
WSU Faculty Pilot Grant Support Program for Research on the Effects and Outcomes of Cannabis Use Due October 27, 2023

PURPOSE

The Center for Cannabis Policy, Research, and Outreach (CCPRO) and the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Program (ADARP) are issuing a call for pilot grant research proposals. This is a request for research proposals focusing on a wide range of topics that include, but are not limited to, the causes and short- and long-term effects of cannabis and cannabinoid (e.g., delta-8-THC, HHC, THCO, etc.) use, outcomes of use, questions regarding youth access, community impact, cannabis use prevention, healthcare provider issues related to changes in US law, and trends in the use of “novel” cannabinoids, among other critical issues that are faced by the state and its residents. The proposals will be funded by the *Dedicated Marijuana Account* established by the State of Washington Legislature based on *Initiative 502*.

Dedicated Marijuana Account funds will be administered by the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Program to provide research support for behavioral, psychosocial, biomedical, or clinical investigators to develop their research capabilities; to demonstrate the merit of their research ideas, productivity, and creativity; and to facilitate their ability to obtain extramural research funding or to generate data that is of benefit to the State of Washington and its citizens.

ELIGIBILITY & TERMS OF SUPPORT

Applications will be accepted from WSU tenure-track faculty, research/clinical/career-track faculty, and postdoctoral researchers with appropriate departmental resources who are eligible as principal investigators (PI) to apply for funding from extramural agencies such as NIH through the WSU system.

Awards are limited to **\$30,000**. The budget can include equipment that stays at WSU, supplies, pre-paid services, conference travel, consultation fees, stipend for postdoc-PI, salary for non-PI personnel.

Awards will be made for a maximum of **24 months**. The budget may be composed of two parts. *Budget Part A* must be expended between the award date and June 30, 2024. *Budget Part B* must be expended between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. Expenditure dates are non-negotiable, and carryovers are not allowed for this funding source. There will be special expenditure and reporting requirements.

IMPORTANT REGULATIONS

Awards will not count toward the \$35,000 cap associated with ADARP awards received through other mechanisms (i.e., Initiative 171 funds) unless there is an overlap between these proposals. PIs are required to address any such overlap in the application.

APPLICATION

This call for grants is designed to promote WSU faculty research that has broad state and national impact, potential to advance our understanding of the causes, effects, and outcomes of cannabis use, and provides the foundation for competitive extramural research proposals or directly benefit the State of Washington.

Preference will be given to applications based on overall impact, including feasibility within the non-negotiable budget period. The PI must be able to demonstrate feasibility at the time of the grant application by submitting, as needed, documentation indicating (i) an approved WSU Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) research protocol for the project and (ii) valid DEA license appropriate to the Schedule (I-V) and drug category being researched.

For consideration, the application has to be **approved by ORSO by 5:00 p.m. on October 27, 2023**. Please contact your grants administrator for information regarding the department-specific submission deadline. The awards will be effective pending DEA license and approval of human or animal subject protocol by the WSU IRB or IACUC, as needed.

REVIEW PROCESS

The proposal will be reviewed by a committee of WSU faculty who are knowledgeable in the area of the proposal. External *ad hoc* reviewers may be solicited. Most committee members will have had a national competitive award.

Grant proposals should be carefully developed and written to encourage positive consideration of research ideas. Grant applications that do not comply with the page limit and formatting instructions will be returned.

APPLICATION FORMAT

- I. E-REX Form (must be submitted with the full application to ORSO at least 48 hours before the deadline; administrators: please identify "DMAc" in the subagency field)
- II. Progress Report on previous DMAc grant, if applicable (one page)
- III. Face Page (name, position, department, submission date, proposal title, DEA license number – if applicable, IACUC or IRB protocol number, abstract, and proposal type: pilot grant, equipment grant, or shared resources)
- IV. Specific Aims (maximum 1 page)
- V. Significance
- VI. Innovation
- VII. Approach
- VIII. References
- IX. Current NIH-style biosketch
- X. Budget Part A - detailed budget with brief justification (to be expended before 6/30/24)
- XI. Budget Part B - detailed budget with brief justification (to be expended 7/1/24 – 6/30/25)
- XII. Appendix: IRB, IACUC, DEA documentation of approval or submission (if approval is pending)
- XIII. Names of 5-6 possible reviewers, preferably from WSU or UW (optional)
- XIV. **All sections MUST be received by ORSO on time if the grant is to be reviewed.**

Maximum of six pages for Sections V-VII

REVIEW CRITERIA (based on NIH)

- 1. Significance. Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved?
- 2. Innovation. Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by using novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions?
- 3. Approach. Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility, and how will particularly risky aspects be managed?
- 4. Investigators. Are the PIs, collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? If early-stage investigators, do they have appropriate experience and training? If the project is collaborative or multi-PI, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise?
- 5. Extramural Funding Potential/Benefit to the State of Washington. What is the likelihood of the project ultimately receiving extramural support and/or benefiting the State of Washington?
- 6. Budget. Is the budget appropriate?
- 7. Readiness to initiate the project, as indicated by a valid Schedule I. DEA license and/or human or animal subject approval, as needed, will be considered in funding decisions.

ADARP Website: <https://adarp.wsu.edu/>

INFORMATION

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