INNOVATIVE GRANTS FOR KIDNEY RESEARCH

University Kidney Research Organization
University Kidney Research Organization (UKRO) announces a new program of funding for pilot research projects. These grants will provide faculty members of the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California (KSOM/USC), including the Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles (CHLA), and their collaborating scientists with funding for initial exploration of innovative research in the field of Kidney Disease. Cross-disciplinary research and collaboration with existing kidney researchers at KSOM is strongly encouraged. Priority will be given to projects designed to obtain feasibility data that may lead to submission of new NIH R-series or other major research proposals. The primary target audiences include: 1) junior investigators starting a research program in kidney disease; 2) established kidney disease investigators who wish to make a major shift in emphasis to a new area of research that is clearly distinct from prior research; and established researchers in other areas who are interested in redirecting their work and expertise in kidney disease. The eligibility requirements, terms, and application process are outlined below:

### Eligibility Requirements (all required)

- The Principal or Co-Principal Investigator must be a full-time KSOM or CHLA faculty member at the time of application at the rank of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor.
- Single or multiple Co-Principal Investigators may apply.
- Co-Principal Investigators from other USC Schools will be allowed, but all funds will be disbursed directly through KSOM rather than through satellite accounts to other schools or purchase orders to CHLA if an award is issued.

### Terms of Award

- Up to $50,000 for one year (including 15% overhead). Maximum allowable direct costs are $43,500. Allowable direct costs include laboratory supplies, animals and animal costs, equipment and maintenance contracts, and salaries and fringe benefits for support staff. Salaries and fringe benefits for the PI or Co-PI are not allowable.
- A renewal of the award for up to one additional year may be granted based on research progress and funds availability.
- UKRO anticipates making two awards in FY19.

### How to Apply

- **Submit Letter of Intent:**
  - Due no later than 5:00 p.m. (PDT) on Friday, January 4, 2019
  - The letter of intent is optional, but will aid in securing the appropriate expertise on the review panel.
  - Submit your letter by sending an email to Michelle Fairchild at info@ukrocharity.org.
- **Submit Proposal:**
  - Due by 5:00 p.m. (PDT) on Thursday, January 31, 2019
  - The full application will include the following:
    - cover page;
    - ½-page abstract;
    - focused (≤ 3 pages) research plan including rationale, specific aims and hypotheses to be tested;
- bibliography
- NIH-style bio sketches of all investigators;
- budget (Direct Costs) and budget justification.
  - List of other approved and active funding for all Investigators
  - Brief outline of plans for application to federal or other agencies for support of the project once the UKRO funding expires
- Submit your letter of intent and/or full proposal via email to Michelle Fairchild at info@ukrocharity.org.

Applications will be considered incomplete and, therefore, not reviewed until all materials are submitted.

Review and Award

Applications will be peer-reviewed by an ad-hoc Committee of individuals appointed by the UKRO Medical Scientific Advisory Board, using the following review criteria:

- Significance and innovation of the project and novelty of the research area to the PI(s)
- Feasibility of the primary hypothesis and impact of the stated purpose of the research
- Approach: Quality and appropriateness of the study design, methodology, data acquisition and analysis
- Investigators: Qualifications to conduct the proposed research
- Resources and Environment: Quality and availability of resources needed to conduct the research
- Potential of the project to foster new collaborative and larger, multidisciplinary kidney disease research teams at KSOM
- Potential to lead to extramural funding, focusing on three areas:
  1. specific justification regarding the nature of the data to be collected and how it will be used to strengthen one or more follow-on grant applications;
  2. milestones for collection of the data and timeline for submission of extramural application(s)
  3. specific funding mechanisms or opportunities that would be targeted for extramural funding applications.

Recommendations for funding will be made by the review Committee; final approval will be done by the UKRO BOD.

FY19 Review Timeline

- Letter of Intent (optional): 5:00 p.m. (PDT) by Friday, January 4, 2019
- Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m. (PDT) on Thursday, January 31, 2019
- Final Selection of Awardees: Thursday, February 28, 2019
- Announcement of Winners: Saturday, March 9, 2019
- Funding Initiation: Monday, April 1, 2019
- Progress Report due Friday, February 28, 2020

For information regarding applications, please contact Michelle Fairchild at info@ukrocharity.org.