The SDSU/UCSD Cancer Center Comprehensive Partnership is soliciting applications for pilot projects for the 2016-17 grant cycle. A total of 2 pilot project proposals meeting the specified criteria will be selected for funding. We are interested in funding projects that are consistent with the goal of the Partnership.

The goal of the SDSU/UCSD Cancer Center Comprehensive Partnership is to reduce the burden of cancer among Hispanic/Latino communities in our catchment area by developing outstanding programs in research, research education, and community outreach to understand and address causes for cancer health disparities in San Diego and Imperial counties, a region with a large and growing Hispanic/Latino population.

The project must have a cancer focus and may be in any research discipline - basic, clinical, prevention, and all areas of population science (epidemiology, behavioral science, etc.).

**AWARD INFORMATION**

Funds will be disbursed semi-annually. Total budget refers to budget for both institutions involved in the proposed project for the one-year duration of the project. No indirect costs are allowed. Human subjects research must have obtained IRB approval prior to distribution of funds. Similarly animal research must have institutional approval prior to distributions of funds. Awardees will be required to submit a 6-month interim report and a one-year progress report, and to prepare a short presentation for the internal/external committee meeting/s. All funds must be spent by the end date of the project award. Requests for carry over funds and no-cost extensions may be submitted and will need to be approved by the Partnership’s Executive Committee.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

A completed Partnership Application Package (attached) needs to be submitted on/before due date and meet criteria below.

1. Includes one Co-Leader from SDSU and one Co-Leader from UCSD. Co-Leaders must be faculty members who are eligible to apply for NIH research grants as PI. In case of ambiguity, eligibility will be determined by the Partnership’s Executive Committee. For assistance, please contact Bilge Pakiz at bpakiz@ucsd.edu or Jessica Haughton at jhaughton@mail.sdsu.edu.

2. Advances the body of knowledge in cancer research that is relevant to cancer disparities among underserved populations in San Diego and Imperial Counties, particularly Hispanics.

3. Research projects may be in any area of basic, clinical, translational, or population science research (i.e., epidemiology, behavioral science, etc.).

4. In addition to high scientific merit and consistency with the goals of the Partnership, the project should reflect a true inter-institutional collaboration, where the strengths and synergies between the collaborating institutions are clearly highlighted.

5. Proposals must explicitly address the extent to which the proposed project contributes to educate and train promising under-represented minority scientists in cancer research.

6. Annual direct cost budget cannot exceed $50,000 for the one-year period of the project. No indirect costs are allowed.
REQUIRED MATERIALS

Fill out and submit the Partnership Pilot Application which includes a 3 page write-up containing components below:

- Background and Significance
- Hypothesis and Specific Aims
- Methods (please provide details on work done at UCSD and those that will be done at SDSU)

Submit Detailed Budget and Justification separately for each Institution.
Submit Biographical Sketches of Key Personnel

IMPORTANT DATES

1. **October 15, 2016:** Letter of intent due. E-mail indicating the names of the Co-Leaders, tentative title and a two sentence description of the project. Although an LOI is not required, is not binding, and does not enter into the review of a subsequent application, the information it contains allows the SDSU/UCSD Partnership staff to estimate the potential reviewer workload and plan the review. Send email to bpakiz@ucsd.edu.

2. **November 4, 2016:** Proposals are due. Please submit the completed application to bpakiz@ucsd.edu (you will receive a confirmatory email reply, please retain this as evidence of submission, if you do not receive this email please call one of the project managers listed below)

3. **December 16, 2016:** Funding decisions and short written feedback provided to Co-Leaders of all applications. Selected proposals may be provided with specific suggestions or requirements prior to funding.

4. **January 1, 2017:** Anticipated earliest start date.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Fulfillment of the requirements and eligibility criteria noted above.
2. Relevance of the proposed pilot project to cancer disparities and/or contribute to training of under-represented minority (URM) students and Early Stage Investigators (ESI).
4. Strength of the methods proposed to develop successful inter-institutional research collaboration.
5. Potential of the project to develop into a competitive proposal to NIH or other funding agency in 2 years or less. This includes projects with potential to develop into a competitive full research project for inclusion in the U54 Partnership competitive renewal application (tentative deadline Sept. 2018).
6. Potential to generate publishable data for peer reviewed publications.

CONTACT:

Please direct questions to:

Bilge Pakiz, EdD, UC San Diego Project Manager at bpakiz@ucsd.edu or Jessica Haughton, MPH, SDSU Project Manager at jhaughton@mail.sdsu.edu.