Grant Title: EXPLORATORY/DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH GRANTS IN OBESITY (R21)

Funding Opportunity Number: CFDA Number(s): CFDA Number(s): 93.213, 93.393, 93.837, 93.847. Funding Opportunity Number: PA-09-124.

Agency/Department: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS).

Area of Research: Exploratory and developmental clinical studies that will accelerate the development of effective interventions for prevention or treatment of overweight or obesity in adults and/or children.


Amount: Direct costs of up to $275,000 for the 2-year period.

Length of Support: Up to 2 years.

Eligible Applicants: Public and State controlled institutions of higher education. See the full announcement for a complete list of eligible applicants.

Summary: The goal of this initiative is to encourage exploratory/developmental clinical research that will accelerate the development of effective interventions for prevention or treatment of overweight or obesity in adults and/or children. The goal of this mechanism is to provide flexibility for initiating exploratory, short-term studies, thus allowing new ideas to be investigated in a more expeditious manner without stringent requirements for preliminary data. Such support is needed to encourage investigators to pursue new approaches, underdeveloped topics, or more creative avenues for research including new partnerships. Epidemiological research with a goal of informing translational/clinical research on prevention or treatment of obesity or overweight in adults and/or children is encouraged. The emphasis is thus on the development of exploratory clinical studies, pilot and feasibility studies, or small randomized clinical trials that will provide preliminary data for intervention and epidemiological studies that will inform translational/clinical research. This initiative specifically encourages the submission of applications for pilot and feasibility or exploratory studies related to obesity. These studies should focus on research that is particularly innovative and/or potentially of high impact. Innovative research includes feasibility studies in which the technological, methodological, or theoretical approach to a problem lacks historical precedent or sufficient preliminary data but is highly promising. High impact research involves studies where successful outcomes would have a major effect on the area of obesity. Clinical pilot and feasibility studies could provide the data needed to design appropriately powered efficacy studies. Such trials may use pharmacological, dietary supplement, dietary, surgical, medical device, physical activity, or behavioral interventions aimed at prevention or treatment of obesity or overweight in adults and/or children. Proposals to identify novel risk factors for the development of overweight and obesity and their complications are encouraged.