Request for Applications to Establish a Multidisciplinary Translational Team (MTT)

I. General Information

**Solicitation Number:** ITS-2012-MTT  
**Mechanism of Support:** ITS Multidisciplinary Translational Team Grant  
**Key Dates:**  
Release/Posted Date: March 1, 2012  
Application Due Date: June 1, 2012  
Peer Review Date(s): July 2-July 31, 2012  
Council Review Date(s): August 1, 2012  
Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s): September 1, 2012  

**Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards:** Awards issued under this RFA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.  

**Eligible Applicants:** UTMB investigators at the level of Assistant Professor or higher. More than one PI may be listed. The decision to include a single PI or multiple PIs is the responsibility of the investigators.  

**Number of Applications:** A PI may submit only one application for ITS funding per annual funding cycle.  

**NOTICE:** In developing an application, investigators are strongly encouraged to contact the Coordination Core at CTSA@utmb.edu for help in planning their project and identifying relevant ITS resources.  

**Budget and Project Period:** Up to 2 years of support may be requested at $75,000/year for a total not to exceed $150,000. The anticipated start date is Sept. 1, 2012, with funding expected to continue through August 31, 2014. Continued funding during this period is contingent upon reasonable progress in accomplishing the proposed aims.  

**Cost Sharing or Matching:** Cost sharing is not required. However, applicants should describe any project support from their department or other sources.  

II. Purpose of this RFA  

**MTT Grants are partnership agreements** intended to provide teams of investigators with access to the resources of the ITS and the CTSA consortium, allowing them to be even more effective in conducting collaborative research and mentoring trainees.  

**To be considered for funding, an MTT must:**  
- Focus on translational research  
- Include investigators from diverse disciplines and departments  
- Include both senior and junior level investigators  

**Funded teams are expected to:**  
- Conduct a specific project using ITS resources  
- Demonstrate collaboration among team members  
- Pursue opportunities for securing extramural funding  
- Add and strengthen partnerships with other researchers, industry or the community  
- Disseminate research findings
MTTs can focus on any important health issue but must be aligned with the priorities of UTMB, the ITS and the CTSA consortium. Questions regarding these priorities may be addressed to the Coordination Resource at CTSA@utmb.edu.

III. Submitting an Application

Format: Use 11 point Arial font with 0.5 inch margins. Tables and figures must be readable. Pages must be single-spaced. Applications will not be reviewed if page limits are exceeded, applicable section(s) are omitted, or formatting recommendations are not followed.

NOTICE: Applications must be submitted electronically as a single pdf file to ebruiz@utmb.edu using the instructions and forms available at http://www.its.utmb.edu/resources/collaborative_studies.html.

Required Components:

1. Application Form. All information must be submitted on the form provided.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPOSAL SECTION</th>
<th>PAGE LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Aims</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Strategy</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td> Significance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td> Innovation</td>
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<tr>
<td> Approach</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Timeline</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Subjects</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted/Planned enrollment Table</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertebrate Animals</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Institutional Resources</td>
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3. Biosketches. Provide a biosketch [4 page maximum] in the current NIH format for key Investigator(s). Please include all current support and effort.

Funding Restrictions:

- Pre-award costs are NOT allowable.
- After the 6th month of project funding, funds cannot be reallocated.

Deadline: Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m., local time on June 1, 2012. No extensions will be given. Once submitted, an application cannot be revised.

IV. Review of Applications

Review and Selection Process: Applications will be evaluated for scientific merit by the Scientific Review Committee. Highly ranked applications will be recommended for funding to the CTSA Executive Committee.

Review criteria include: overall impact, significance, innovation, and approach.

In addition, applicants must clearly describe: how the work is translational, how investigators will interact with ITS resources and how team members will interact to enhance the MTT project.
V. Award Administration

Award Notices: All applicants will be notified by the 3rd week in August.

Meeting with the Coordination Resource: Successful applicants will meet with the Coordination Resource prior to funding. The purpose of these meetings is to develop the MTT. Discussion topics will include:

- The team’s vision, goal, and purpose
- The MTT project
- Specific ways that CTSA Resources could enhance the project
- A team development plan
- Tracking and evaluating progress

Progress Reports: Funded MTTs will submit four progress reports, 6 and 12, 18 and 23 months from the award date. MTTs will be required to present progress and research findings at ITS meetings.

VI. Additional Information and Inquiries

Visit the Pilots and Collaborative Research Web Pages
http://www.its.utmb.edu/resources/collaborative_studies.html.

- Application Form and RFAs
- Previously Funded Projects

Contact the Coordination Resource: CTSA@utmb.edu or (409) 747-2872 with questions about developing an MTT.

VII. Submission Checklist

- Proposal
- Biosketches
- ITS Application Form