



Momentum Center Pilot and Feasibility Funding Program

Spring 2017 Request for Proposals

DUE DATE: 5 p.m. on June 30th, 2017

Purpose

The mission of the Momentum Center is to advance solutions to prevent and manage childhood obesity by catalyzing, innovating and translating cross-disciplinary research at the University of Michigan. The goal of this pilot and feasibility program is to provide financial support for Momentum Center investigators to allow pursuit of such innovative research related to childhood obesity. It is expected that this will support the:

- Development of collaborative working relationships
- Formation of new research ideas
- Enhancement of current research methodologies, and/or
- Generation of preliminary data to support the pursuit of future extramural funding opportunities.

Although transition of the proposal into an application for extramural funding at the end of the project period is not a primary expectation for this program, reviewers will be asked to consider how the proposed activities will better position the applicant for external funding, and investigators should consider this an opportunity to position themselves (and the Momentum Center) for future success with federal, foundation, and corporate sponsors.

Projects must:

- Be relevant to the Momentum Center's vision of driving discovery to end childhood obesity by conducting innovative research linking the intersections between biology, behavior, and environments, and the policies that impact them.
- Include a cross-disciplinary team, involving investigators from more than one discipline.

Proposals that include teams who have not previously collaborated on externally funded research will be given priority consideration during the review process.

Key dates at a glance

Applications due	Anticipated Award Notification	Funding cycle begins	Funding cycle ends
By 5 p.m. on June 30 th , 2017	September 15 th , 2017	October 1 st , 2017	September 30 th , 2018

Application Information

Eligibility

Pilot and feasibility funding applications are open to Momentum Center members (faculty and post-doctoral fellows who have a faculty mentor) only. A faculty mentor must be a member of the Momentum Center and the fellowship must be in progress during the project period.

Submission

Applications must be submitted electronically to Robin Lee at leerobin@umich.edu by **5 p.m. on June 30th, 2017**.

Review of Applications:

Applicants will identify three reviewers and additional reviewers will be identified by the Momentum Center's Steering Committee as needed. Key criteria to be evaluated include:

1. Significance to the Momentum Center's vision and mission
2. Innovative use of proposed funds
3. Clearly identified project goals, activities and deliverables
4. Qualifications of project team
5. Proposed next steps
6. Appropriateness of budget for proposed project

Notification

It is anticipated that awardees will be notified by September 15th, 2017.

Budget and funding

The award implementation cycle will begin October 1st, 2017 and end September 30th, 2018. Funding can be requested in increments of \$5,000, up to a maximum of \$25,000, and is granted for a period of one year. No cost extensions are discouraged. Any no cost extension requests will be reviewed by the Center's Steering Committee. Extensions would be contingent on compelling justification, a favorable budget review, progress report, and revised timeline. The award committee reserves the right to approve a lower funding amount than what was requested in the application.

Areas **allowable** for funding include but are not limited to:

- Research staff salary
- Research supplies/materials
- Participant compensation

Areas **not** allowable for funding include:

- Salary support for the PI
- Equipment (defined as a single item costing \geq \$5k)
- Travel expenses (unless travel is a direct requirement of the project)

If the proposal requires the use of human subjects or animals, funding will not be released until IRB or UCUCA approval are obtained.

Reporting requirements

If funded, a brief interim progress report form is required at 6 months and a final report is required at 12 months. Awardees will also be asked for a brief update at 1 year post award. In addition, awardees will be required to present results at a Key Investigators' Meeting, as requested by the Center. Projects must also acknowledge the Momentum Center on relevant presentations and publications.

Application Components

Format: Proposals must be single spaced, with ½ inch margins, and in 11 point Arial font. All portions of the proposal must be converted into pdf format and compiled into a **single** file for submission.

1. **Application cover sheet**
2. **Abstract** – limited to 250 words
3. **Proposal Narrative** – limited to 2 pages (excluding tables and references)

The scope of this project should match the limited size and duration of a pilot and feasibility project. The narrative should address the points below:

 - a. **Specific aims or objectives**
 - Concisely state the goals of the proposed project.
 - b. **Significance**
 - Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in finding solutions to childhood obesity that the proposed project will address.
 - Explain how this project will have a significant impact on child obesity research in terms of extending knowledge, developing methods, creating new technology or utilizing existing technology in new ways, or communicating results.
 - c. **Innovation**
 - Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches, methodologies, tools or technologies for this area; or how the project brings together disciplines that have not traditionally collaborated.
 - d. **Approach**
 - Describe the overall strategy, activities, methodology, and analyses used to accomplish the specific aims or objectives of the project.
 - Describe anticipated deliverables (e.g., number of participants to receive an intervention; pilot data collected; new prototype, tool, technology, assay or intervention developed).
 - e. **Project Team**
 - Describe how the training or experience of the project team relates to and supports this proposal. Note: the team **must** include faculty from more than one discipline.
 - If the PI is a post-doctoral fellow, explain the specific role of the faculty mentor in the guidance of this project.
 - f. **Proposed Next Steps**
 - Describe potential next steps for this project and how the extension of the proposed work would advance the field of child obesity research (e.g., extramural funding, tools for research relevant to childhood obesity, intervention development, or methods).
4. **Proposed Budget and Justification** – 1 page
 - a. Include a budget page with a table that itemizes how the funds will be used. The total budget may not exceed \$25,000. Funds may not be used for salary support for the Principal Investigator, travel expenses, or equipment.
 - b. Include a brief budget explanation to justify costs.
5. **Biosketch** – Include the current biosketch for each investigator.
6. **References** – No limit