The Michigan Lifestage Environmental Exposures and Disease (M-LEEaD) Center announces:

**Short-Term Seed Pilot Project Grants**

**Release Date is TBD**

Notice that an RFA will be released in the coming weeks for a short-term pilot project. To help in preparation for this upcoming funding announcement here is some brief information (e.g., approx level of funding, previous calls so potential applicants could get a sense for the guidelines).

Additional information about the M-LEEaD Center and this Pilot Project Program can be found on the Center’s website: [http://mleead.umich.edu/](http://mleead.umich.edu/)

The objective of this anticipated RFA is to provide short-term research grants to stimulate new directions and enhance current projects relevant to impacts of environmental exposures during vulnerable stages of life. The M-LEEaD Center especially encourages proposals that will use the funds to complete an ongoing study for publication, acquire preliminary data supporting a grant application to an external funding agency such as the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), or include research-community partnerships.

**Specifically, the anticipated short-term targeted pilot project grants must meet one of these objectives:**

- Engage in an emerging environmental health issue in the state of Michigan, (e.g., per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), the connection between environmental health and COVID-19) which is also concern for human health globally.
- or -

- Include a new community engagement component and/or initiate community based participatory research. The M-LEEaD Center’s Community Engagement Core (CEC) facilitates multi-directional engagement of researchers and stakeholders. Investigators interested in engaging the CEC in community engagement or translational efforts must include a letter of support from CEC. Please Contact the CEC Program Manager, Alison Walding at walison@umich.edu.
- or -

- Add a new collaborator with interdisciplinary expertise. Seed applications that aim to add translational expertise to a basic science project or basic science expertise to translational projects are encouraged. These projects cannot support percent effort of faculty.

**Short-Term Seed Pilot Project Grant:**

To qualify for the $25,000 award, this project must utilize services of one or more of the M-LEEaD Cores. These Cores are:

- **Community Engagement Core** (Leader: Dr. Amy Schulz, ajschulz@umich.edu)
- **Exposure Assessment Core** (Leader: Dr. Stuart Batterman, stuartb@umich.edu)
- **Omics and Bioinformatics Core** (Leader: Dr. Maureen Sartor, sartorma@umich.edu)
- **Integrated Health Sciences Core** (Leader: Dr. Marie O’Neill, marieo@umich.edu)

**Funding Period:** Ending on March 31, 2021

We are not able to offer no-cost-extensions.

**Eligibility:** Any member of the University of Michigan Faculty (tenure-track, clinical-track, or research track) is eligible to apply as Principal Investigator (PI). A proposal should have only a single PI.

**Award:** Standard project budget requests may be up to $25,000, and projects require use of M-LEEaD core services. It is anticipated up to 4 awards will be made.

An example of a previous funding announcement can be found here, [https://bit.ly/3e05BlA](https://bit.ly/3e05BlA).

Please follow this link for more details when they are available, [https://mleead.umich.edu/PF_RRF_Index.php](https://mleead.umich.edu/PF_RRF_Index.php).