this application. Regulatory document titles must match the title of the project. Due to the accelerated nature of this program, investigators are strongly encouraged to initiate necessary approvals prior to grant submission or during the grant review period. Projects with regulatory approvals in place or underway at the time of submission will receive additional consideration.

K. *Multiple PI Leadership Plan*

Only for multi-PI applications [limit to 1 Lead PI (the applicant) and 1 Co-PI]. A Multiple PI Leadership Plan describing the respective roles must be included with the application. In multi-PI applications, the Lead PI will serve as the point of contact for communications. However, the Co-PI is expected to attend all milestones update calls with the UMB Research Navigator.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH (CEnR) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

L. Formatting Guidelines

- **Font size:** Must be 11 points or larger. Smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams, and charts is acceptable, if it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%. If you are converting to PDF, some PDF conversion software reduces font size. It is important to confirm that the final PDF document complies with the font requirements.
- **Font types:** Arial, Georgia, or Helvetica
- **Type density:** Must be no more than 15 characters per linear inch (including characters and spaces).
- **Line spacing:** Must be no more than six lines per vertical inch.
- **Text color: black**
- **Name of the applicant** (Last name, First name) should appear in the top right-hand corner of each page.
- **Page numbers** should appear on the bottom right-hand corner of each page.
- **Paper Size and Margins**
 - *Standard letter paper size (8 1/2" x 11").*
 - Provide at least one-half inch margins (1/2") - top, bottom, left, and right - for all pages.

ICTR PILOT GRANT REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCESS

Applications will be evaluated and scored using the following six criteria:

- 1. Relevance to translation:** Are there plans to move the project through to the next step along the research pathway?
- 2. Scientific impact, novelty, and merit, including experimental design**
- 3. Feasibility of project completion within defined budget period**
- 4. The creation or potential for creation of collaborations** between investigators and academic-community partnerships
- 5. Whether or not the project's PI is a junior investigator and/or will promote the development of new translational researchers by moving junior or senior investigators into a new research area**
- 6. The plans for submitting a grant application for external funding.**

ACKNOWLEDGING UMB ICTR

All publications, abstracts, poster presentations, grant/funding applications, intellectual/technological developments and licensing resulting from research supported by the UMB ICTR CEnR Grant Program should cite the **University of Maryland, Baltimore, Institute for Clinical & Translational Research, and the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)** as a contributing source of support. Please include the following citation:

"We acknowledge the support of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR) and the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) grant number 1UL1TR003098."

Thank you for your cooperation in acknowledging the UMB ICTR's support in your research.