



Call for Applications for the DaCCoTA Basic Scholars Program

Award Cycle: Fall 2022

Letter of Intent Deadline: September 9th, 2022

Application Deadline: November 28th, 2022

Expected project period: September 2023-August 2028

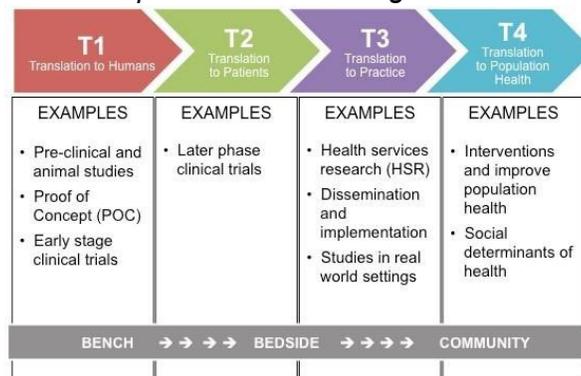
Update: *The Professional Development Core of the Dakota Cancer Collaborative on Translational Activity (DaCCoTA) sponsored by the NIH/NIGMS was given approval to expand the scope of its clinical and translational research (CTR) investigations from only cancer to any disease-related translational research.*

The Dakota Cancer Collaborative on Translational Activity (DaCCoTA), sponsored by the NIH/NIGMS, welcomes applications for the Basic Scholars Program. The purpose of this award is to stimulate the development of new clinical and translational research (CTR) investigators. Applications are expected to address health-related CTR and can consider multilevel manifestations (e.g. neurological, psychiatric), demographic risks, and social impact.

For the purpose of the DaCCoTA Scholars Program, CTR is defined as:

“...research (that) fosters the multidirectional integration of basic research, patient-oriented research, and population-based research, with the long-term aim of improving the health of the public.”

Rubio DM et al. Defining translational research: implications for training. Acad Med 2010; 85(3): 4708.



Program Requirements

Participation in the Scholars Program will involve the following:

- 50% time commitment in a mentored CTR over a five-year period. The applicant may propose a collaboration or may contact the DaCCoTA (daccota@und.edu) in advance of applying for assistance finding a potential collaborator.
- Attendance and participation in the Annual DaCCoTA Symposiums while an awardee.

- Complete the DaCCoTA Scholars curriculum
 - (https://med.und.edu/daccota/files/pdfs/daccota_curriculum.pdf).
- Submission of an annual productivity report and consent for longitudinal evaluation for reporting DaCCoTA success to NIH.

Eligibility

- Terminal degree of MD, PhD, or equivalent (e.g. PharmD, OT, PT, NP). If there are questions about qualifications, please contact the core director (Lee.Baugh@usd.edu).
- No current or prior support from an R01 or equivalent.
- No current project funding (PI role) through an NIH IDeA program (e.g., COBRE, INBRE, DaCCoTA, etc.)
- A focused area of relevant CTR or basic science investigation.
- Demonstrated success in conducting mentored or independent research.
- Early track record of publication.
- Eligibility to apply for NIH funds (i.e., US citizen or permanent resident).

Application Process

- Applicants must register as DaCCoTA participants in the DaCCoTA Pathfinder web portal (<https://pathfinder.med.und.edu/>).
- Applicants must consult the [Professional Development Core](#) well in advance of application submission for assistance with project development.
- Applicants must also consult with the [Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design Core](#); the [Community Engagement and Outreach Core](#); and the [Clinical Research Resources and Facilities Core](#) prior to submitting their applications. You can contact these cores by logging into the [Pathfinder Portal](#) and selecting the communication tab at the top of the page.
- Letters of Intent should be submitted as a single PDF document to christian.buresh@usd.edu. Letters of Intent must include: 1). Study title 2). Study overview 3). Grant category targeted (e.g. Basic Scholars, CROP, or CES) 4). Identifying the clinician and non-clinician mentors.
- Letters of Intent must be accompanied by a list of pending, current, and previous grant funding received by the applicant. Each grant should be described by title, major goals, status of support, project number, name of PD/PI, source of support, primary place of performance, project/proposal start and end date, total award amount, and person months (academic, calendar, summer) allocated per budget period
- All proposals must have completed internal approval at their respective institutions.
- Applications should be submitted as a single PDF document via the DaCCoTA Pathfinder web portal. Select the proposals tab at the top of the page and upload completed application.

Application Deadlines & Required Materials

Letters of intent (1-page maximum) are due September 9th, 2022

Full applications invited from selected letters of intent are due November 28th, 2022, and should include the following:

- Face page (PHS398 Form Page 1 signed by institutional signing official, PHS398 forms are available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>). Instructions for the PHS398 forms are available at [U.S. DHHS Public Health Service Grant Application \(PHS 398\) \(nih.gov\)](#).
 - Project Summary (PHS398 Form Page 2)
 - Relevance (no more than two or three sentences describing the relevance of this research to North and South Dakota and the research community.
- Research Plan (follow NIH guidelines for an R21 mechanism format):
 - Specific Aims (1-page limit)
 - Research Strategy (6-page limit)
 - References (no page limit)
- Personal Narrative (3-page limit) with the following elements:
 - Describe your motivation and commitment for becoming an independently funded investigator.
 - Identify potential mentor(s) with their area(s) of expertise.
 - A plan for career development. Include role for mentors in the plan, timeline, and milestones.
 - Describe your past experience(s) in CTR and how you would benefit from additional training; Identify gaps in training or career development that you would like addressed through further training.
- Personal Learning Network (2-page limit)

During your participation as a Basic Scholars awardee, you'll be asked to construct a personal learning network (PLN), which is a network of people, organizations, and publications from which you'll receive continuing support during your participation in and following your graduation from the Basic Scholars program. The Professional Development Core and the DaCCoTA believe that overall success in research is based on engagement within the interdisciplinary scientific community.

You'll describe your current PLN by answering the following questions:

- If you need advice or support in your research, whom do you ask first?
- When it comes to reading peer-reviewed literature, what are your habits e.g how often do you read? What do you read? What would you like to read more of?
- How do you learn about developments in your field?

You'll describe what you'd like your PLN to become by answering the following questions:

- In your field, whom do you wish to become better acquainted with?
- What organizations do you wish to better acquainted with?
- What will your engagement look like with peer-reviewed literature in the future?

After all these questions are answered, the PDC will construct a visual representation of your PLN and work with you to expand it to fit your needs to support you. Expansion will consist of alerts on conferences, meeting opportunities with experienced researchers in your field, and expanding means of engagement in your field (e.g. social media, blogging, vlogging, conferences attendance, etc.).

- Full Curriculum Vitae of Applicant
- NIH Biosketches: Include for all collaborators, mentors, and other significant contributors.
- Letters of Collaboration and Support:
 - Letters from the proposed mentors indicating willingness to play this role and how s/he will assist with the development plan. The mentor should have a history of funding and not be the immediate supervisor (Division Chief, Chair, Dean, or someone you have previously published with). Scholars should have a defined area of research independent from any proposed mentor.
 - Letters of support from mentors' and collaborators' supervisor(s) stating that they are approved to work on the project and can dedicate their time towards it
 - Two letters of recommendation, one from inside and one from outside your current institution. One can be from the mentor(s).
 - A letter from the appropriate Division Chief, Department Chair and/or Dean confirming you can and will have 50% or more protected time for research, if selected, throughout the training period and that the institution will provide equivalent support in years four and five if independent extramural funding has not been achieved.
 - ▪ Continuous support will be contingent on satisfactory progress as judged by the DaCCoTA Internal and External Advisory Committees and the Executive/Leadership Committee.
 - Letter of approval for the project from the Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design Core (BERDC), the Clinical Research Resources and Facilities Core (CRRFC), the Professional Development Core (PDC), and the Community Engagement and Outreach Core (CEOC).
- Statement of consent to have subsequent productivity tracked after application.
- Evidence for submission of Human Subjects and/or Animal Welfare, if applicable.
- Good Clinical Practice (GCP) certification and specific plans for data and safety monitoring, if applicable
- Budget and budget justification (PHS398 Form Pages 4 & 5). Assistance with budgeting is available at your institution's grant office.

Proposed Timeline:

- **RFA Release Date:** August 29th, 2022
- **Letter of Intent Deadline:** September 9th, 2022
- **Letter of Intent Acceptance/Decline:** September 14th, 2022
- **Begin IRB Preparation:** September 14th, 2022

- **Required DaCCoTA Core Meetings:** October 7th, 2022
- **IRB Draft Application Deadline for CRRFC Consultation:** October 21st, 2022
- **Internal Budget and Grant Approval:** November 4th, 2022
- **Application Deadline:** November 28th, 2022
- **Notification of Review:** January 6th, 2023
- **IRB Submission:** Must be approved prior to final project submission to NIH for final review.
- **Notice of Award:** September-October 2023

Budget

A maximum of \$160,000/year *including* up to 50% salary support, research project funding, and indirect costs.

- Scholars accepted into the program will receive salary support (50% FTE plus fringe) that guarantees a minimum of 50% protected research time for the project. The DaCCoTA will provide the first three years of funding, and the final two years will be funded by the applicant's home institution (contingent on adequate progress).
- Indirect costs must be deducted from the award if the applicant's institution warrants such removal.
- Disclaimer: Full scholar funding for the first three years will be subject to DaCCoTA receiving grant renewal from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health. DaCCoTA is funded through August 31st, 2023.

If a scholar receives R01 or equivalent funding, her/his Basic Scholars Program award will terminate. The scholar will be required to continue to participate in DaCCoTA activities and may be asked to serve as a mentor or collaborator in other DaCCoTA projects.

Review Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by NIH according to general NIH guidelines for K01 applications (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-18-369.html#_Section_V_Application). These criteria include, but are not limited to, the potential for future funding, the support of the Department/Division, the significance/novelty of the project, and the strength of the applicant and mentoring team.

Additional Information

Applicants or sponsoring institutions may address questions that arise during application development to the Professional Development Core Director Dr. Lee Baugh (Lee.Baugh@usd.edu) or the Co-director Dr. Donald Sens (donald.sens@UND.edu).

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