



**CHART Program Announcement**  
**Request for Applications (RFA):**  
**Pilot Grants for Clark-Lindsey Village**

ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED:	Pilot Research
DEADLINES ANNOUNCED:	<b>8/11/2017</b>
PROPOSAL DUE:	<b>9/8/2017</b>
AWARDS ANNOUNCED:	<b>9/15/2017</b>

**BACKGROUND**

The CHART (Collaborations in Health, Aging, Research, and Technology) Program is an interdisciplinary research program with the broad mission of enabling successful aging through: fundamental research; advanced technology development; education of researchers, developers, healthcare professionals; guidance for policy decision-making; and translation of these efforts to positively affect the lives of older adults.

CHART has a unique opportunity to partner with Clark-Lindsey Village (<https://www.clark-lindsey.com/>) again this fall to engage their residents in research on technologies to be used in the home environment for older adults. We will be continuing to lease a furnished apartment for the fall semester that will be available as a research facility for University of Illinois faculty.

The goal of the CHART Pilot Grant Program is to support research focused on design, development, and deployment of technologies that will be used by older adults. Residents of Clark-Lindsey can be recruited to assist with your research (according to approved IRB protocols). The research will be conducted at Clark-Lindsey Village.

**SUPPORT PROVIDED:** The total project period for an application submitted in response to this funding opportunity may not exceed three (3) months (Sept 16-Dec 15). Total costs are limited to \$5,000.

**CRITERIA**

Applications will be reviewed according to the following 6 criteria:

- Significance
- Investigators (including interdisciplinary approach)
- Innovation
- Approach
- Plan for use of Clark-Lindsey Village CHART Apartment
- Potential for external funding

## ELIGIBILITY

- Principal investigators must be tenured or tenure-track faculty (Assistant, Associate or Full Professors) professors at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
- Faculty members, research associates, graduate students, and faculty across campus and other institutions may serve as co-investigators; *an interdisciplinary team is strongly encouraged.*
- Research projects proposed must reflect an opportunity to test home-based technologies targeted for use by older adults and be conducted at Clark-Lindsey.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- Applications must be submitted by **5:00 PM on Friday Sept 8, 2017**
- The Review Panel will follow the NIH scoring system, an overall impact/priority score is given for each grant application based upon 6 criteria. Scores range from 1 (exceptional) to 9 (poor).
- Awards are for a 3-month period beginning September 15, 2017. (Note: a 3 month no-cost extension may be requested with justification.)

*Applications must include the following items:*

- Investigator Name(s) (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name), year of rank and highest degrees
  - For multiple applicants, put the name of the PI at the top, followed by other investigators. For multiple investigators, the primary investigator is responsible for the administration of funding. The PI must be a faculty member at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
- PI Contact Information
- Project Title
- Lay Proposal Summary (100 words or less)
- Budget Request (not to exceed \$5,000)
  - For Research Assistants: \$ amount requested
  - For Research Support (non RA): \$ amount requested
  - Total Funding Requested: total funding \$ requested
- Budget Justification
- Proposal Narrative-**should not exceed three (3) pages** (not including references), single-spaced, half-inch margins, use font 11 point Arial. Narratives should address each area of the review criteria.
- Attachments
  - NIH or NSF style biosketch for each investigator
  - IRB approval for human subjects (approval not necessary for submission, but must be secured before data collection and forwarded to Dr. Wendy Rogers before access to Clark-Lindsey will be granted)

## **ALLOWABLE AND NON-ALLOWABLE EXPENSES**

The Pilot Grant Program funds are intended for direct research costs (e.g., wages for RAs and non-RAs, supplies, participant costs, and small equipment). If graduate research assistantships are to be awarded with the grant, the grant will only cover the stipend and not the tuition waiver. The PI should get Department Head approval for this prior to submission.

The following expenses are NOT allowed:

- Salaries for faculty, post-doctoral research associates, research technicians, or computer programmers are not supported.
- Full-time appointments of any kind.
- Graduate research assistantship appointments for greater than 50% time, more than two months in the summer session, or persons not currently enrolled as graduate students at the University of Illinois.
- Non-research costs
- Travel to scientific meetings.

## **SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION**

Submit *one* PDF file of the application, as an attachment by e-mail, to Penny Nigh (nigh@illinois.edu). Multiple files will not be accepted.

### ***Acceptance of Grant/Post Award***

By accepting this Research Grant, recipients agree to:

- Coordinate with Dr. Wendy Rogers with respect to access to Clark-Lindsey Village.
- Submit a final report four months from the start date of the award (i.e., by January 31, 2018) that includes
  - an accounting of expenditures and activities
  - plans for next steps on the project.
- Identify the CHART Program as the funding support source on all resumes, vita, biosketches, presentations or publications.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- Contact Wendy Rogers at 217-300-1470 or [wendyr@illinois.edu](mailto:wendyr@illinois.edu) with any questions.

## Grant Review

### SCORING SYSTEM

- A 9-point scale identical to that used by NIH, will be employed
- A score of 1 indicates an exceptionally strong application with essentially no weaknesses. A score of 9 indicates an application with serious and substantive weaknesses with very few strengths; 5 is considered an average score.
- Ratings are in whole numbers only (no decimal ratings). This scale is used to provide an overall impact/priority score and for assigned reviewers to score six individual criteria (e.g., Significance, Investigator(s), Innovation, Approach, Environment, Potential for external funding)
- For the overall impact/priority score rating, strengths and weaknesses across all of the review criteria should be considered
- For each criterion rating, the strengths and weaknesses within that review criterion should be considered
- Reviewers should consider not only the relative number of strengths and weaknesses noted, but also the importance of these strengths and weaknesses to the criteria or to the overall impact when determining a score
- For example, a major strength may outweigh many minor and correctable weaknesses

### REVIEW CRITERIA

**1. Significance.** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?

**2. Investigator(s).** Are the PI, collaborator(s), and other researchers well suited to perform the project? Do they have appropriate experience and training? Have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? Do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance and organizational structure appropriate for the project? Is the research team interdisciplinary?

**3. Innovation.** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

**4. Approach.** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Is the subject number justified and is the statistical approach described? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? Timelines should be presented for project completion including significant milestones.

**5. Environment.** Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements? Specifically, how does the research benefit from being conducted at Clark-Lindsey Village?

**6. Potential for success in external funding.** Will the completed pilot work provide the basis for a competitive external grant submission? What is targeted agency and specific submission dates for external proposals resulting from this pilot work?