

UC San Diego ACTRI Invites Letters of Intent for Clinical and Translational Science Pilot Project Awards

The UC San Diego Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI) is pleased to announce the 2027 call for Letters of Intent (LOI) for the Clinical and Translational Science Pilot Project Awards.

The ACTRI Clinical and Translational Science Pilot Project Award provides funding for up to six pilot grants (\$40,000 each in direct costs) to advance translational science projects that are not yet ready for extramural support.

Funding Priorities

Priority will be given to projects that align with one or more of the priority themes, populations, and/or research methods identified by the ACTRI [Community Advisory Board](#):

Themes	Populations	Research Methods
Primary prevention	Transitional-age youth	Asset-based research methods
Healthcare access	Older adults	Bi-directional learning between community and academia
Economic, environmental, or social risks and/or protective factors	Refugee / immigrants	Explicit policy and/or systems-change implications
	Justice-involve individuals	

All proposed projects must have a clear **clinical and translational science (CTS)** focus.

Eligibility Criteria

- Priority will be given to early-career faculty
- Preference will be given to applications responsive to the priority themes, populations, and/or research methods.
- **Postdoctoral Fellows and Project Scientists are not eligible.**
- Principal Investigators must be eligible to serve as a PI under [UC San Diego](#) or partner institutions' policies.
- Previous Pilots and PATHWAYS awardees are not eligible to reapply for 12 months following the conclusion of an awarded pilot project.
- Only one pilot proposal may be submitted by a Principal Investigator.
- Full professors are NOT eligible unless they are entering a new line of research. In general, proposals from full professors who have greater than \$350,000/year in current funding will receive lower priority.
- Proposals cannot overlap with currently funded projects.

LOI DEADLINE: September 14, 2026 at 11:59 PM (PST)

Select (~12-15) applicants will be invited to submit full applications the week of November 2, 2026. Applicants will then be notified of funding decisions in March 2027, with Pilot Project Awards beginning May 1, 2027.

For detailed information about the program, eligibility, two-phase application process, and office hours with the program director, please visit the [ACTRI Pilot Project Awards website](#).

Email ACTRI-Education@health.ucsd.edu for additional questions.