

Boston Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center



February 2022

Re: Information on Pilot Project and Career Development applications in Aging-Related Research
From: Shalender Bhasin, MD, PI and Director, Boston Pepper Center
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Boston Pepper OAIC Pilot/Exploratory Studies Core (PESC) and Research Education Core (REC) Awards. PESC awards are relatively small grants for established investigators who need pilot data to prepare for larger research grants focused on the OAIC theme, and REC awards are for the early career development of talented postdoctoral trainees to help prepare them for future K or equivalent grants. The Boston OAIC (a.k.a. “Boston Pepper Center”) is a NIA-funded collaborative research program among investigators from Harvard Medical School and affiliated hospitals. Information for applicants interested solely in Boston Pepper OAIC funding is provided here, <https://pepper.bwh.harvard.edu/funding/>.

Boston Pepper OAIC - KL2/Catalyst Medical Research Investigator Training (CMeRIT) joint funding program. The Pepper OAIC encourages applications that leverage mentorship within the Boston Pepper Center ([Boston Pepper Center](#)) and the KL2/Catalyst Medical Research Investigator Training (CMeRIT) program. A joint application should include a description of how the application is responsive to Pepper’s thematic focus (see below), in addition to meeting CMeRIT requirements. Applications for joint funding will be reviewed jointly by CATALYST and Pepper OAIC reviewers. Applicants considering this joint program should apply directly through the following portal using the indicated CMeRIT due dates (<https://catalyst.harvard.edu/services/kl2/>).

Applications should include a focus on the Boston OAIC theme: “Function Promoting Therapies.”

This theme includes, but is not limited to the following areas of research:

- Causes, prevention, and treatment of age-related functional limitations/specific disabilities in older adults
- Therapeutic interventions to ameliorate functional limitations and disability in older adults, including drugs, devices, and behavioral approaches.
- Novel approaches for the measurement of physical function
- Studies of the mechanisms of functional decline that have the potential for facilitating drug discovery
- High throughput strategies for identifying novel therapeutic agents
- Novel statistical or data-driven approaches for analyzing epidemiological data

How to apply for joint funding:

Applicants considering this joint funding opportunity announcement should apply directly through the following portal using the indicated CMeRIT due dates (<https://catalyst.harvard.edu/services/kl2/>).