



Research Pilot Award Application Form

The Pilot Award program at the Boston University School of Public Health provides an innovative space to meet our core purpose of Think. Teach. Do. for the health of all. These opportunities are available thanks to generous donations to the School and are administered by [idea hub](#).

Applications should be submitted to ideahub@bu.edu and will be reviewed by the Research and Faculty Advancement Committee.

Part I: Applicant Information

PI Name (contact PI) _____ Email _____

Title _____ Department _____

Pilot Project Title:

Requested Amount of Pilot Funds (\$): _____

Award Application Type

- ☐ Early Career Catalyst Award
- ☐ Established Investigator Innovation Award
- ☐ Carlin Foundation Pilot Award for Public Health
- ☐ Innovation CFAR Developmental Grants Award
- ☐ Fast-Track Funding Mechanism
- Other, please specify: _____

Relevance to Strategic Directions (select all that apply)

- ☐ Cities and health
- ☐ Climate, the planet, and health
- ☐ Health inequities
- ☐ Infectious disease
- Mental and behavioral health

Collaborator names and affiliations (including mentors for early career investigators):

Name	Affiliation	Role (co-PI, collaborator, mentor, etc)

Part II: Overall goal/plans

The main purpose of research pilot awards is to provide PIs with the resources necessary to submit competitive applications for external funding. The ability to conduct a larger externally-funded project is the main goal of a research pilot project. Accordingly, these questions focus on the larger project being planned that would ultimately be the focus on an application to external funders.

- A. Please describe the main research problem you plan to address via the larger project. Explain the significance of the problem and how the specific aims of the proposed project will address gaps and advance the field. (max 150 words)

- B. Pilot funds are typically requested when the PI is not currently positioned to submit a competitive grant application for external funding. What are the main barriers and/or potential reviewer concerns that are currently preventing you from preparing a competitive grant application to pursue the above work? Note: the expectation is that the specific aims of the pilot project will address the main barriers and/or potential reviewer concerns described here (max 150 words).

- C. Please indicate your plans to submit more or more applications for external support following the pilot. Please specify the funder (eg NIH, DOD, Gates), funding mechanism, and submission deadline.

Funder	Funding mechanism (link to RFA if available)	Submission deadline

Part III: Proposed pilot project

- A. Please provide a brief abstract of the pilot project that includes the specific aims. This abstract may be shared with donors. (max 250 words)

- B. Please describe the approach you will use to conduct the pilot project. Please address the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the pilot project. (max of 750 words)

Part IV: Budget and Timeline

- A. Please summarize your budget request and provide a budget justification.

In crafting your budget, please review the RFA for restrictions and note that personnel expenses should include [fringe](#).

- B. Please explain why the requested funds are needed to conduct the proposed pilot project. In other words, why is it not possible to conduct the proposed pilot project without the requested support? (max 150 words)

- C. Timeline. Please briefly summarize your timeline for conducting the pilot activities and submitting your subsequent grant application(s).

Part V: Citations

You are welcome to attach citations separately.

Part VI: Letter of Support (if applicable)

Early career investigators who have not previously received R-level funding should also attach a letter of support from their mentor. This letter, not to exceed 1 page, should outline how the mentor will support the applicant during the pilot project and subsequent preparation of an application for external funding. For research scientists, if the faculty mentor does not also serve as the applicant's supervisor, then the letter should be co-signed by the supervisor to indicate their approval.

Part VII: Fast-Track Funding Mechanism

Funds are sometimes needed to pursue time-sensitive opportunities, such that waiting for the normal submission deadlines is not possible. Accordingly, SPH offers a fast-track funding mechanism when modest resources are required to pursue funding opportunity. If applying for this mechanism, please attached the applicable RFA or summary statement to this form.