MiCDA Booster Pilot Project Awards
for Early Career UM Researchers
Call for Applications

Release Date: July 17, 2023
Proposals Due: September 1, 2023

The **Michigan Center on the Demography of Aging (MiCDA)** invites NIA-funded Postdoctoral Fellows, Research Investigators, and Assistant-Level Faculty at the University of Michigan to apply for a Booster Pilot Project. The purpose of a Booster Pilot Project is to add to existing NIA-funded research by proposing an additional aim, thereby boosting the impact of the project.

MiCDA is one of 12 research centers on aging funded by the National Institute on Aging. The Center funds new research on the demography of aging with a focus on three signature themes: (1) Enriching data infrastructure to promote breakthroughs in the demography of aging; (2) The changing demography of late-life disability, dementia and family caregiving; and (3) Life course determinants of health and wellbeing in later life and related inequities.

MiCDA expects to fund (1-2) Booster Pilot Projects in 2023.

Eligibility
UM Research Investigators and Assistant-Level Faculty who are MiCDA affiliates or interested in becoming a MiCDA affiliate and UM Postdoctoral Fellows with an interest in aging may apply.

Budget
Booster pilots will be supported for 8 months, from November 1, 2023-June 30 2024. Applicants may request up to **$10,000 in direct costs**. Expenses can include salary and associated fringe costs, research staff salary (data analyst, research assistant), data collection costs, travel costs, and materials and supplies necessary for the proposed research.

Other Requirements
Booster pilot recipients are expected to present results at the annual MiCDA symposium, to be held in Spring 2024, and to cite MiCDA as a source of funding support for any publications or presentations that emerge from funding (P30 AG012846). Annual reporting of pilot outcomes to MiCDA is required.

Expected Outcomes
We expect the booster pilot to result in at least one published paper. Often pilot recipients go on to submit successful grant applications to NIA related to their pilot work.

Priority/Review Criteria
1. Projects must advance one or more MiCDA's signature research themes.

2. Priority will also be given to projects that seed innovative research, have the potential to produce publications that advance the Center's signature research themes, are likely to serve as a foundation for external funding (e.g., NIH R03, R21, R01), and can be completed over an 8-month period.
3. The proposal must briefly describe the existing funding and make clear how the booster funds will be used to address an additional aim that is not already funded by the existing grant.
4. The Review committee will rate each Booster Pilot submission based on significance, innovation, expected outcomes, and relevance to MiCDA's signature research themes.

Applications

Please submit the following via E-mail to Jana Deatrick (jlbruce@umich.edu): 1) Cover letter, 2) Abstract (250 words); 3) Specific Aims (1 page limit); 4) Research Strategy (2 page limit, excluding references) that covers significance, innovation, approach, and expected outcomes and includes a brief statement as to how your pilot relates to one of MiCDA's signature themes and how it is distinct from and adds to existing funding; 5) PHS Budget pages and justification; 6) An NIH biosketch; and 7) For projects with human subjects research, complete applicable sections of the PHS human subjects and clinical trials information form.

Deadlines

Booster Pilot Due Date: **Friday, September 1, 2023.**
Funding decisions are expected to be made in **October 2023.**
Funded projects will be required to submit Human Subjects approval or exemption by the UM IRB by **October 31, 2023.**

Please note that funding is contingent upon NIA approval and IRB approval.

Questions may be directed to Jana Deatrick jlbruce@umich.edu