

Osher Center for Integrative Medicine Research Grant Guidelines

The research mission of the **Osher Center for Integrative Medicine** at Vanderbilt is to develop, implement, and disseminate innovative research initiatives that focus on the whole health of the individual: body, mind and spirit. The Osher Center supports scientific investigation and clinical dissemination in the area of integrative medicine or related fields through annual pilot grant funding.

The **Osher Center** at Vanderbilt will support the development, implementation, and evaluation of research projects that involve clinical and translational work involving humans. The goal of the pilot grant program is to foster additional integrative medicine and health research at Vanderbilt that will ultimately benefit patient management and improve outcomes.

The **Osher Center for Integrative Medicine** at Vanderbilt will fund 1 research project. Funding for the project will be up to \$10,000. Research or implementation projects focusing on mind-body practices (e.g. acupuncture, meditation, spinal manipulation, yoga, tai chi, health coaching) as part of an integrative approach to care will be prioritized.

The guidelines below describe the application process and eligibility criteria.

Osher Center for Integrative Medicine Grants are intended to support discrete clinical or translational research projects involving humans that can be completed in a 12-month timeframe. Projects may be prospective or retrospective and include quantitative and/or qualitative data. These grants are not intended to supplement already funded research projects, unless it is to add a new element or aim related to integrative medicine research. IRB approval must be confirmed prior to release of funds. Obtaining preliminary data for an extramural grant applications is encouraged.

Funding up to \$10,000 may be used for research staff, subject compensation, production of materials, equipment, supplies, and consulting services. Travel to conduct research methods is allowed, with a limit of \$1,200. Faculty effort, travel to conferences, and publication costs are not allowable expenses. All funded projects must be completed within 12 months of award, by June 30, 2022.

All faculty, staff, trainees and students are eligible to apply. Trainees and students may apply if they have a designated faculty mentor. Collaboration with Osher faculty and staff are encouraged.

The submission deadline is extended from **midnight CT March 21, 2021** **to March 28, 2021.**

Review criteria will include significance of the research topic, scientific rigor of the approach, innovation, potential impact of the project, and feasibility. **Applicants will be notified by May 1, 2021.**

How to apply:

There are **3 parts** to the submission process:

- 1) Complete a short **REDCap form** at this link: <https://redcap.link/OSHER2021>
- 2) Prepare a **1-page budget** and attach it to the REDCap form
- 3) Prepare a **research proposal** (limit 4 pages) and attach it to the REDCap form

REDCap form: Asks for the name of the primary investigator (PI) and email address, mentor (if applicable), and co-investigators, as well as a biosketch of the PI and mentor (if applicable) and title of the project.

Budget: Itemize using the 1-page form provided and include a very brief description or justification for each item. This form should be submitted as a pdf document.

Proposal: Include the sections detailed below. The proposal should not exceed 4 pages (excluding references) in 11 or 12 point type, single spaced. The proposal should be submitted as a pdf document.

If funds are requested for additional work on projects already funded by VICTR or other sources, please justify additional funds in the methods section and budget justification.

Proposal format:

1. **Title of Project**
2. **Project plan (4 pages)**
 - a. *Significance*
 - b. *Aims and hypotheses*
 - c. *Innovation*
 - d. *Methods* – Include study design, setting, description of study participants, intervention (if applicable), outcome measures, and analysis plan
 - e. *Anticipated outcome(s)* – What will the project accomplish if successful? Will it lead to future research, programs, or patient benefit?
 - f. *Timeline* - Include IRB approval
3. **References**

Other responsibilities of the PI:

A PI may submit only one proposal. At the beginning of the project, the PI is required to participate in a kick-off meeting. Team members of the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine will serve as panel members to provide additional input on the project, design, and implementation.

A final report is due at the end of the funding period and should include a description of future plans relevant to the proposal. The PI will be invited to present findings at the Osher Center's seminar series or research forum. The PI should also submit a research abstract to a relevant national conference after the completion of the project.

For any questions, please email the Program Manager at carol.e.brannon@vumc.org or call Carol at 615-343-6432.

To become affiliated with the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine, please email Kristin Archer, PhD at kristin.archer@vumc.org.