

Tuesday, October 19, 2021



## Call for Development Projects 1Florida Alzheimer Disease Research Center (ADRC)

Funding Period: **05/01/2022-04/30/2024 (may vary with project)**

Proposal due November 18, 2021. Notice of Award by February 1, 2022.

Submit proposal to [cms@ufl.edu](mailto:cms@ufl.edu) with subject line: 1Florida ADRC Developmental Project PI Name

Save proposal as a PDF attachment with file name: PI Last Name, PI First Name Developmental Project Proposal

**A. Background.** One of the missions of the 1Florida Alzheimer Disease Research Center (ADRC) is to fund developmental projects to stimulate new and innovative research relevant to Alzheimer's disease (AD) and AD related disorders (AD+ADRD). Research proposals can span the spectrum of AD+ADRD research -ranging from basic, clinical, translational, and health care outcomes and policy research, with particular attention given to novel approaches. Research projects may involve humans, data mining, model systems, preclinical therapeutic development or in vitro studies. Clinical trials are not allowed. Investigators interested in clinical trials should consider applying through the NIA Alzheimer's Disease Pilot Clinical Trials FOA.

The patient population, clinical, and neuropathological databases and biospecimens of the 1Florida ADRC are available resources for proposals and are [linked here](#). Proposals are also encouraged to leverage data in the [National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center \(NACC\)](#) and samples from [National Central Repository for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias \(NCRAD\)](#). These longstanding coordinating centers for data and samples from the AD network serve as resources for the wider research community.

Applications must state clearly the significance and innovation of the proposed research to AD+ADRDs.

**Though we will not have a formal LOI process, we strongly encourage prospective applicants to discuss both eligibility and the project with 1Florida ADRC investigators and the director ([tgolde@ufl.edu](mailto:tgolde@ufl.edu)) prior to submission.**

**B. Eligibility.** Developmental projects are designed for advanced postdoctoral fellows or junior faculty level investigators. We will also accept submissions from a more senior investigator whose research is primarily in areas other than AD and ADRD research, and who wants to work in the dementia research field or who wants to try a new hypothesis, method, or approach that is not an extension of ongoing AD research.

Investigators at UF, UM, FAU, FIU and MSMC are eligible to submit awards. We also accept proposals from qualified investigators at our affiliate institutions (e.g., Carlos Albizu U.), for such submissions we will require approval to submit from our executive committee. **Again please contact us ([tgolde@ufl.edu](mailto:tgolde@ufl.edu)), if you have questions regarding eligibility.**

**C. Funding and term.** Total direct budgets up to \$100,000/yr will be considered. Normal NIH guidelines for eligible expenses apply. The development project term is 1-2+ years. For multi-year projects funding for the second or third year will be contingent on submission of a progress report that will be reviewed by the 1Florida ADRC executive committee (see milestones and deliverables below). **Those projects requesting a third year of funding in the proposal should discuss this with the director ([tgolde@ufl.edu](mailto:tgolde@ufl.edu)) prior to submission.** Budget should be designed to support the work proposed. We anticipate awarding 3 or more projects starting May 1, 2022.

**D. IRB/IACUC.** The investigator is responsible for obtaining appropriate Institutional Review Board or Animal Care and Use Committee approval for the proposal. IRB or IACUC approval will be necessary prior to funding the award but is not necessary for submission.

**E. Application.** Please use the [R21 format](#) and [R21 page limits](#).

Summary, relevance, specific aims, approach, budget, biographical sketches, and resources and environment sections should be on the standard forms for PHS grants (01/2018). Letters of Support are encouraged and should include the biosketch of the collaborator.

For these submission please use your institution's indirect rate.

**In addition to the standard R21 format we ask that in the Significance Section one clearly states the relevance of these studies to AD+ADRD research.**

**In the Approach we also require:**

- a brief description of the milestones and deliverables for each year of funding requested
- a description of when and how the applicant will use the data from this project to seek additional extramural support
- a description of preliminary organizational work, institutional experience with AD and other neurodegenerative disease research, potential for developing or contributing to new and exciting research, and specific plans for implementation of the new program

PLEASE COMPILE ALL MATERIALS INTO A SINGLE PDF IN THE ORDER DESCRIBED ABOVE. Name the file PI Last Name, PI First Name Developmental Project Proposal and send application materials to Christy Rodkin [cms@ufl.edu](mailto:cms@ufl.edu).

**F. Criteria for Review/Review Process.** The following will be considered in evaluating the merit of a proposal:

- The track-record of the applicant and potential for impact in AD+ADRD studies
- Quality and novelty of scientific principles.
- Scientific merit.
- Likelihood of providing new and valuable insights into possible causes, diagnoses, treatment of, or care for Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.
- Background and experience of the investigator(s).
- Adequacy of the resources and environment.
- Appropriateness of the budget for the proposed work.
- Likelihood that the study will lead to subsequent extramural peer reviewed funding.

We will have a three stage review. Proposals will first be reviewed by the executive committee. Proposal deemed non-competitive, ineligible, or not responsive to the RFA will be triaged prior to external review. Proposals that pass this first level of review will be sent out for external review by at least two qualified reviewers. Following external review the executive committee will meet to evaluate the grants and prioritize them for funding.

#### APPENDIX - 1Florida ADRC RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- Frozen and Fixed brain tissue with pathological diagnosis of Vascular Dementia, AD, etc....
- DNA, Plasma and Serum from participants with clinical diagnoses of Normal control, pre-MCI, MCI, AD
- Amyloid PET imaging on n~200
- Structural MRI scans for visual rating, volumetric, cortical thickness and DTI diffusion analyses and for analyzing structural connectivity and network analysis, and tractography
- Resting state fMRI scans for functional connectivity and network analysis
- Neuropsychological assessments on n=300, with mandatory NACC battery tests, experimental tests (LASSI- L, etc)

#### **Contacts:**

For questions regarding resources please email Christy Rodkin ([cms@ufl.edu](mailto:cms@ufl.edu)) who will direct the email to the appropriate ADRC Investigator. For questions about eligibility, please Contact Dr. Todd Golde, Director, 1Florida ADRC ([tgolde@ufl.edu](mailto:tgolde@ufl.edu))).