

UCLA Center for Reproductive Science Health & Education



*The Michael Parr Fund for Women's Health Research and Education
at the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center
(310) 794-9039
UCLA National Center of Excellence in Women's Health*

Pilot Funding Available for Research in Women's Health: UCLA Center for Reproductive Science, Health, and Education / UCLA CTSI / Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center Collaborative Pilot Award

**February 2026 Announcement
Period of Award September 1, 2026 through August 30, 2027**

Pilot funding is available for UCLA researchers, including researchers at the Westwood/Santa Monica Campus, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, the Lundquist Institute at Harbor-UCLA, and Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science who perform women's health research, and/or research where exploration of sex and gender-based differences is relevant.

The UCLA Center for Reproductive Science Health and Education (CRSHE) seeks to support research advancing reproductive science, health, and education across the lifespan. CRSHE brings a strong focus on interdisciplinary, cross-campus collaboration and the translation of reproductive science into improved health outcomes.

Funding from CRSHE must be used in a manner consistent with the mission of the Center, described below:

The Center's mission is to empower excellence in scientific research on topics that include fundamental reproductive science, reproductive aging, fertility, infertility, pregnancy, and pregnancy outcomes. Cross-disciplinary projects integrating science and social science work are also encouraged. Specific aims include:

- To encourage and support innovative research in reproductive, maternal, and sexual health.
 - To study reproductive issues and diseases unique to women or more common in women.
 - To use established methods of health, utility, and cost measurement to assess and suggest ways to improve the cost effectiveness of clinical interventions for reproductive, maternal, and sexual health.

- To train researchers capable of leading and conducting research programs that are consistent with the mission of the UCLA Center for Reproductive Science, Health, and Education.
- To extend resources into the UCLA campus to increase the quality of reproductive, maternal and sexual health.
- To study a wide range of populations in these research efforts, including people of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, and those who have been traditionally underrepresented in research studies.
- To translate research findings into improvements in reproductive, maternal, and sexual health.

Co-Sponsorship: The UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute (UCLA CTSI), in partnership with the UCLA Center for Reproductive Science Health and Education (CRSHE) and the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center, is co-sponsoring this award. The CTSI provides the infrastructure to bring UCLA innovations and resources to bear on the greatest health needs of Los Angeles and the nation. In addition to CTSI's translational infrastructure, CRSHE will serve as a key programmatic and scientific resource for awardees, offering expertise in reproductive science, health, and education, facilitating interdisciplinary collaboration, and supporting the development of projects aligned with CRSHE's mission.

Pilot Funding Amount Available: \$30,000 for one-year (non-renewable).

Letter of Intent and Supporting Materials Packet and Timeline

Candidates interested in applying for pilot funding must submit a Letter of Intent and supporting documentation packet. This submission must include:

1. Applicant contact information
2. One-page letter of intent that covers:
 - a. Summary of current research
 - b. Long range research goals and plans for future research
 - c. Brief budget overview, specifying how pilot funds would be used
3. CV and NIH biosketch of applicant
4. NIH biosketch of sponsoring mentor (required if applicant does not hold a faculty appointment at the level of Associate Professor or Professor)
5. One letter of support from the sponsoring mentor only; no additional letters will be accepted

Allowed use of funds: Funding may be requested for any purpose which meets the scientific advancement needs of the investigator and complies with UCLA policies for expenditure of funds.

Letters of intent and supporting documentation packets will be reviewed by a scientific committee. Criteria for an invitation to submit a full application are:

- (a) Potential of the applicant's work to further research in reproductive, maternal, and/or sexual health
- (b) Credentials of the applicant and sponsoring mentor (if applicable)

Priority for pilot funding will be given to projects that would likely lead to an R01 (or equivalent level funding from extramural sources) consistent with the mission of with the UCLA Center for Reproductive Science, Health and Education (CRSHE) within 1-3 years.

Successful applicants may be asked to attend a team science training.

How to Submit Letter of Intent and Supporting Materials Packet

- Items 1-5 listed above should be e-mailed to Sophie Viray, SophieViray@mednet.ucla.edu; (310-794-8063).
- All application materials must be received by **noon, Monday, March 16th, 2026**; materials received after that date /time will not be considered.
- Submission will undergo scientific review and the selected candidates will be asked to submit a full proposal.
- Invitations for submission of a full proposal will be sent by **Monday, April 6th, 2026**.