

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

INTEGRATED HEALTH SCIENCE FACILITY CORE (IHSFC) RESEARCH VOUCHER PROGRAM

University of Louisville Center for Integrative Environmental Health Sciences (CIEHS)

Special IHSFC Research Voucher for 2020:

Award type (up to)	Submission Due Date
Small voucher* (\$1,500)	Applications due December 18, 2020
* The project period for this award will be January 4, 2021 through March 31, 2021.	

IHSFC Research Voucher Due Dates for 2021:

Award type (up to)	Submission Due Dates
Large voucher*‡ (\$10,000)	Cycle 1- 2nd Friday in January Cycle 2- 2nd Friday in May Cycle 3- 2nd Friday in September
Medium voucher*‡ (\$5,000)	
Small voucher*‡ (\$1,500)	
<p>* Awards are contingent upon availability of funds. All awards will be made on the first Friday of the month following submission and expenditure completion will be by 3/31/2022. Depending on the numbers of meritorious applications the funding for later submission due dates may be canceled due to lack of funds.</p> <p>‡IHSFC Voucher Program will consider off-cycle applications for emergent situations such as disaster response research. Please contact IHSFC Director (matthew.cave@louisville.edu) directly.</p>	

The UofL Center for Integrative Environmental Health Science (CIEHS) is soliciting applications to support clinical and translational environmental health science (EHS) research through the recently obtained CIEHS P30 Environmental Health Sciences Core Center grant. Investigators are invited to apply for IHSFC RESEARCH-VOUCHER subsidies addressing small (up to \$1,500), medium (up to \$5,000) or large (up to \$10,000) projects. Applications will be accepted from CIEHS members as well as CIEHS nonmembers so long as a CIEHS member is included as a Co-I on the application. Applications from members of all traditionally underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. Applications are encouraged which propose to leverage pre-existing biorepositories and human subjects research facilities such as the Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) and the Kosair Charities Pediatric Clinical Research Unit (KCPCRU). Likewise, projects that support the CIEHS's overall goal, propose to access other CIEHS Cores and/or Research Interest Groups (RIGs) and are consistent with the NIEHS translational research framework will be prioritized. **An individual may be the PI or co-investigator on only one award from CIEHS in any fiscal year.**

Background: The goal of the CIEHS is to develop a framework to understand the complexities of and to integrate the interactions between environmental toxicants, lifestyle factors, life stage, genetics and gender and their roles in human health and disease. The CIEHS facilitates research and training focused on: (1) exposure to industrial chemicals present in the urban and rural Kentucky environments (metals, VOCs, POPs, etc.), (2) lifestyle factors (diet, alcohol, socioeconomic stressors, obesity, etc.), and the modifications to response by life stage, genetics and gender in development of chronic adult diseases. The CIEHS is organized into three multi-disciplinary research interest groups (multi-organ toxicology, cancer, and neurodevelopmental toxicology); an Integrated Health Science Facility Core (IHSFC), a Community Engagement Core (CEC), and two facility cores (Biostatistics and Informatics Facility Core, "BIFC" and the

Integrated Toxicomics and Environmental Measurements Facility Core, “ITEMFC”). More information about the CIEHS may be found at <https://louisville.edu/ciehs/>. More information about NIEHS translational research framework may be found at <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/programs/translational/framework-details/index.cfm>.

Goal for this RFA: The goal of this RFA is to provide a financial subsidy for clinical and translational research EHS research. This support will be in the form of IHSFC research vouchers that maybe be invoiced by research resources utilized (e.g., CTU, KCPCRU, biorepositories, CIEHS Cores, etc.).

General Information and Types of Awards: This RFA solicits applications for three types of subsidy awards- (1) **Small awards** for up to \$1,500 to cover the costs associated with research needed to finish out a project or address questions arising in manuscript revisions or grant resubmissions. (2) **Medium awards** for up to \$5,000 to cover costs associated with critical exploratory research and proof-of-concept studies needed for hypothesis generation and grant (re-) submission. (3) **Large awards** (up to 25% total costs capped at a \$10,000 maximum) will be provided to subsidize already funded EHS research (for example NIEHS).

Projected Applications Due Dates and Award Dates are provided in the Table Above. Awardees will be required to sign an award notice committing to the terms of the award, including required post-award reporting, citation of the grant (P30ES030283) in any publications, and participation in a CIEHS session at Research!Louisville 2021.

Submission instructions: All submissions require completion and submission of the “IHSFC RESEARCH VOUCHER PROGRAM APPLICATION COVER PAGES”. *Please email final applications as a single PDF file to Ms. Colleen Quinter (colleen.quinter@louisville.edu) and carbon copy Matt Cave (matt.cave@louisville.edu).*

Voucher award applications: All voucher applications require completed cover pages and attachments (provided with this award announcement - no institutional signature needed); a 1-2 page abstract and the PI’s biosketch. For medium and large voucher applications, please also provide a letter from the BIFC addressing sample size and plans for statistical analysis. The research abstract should address how the proposal: (i) is consistent with the CIEHS goals; (ii) leverages IHSFC linkages to CTU/KCPCRU/biorepositories; (iii) leverages other CIEHS cores and/or RIGS. Depending on the requested award size please provide a description of how the data generated will be used to support manuscript/grant (re-)submission, generation of new hypotheses and/or an existing funded EHS-research project.

Biosketch- Provide NIH-style biosketch (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>) for all PI/multiple PI (MPI) applicants and for large awards any key personnel involved in the study.

Letters of Support- Letters of support can be included from ITEMFC, CEC, RIGs and/or BIFC to discuss experimental feasibility, expected results, and estimated timeline for study completion. For medium and large awards letters of support should be provided from BIFC.

Review Process: Applications will be reviewed by the IHSFC director and two independent reviewers to evaluate for (A) addressing the CIEHS goals and advancing the NIEHS mission, (B) scientific merit and (C) feasibility of achieving stated aims and goals. The IHSFC strives to help improve the overall quality and Impact of translational EHS research at UofL. The Center researches the right to request more information about or modifications to the proposed research. The IHSFC also provides consultation on study design in collaboration with other CIEHS cores and the RIGs.

Post-Award Administration of Voucher Awards

Reporting- Understanding the impact of IHSFC voucher awards is important to guiding future subsidy opportunities as well as understanding core utilization and impact of the subsidized research. The information gathered in this way will be used to measure success of the program, which will be necessary for a renewal of the P30 center.

Voucher awardees will be required to submit progress reports addressing (a) listing of poster and oral presentations, (b) grant applications which included subsidized research results, (c) trainees that were directly involved with the research, (d) a copies of the manuscripts (resubmitted/in-press/published), (e) grant applications (submitted/funded/renewed), (f) data sharing to the EHS research community and lastly a cover page addressing how the expended funds addressed the gap in the research. Award reporting is commensurate with the award voucher: (1) small voucher award- 12-month report, (2) medium voucher award- annual 12- and 24-month reports; and large voucher award- annual 12-, 24-, and 36-month Failure to provide these reports may invalidate future voucher submissions by the PI.

Research!Louisville Symposium- IHFSC Subsidy awardees agree to participate in a CIEHS symposium as part of Research!Louisville.

Program Contacts

For general information about the CIEHS ITEMFC Subsidy Award Program and the application process, contact: Matt Cave, MD, Director, IHSFC, matt.cave@louisville.edu

For information related to other CIEHS Cores and RIGs, contact the individual directors:

Integrated Toxicomics and Environmental Measurements Facility Core (ITEMFC)

Michael Merchant, PhD Michael.Merchant@louisville.edu

Community Engagement Core (CEC)

Luz Huntington-Moskos, PhD, RN, CPN

luz.huntingtonmoskos@louisville.edu

Biostatistics and Informatics Facility Core (BIFC)

Shesh Rai, PhD

shesh.rai@louisville.edu

Multi-organ Toxicology RIG

Lu Cai, MD, PhD

lu.cai@louisville.edu

Cancer RIG

John Wise, PhD

john.wise@louisville.edu

Neurodevelopmental Toxicology RIG

Greg Barnes, MD, PhD

gregory.barnes@louisville.edu