

The NICHD Population Studies Center (NICHD -PSC),  
The NIA Population Aging Research Center (PARC), and  
The Boettner Center for Pensions and Retirement Security  
of the  
University of Pennsylvania

**Second-Round Call for Proposals 2008 TRIO  
(NICHD-PSC, PARC, Boettner Center)  
PILOT PROJECT Competition  
Proposals due **March 20, 2008****

Funds for pilot projects are awarded annually in the collaborative Trio Pilot Project Competition by the three Centers. These funds are intended to promote high- quality and innovative research in demography, economics, health, and related social and behavioral sciences. Proposals for clinical research are **not** appropriate. The NICHD Population Studies Center (PSC-NICHD, <http://www.pop.upenn.edu>) is a major research center on all aspects of population and has been funded since 1978 by the National Institutes of Child Health and Development (NICHD). The Population Aging Research Center (PARC) is one of ten centers funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) to advance research on the demography and economics of health and aging (see <http://www.pop.upenn.edu/rc/parc/aging.html>). For further information on the NIA Centers, see <http://agingmeta.psc.isr.umich.edu/>. The Boettner Center for Pensions and Retirement Security is an endowed Center at the Wharton School established to conduct research on global aging, successful retirement, and public and private pensions (see <http://rider.wharton.upenn.edu/~prc/Boettner.html>). The three Centers also support research in the social and behavioral sciences with seminars, conferences, and on-line working papers.

The Centers collaborate to administer the Trio Competition for Pilot Project support. Individual projects with a budget of up to \$40,000 may be funded though it is anticipated that funding for many of the projects will be significantly less than this amount. No indirect costs will be paid. Support is limited to one year: July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. Assuming a successful IRB application, where applicable, the start date is July 1, 2008.

**\*\*Because the PARC five-year grant expires on June 30, 2009, no requests to carry over funds will be permitted. Therefore, the PI should ensure that any proposal submitted and awarded can be completed by June 30, 2009.\*\***

Projects will be screened and awarded through competitive peer review.

### **PROPOSAL GUIDELINES**

Trio Pilot Project funds are intended to provide seed money for innovative, exploratory projects that have the potential to yield significant publications and competitive applications for future support from public sources such as the NIH or NSF or private foundations. Applications cannot be submitted directly to any one Center, but applicants should familiarize themselves with the interests of each of the participating Centers as

priority will be given to projects that develop new research initiatives in the areas of interest to more than one Center. Interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

All faculty and research professors in the University of Pennsylvania community are eligible to apply for support under this competition. Colleagues at other universities may be named on an application as long as a member of the Penn research community is the Principal Investigator on the pilot project.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

Size of Award: Total cost maximum of \$40,000.

A five-page (double-spaced) proposal narrative should include:

- Specific aims of the proposed project and its relevance for the behavioral and social sciences;
- Potential scientific significance;
- Data and methods, including research design, time line for successful completion of the proposed research, and anticipated date of progress reports and final project report; and
- Explanation of how the pilot project will strengthen applications for external support and further research on the proposed topic.

In addition attach:

- NIH-style cover page
- NIH-style abstract;
- NIH-style budget, including budget estimates and justification (NOTE: Support for faculty salaries is limited to one month. Support for graduate research assistance is a legitimate budgetary item); and
- NIH-style bio-sketch for key project personnel.

All necessary, downloadable NIH forms are available at their Web site (<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>), and the proposal should be submitted as **ONE, COMPLETE document in PDF format**. In addition, if you have previously received a PARC, Boettner, or PSC research award, please include a brief progress report on your earlier research, listing publications, and identifying the NIH/NICHD or NIA or NSF and/or other grant applications you developed based on this earlier support.

### **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 4:00 p.m. on March 20, 2008**

Submit all proposal materials (NIH abstract, NIH budget, proposal narrative, and NIH-biosketch) in one PDF document as an e-mail attachment to [jdietric@pop.upenn.edu](mailto:jdietric@pop.upenn.edu).

### **PROPOSAL REVIEW**

Proposals will be reviewed by the Executive Committees of PSC-NICHD and PARC and the Advisory Board of the Boettner Center for Pensions and Retirement Security.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

Awards will be announced no later than **March 27, 2008**.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PILOT PROJECT AWARDS

### 2008 Competition

Recipients of a Trio Pilot Project award will be expected to meet the following conditions:

- (1) Acknowledge PSC-NICHD/PARC/Boettner Center support on all papers and presentations stemming from research conducted with Trio Pilot Project financing;
- (2) Comply with all IRB and human subject requirements at the University of Pennsylvania;
- (3) Submit a one-page, interim status report to Julie Dietrich ([jdietric@pop.upenn.edu](mailto:jdietric@pop.upenn.edu)) by **Feb 1, 2009**.
- (4) Submit a Final Report to Julie Dietrich no later than **August 31, 2009**. The Final Report should be two to three pages in length and should include a description of the scope of work undertaken, a summary of key findings, and a copy of related papers and presentations.
- (5) Submit to the PSC-NICHD /PARC/Boettner a minimum of one working paper in electronic format, suitable for posting to the PSC-NICHD/PARC/Boettner web sites, by **August 31, 2009**;
- (6) Submit an electronic copy of all NIH, NSF or other funding applications flowing from the Trio Pilot Support and updates on funding success.

For more information contact:

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