University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center
Prostate SPORE

Preliminary Application for Research Project

Please submit the following:

- Letter of Intent by March 1, 2011
- Attached application (includes five-page research plan) by April 1, 2011

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED

Submit letter of intent and complete application to Jill Miller by email at jsmiller@umich.edu.

Application deadline: **Friday, April 1, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.**
Great opportunity for prostate cancer investigators!

The UMCCC Prostate SPORE (Specialized Program on Research Excellence) Committee seeks applications for possible inclusion in our next competing renewal submission. It is highly likely that at least two existing projects in the current grant cycle are ending and must be replaced for the next submission. This is a great opportunity for prostate cancer investigators. The Prostate SPORE is a specialized center grant (P50) funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) that promotes interdisciplinary and translational research. With this announcement, we are seeking translational research projects investigating prostate cancer that include an early phase clinical trial or development of a biomarker utilizing human specimens, preferably as part of a clinical trial.

A letter of intent is due March 1, 2011. The final application is due April 1, 2011.

Applicants must read the Research Plan (page 24) and Review Criteria (page 39) sections of the NCI SPORE guidelines located at http://spores.nci.nih.gov/investigator_resources/docs/spore_guidelines_final.pdf. All of the SPORE research plan guidelines and review criteria must be addressed in the proposal. We are requiring a clinical trial or a biomarker in each project to be included in the grant application.

Investigators applying for this are usually well established in their research field and must be tenure-track faculty. The principal investigator (PI) may be either a basic scientist or a clinician and must designate a co-principal investigator (co-PI) with at least 10% effort. The co-PI must complement the discipline of the PI and provide balance to the translational team so that between the PI and co-PI, there is one basic scientist and one clinician. The application must introduce both of these investigators, explain their qualifications, and document active collaboration between the PI and co-PI in both study design and conduct.

If the Prostate SPORE application is funded, each research project can expect to receive approximately $150,000 to $160,000 direct costs each year for five years providing adequate progress is demonstrated. The anticipated start date is June 1, 2013.

This grant does not provide for travel, office supplies, copying, faxing, postage or other A-21 restricted expenses.

Applicants must submit the application form which includes a five-page research plan by April 1, 2011. The application must contain some evidence of preliminary data. An NIH biosketch is required for the principal investigator and co-principal investigator. The applications will be judged by the Prostate SPORE Operating Committee on the basis of impact, an assessment of the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved, in consideration of the following core review criteria: significance, investigator, innovation and approach. All applicants will receive reviewer comments.
Applicants must meet with the SPORE Biostatistics Core Director, Alex Tsodikov, prior to the April 1, 2011 deadline for statistical review of the proposed study. Investigators may contact Dr. Tsodikov at 615-6416 or tsodikov@umich.edu.

The Prostate SPORE Operating Committee and internal advisors will select up to six applications for presentation to the External Advisory Board in May, 2011. These applicants will be notified by mid-April, 2011 if their project has been selected to present at this meeting.

After the External Advisory Board Committee meeting, the final four projects will be selected and investigators notified by May 15, 2011. Each finalist will prepare an R01-type application by October 1, 2011 for a mock study section in mid October, 2011. Final selected project proposals will be due December 1, 2011 for inclusion in the Prostate SPORE application which is due to NCI January, 2012. Projects that do not adhere to deadlines will be dropped and replaced.

For an application or more information, contact Jill Miller at 8-6761 or jsmiller@umich.edu. To discuss a potential project, contact Ken Pienta, UM Prostate SPORE PI, (kpienta@umich.edu or 647-3421.