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## Pilot and Feasibility Grant Program

### Purpose:

Applications are being solicited for Pilot and Feasibility research grants by the Center of Excellence for Diseases of Connective Tissue in the areas of interest to the Center, *i.e.* autoimmunity, inflammation and tissue repair, fibrotic disorders, and rheumatic diseases. Projects focusing on basic sciences, clinical sciences or a combination of both are acceptable. Since one of the mandates given to each Center of Excellence is to increase the research funding in the respective areas, these grants are intended to facilitate the investigators in the generation of data that will enhance their competitiveness in obtaining external funding, such as R03, R021, R01, projects within Program Project grants or SCOR's, or research career development awards from the NIH or other peer-reviewed, nationally recognized foundations. NIH grants such as R21 and R03 require only modest amounts of preliminary data. It is the goal of the grant program that the recipients of the Pilot and Feasibility grants should be able to apply for at least these types of grants after 1 year of support.

### Major criteria:

1. The applicant must be a faculty member in good standing at the UTHSC and currently is, or is interested in becoming, a participating member of the Center of Excellence for Diseases of Connective Tissue.
2. The research project must have high scientific merit.
3. Potential for future success in peer-reviewed funding from NIH or other federal or private programs that accrue indirect cost to the UTHSC must be demonstrated.

### Funding:

Awards range up to \$20,000 for one year, depending on the needs.

### Application procedure:

An editable, PDF version of the application package can be obtained from the Connective Tissue web site, [www.utmem.edu/ctr](http://www.utmem.edu/ctr). The research plan should contain NIH-style scientific elements (specific aims, background, preliminary data, if any, and experimental design) and should ordinarily not exceed **five** type-written pages in length. In addition to the scientific elements, a statement regarding future plans for external funding needs to be included. **With permission of the COE director, an existing grant application, submitted to an appropriate organization, may be used in place of the COE application.**

1. Each application will be peer-reviewed.
2. The application should contain the following elements and should ordinarily not exceed five type-written pages (single-spaced) in length:
  - i. Title of the project, name and academic title of the PI
  - ii. Introduction and specific aims

- iii. Background and rationale
  - iv. Preliminary data if any
  - v. Methods of procedure
  - vi. Plans for future external funding from NIH, other federal or private sources.
3. Budget page
  4. NIH Biosketch of the PI (or its equivalent) based on the new style that includes current and past projects and their support.

**Deadline:**

**Future deadlines:**

It is intended that there will be one cycle for granting opportunities per year depending on the availability of funds.

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**Pilot and Feasibility Grant Program**  
**Center of Excellence for Diseases of Connective Tissue**

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Investigator:

Title:

Degree:

Project Title:

Research Area(s):

Animal Use?	Approval Date
Yes      No	

Human Subjects?	IRB Approval Date
Yes      No	

Investigator information:

Institution:

Department:

Address:

Telephone:

FAX:

E-mail:

Investigator's Signature\*

Date:

\*Your signature indicates that, if funded, you will cite the Center of Excellence for Diseases of Connective Tissue on published and presented material produced as a result of funding from this program.

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# Diseases of Connective Tissue COE Pilot and Feasibility Program

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a) Goals & Objectives .....	
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d) Preliminary Results .....	
e) Work Proposed .....	
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## Abstract

*State the broad, long-term objectives, and specific aims, making reference to their relatedness to diseases of connective tissue. Concisely describe the research design and methods for achieving the specific aims. If this application is funded, this abstract may become public information. Use only the space provided for the abstract. Do not use smaller than 12 point type, 19 lines maximum.*

Principal Investigator/Program Director (Last, first, middle): \_\_\_\_\_

**BUDGET JUSTIFICATION PAGE  
MODULAR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION**

Initial Budget Period	Second Year of Support	Third Year of Support	Fourth Year of Support	Fifth Year of Support
Total Direct Costs Requested for Entire Project Period				

**Personnel**

**Consortium/Collaborators**

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the key personnel in the order listed for Form Page 2.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.**

NAME		POSITION TITLE	
EDUCATION/TRAINING <i>(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)</i>			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY

**NOTE: The Biographical Sketch may not exceed four pages. Items A and B may not exceed two of the four-page limit.**

**A. Positions and Honors.** List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with your present position. List any honors. Include present membership on any Federal Government public advisory committee.

**B. Selected peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order).** Do not include publications submitted or in preparation.

**C. Research Support.** List selected ongoing or completed (during the last three years) research projects (federal and non-federal support). Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research proposed in this application. Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and responsibilities of principal investigator identified above.

**NAME OF INDIVIDUAL**  
**ONGOING/COMPLETED**

Project Number (Principal Investigator) Source Title of Project <i>(or Subproject)</i>  The major goals of this project are...	Dates of Project (Entire Period of Support) Annual Direct Costs	Percent Effort

**Sample****ANDERSON, R.R.****ONGOING**

2 R01 HL 00000-13 Anderson (PI) NIH/NHLBI Chloride and Sodium Transport in Airway Epithelial Cells	3/1/97 – 2/28/00 \$186,529	30%
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The major goals of this project are to define the biochemistry of chloride and sodium transport in airway epithelial cells and clone the gene(s) involved in transport.

5 R01 HL 00000-07 Baker (PI) NIH/NHLBI Ion Transport in Lungs	4/1/94 – 3/31/99 \$122,717	10%
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The major goal of this project is to study chloride and sodium transport in normal and diseased lungs.

Principal Investigator/Program Director (Last, first, middle): \_\_\_\_\_

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME	POSITION TITLE
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EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)			
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Principal Investigator/Program Director (Last, first, middle): \_\_\_\_\_

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Principal Investigator/Program Director (Last, first, middle): \_\_\_\_\_

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Principal Investigator/Program Director (Last, first, middle): \_\_\_\_\_

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## RESOURCES

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**FACILITIES:** Specify the facilities to be used for the conduct of the proposed research. Indicate the performance sites and describe capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity, and extent of availability to the project. Under "Other," identify support services such as machine shop, electronics shop, and specify the extent to which they will be available to the project. Use continuation pages if necessary.

Laboratory:

Clinical:

Animal:

Computer:

Office:

Other:

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**MAJOR EQUIPMENT:** List the most important equipment items already available for this project, noting the location and pertinent capabilities of each.