



Research Activities Newsletter

The latest news and announcements

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David Hostler, Professor and Chair of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences is PI on a continuation award from Naval Sea Systems Command for the research project entitled, *Thermal Strain During Diving in Warm, Contaminated Water*. Project staff continue to work on the following aims: 1) describe the safe diving time during warm water submersion in divers and standby divers; 2) determine if pre-cooling is an effective intervention for extending work time; and 3) investigate the effects of diving in warm water on orthostatic tolerance and cardiovascular function following submersion. Physiologic effects of diving in warm water on orthostatic tolerance and cardiovascular function following exposure to warm water will be investigated post-submersion.



Christina Kasprzak, Postdoctoral Associate and Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health and Health Behavior is Co-I and research site lead for a multi-state research project funded by Robert Wood Johnson Health Eating Research and awarded to CSUSM Corporation for the research project entitled, *Assessing Dollar Store Food Environments and Alignment with Nutrition Support Programs for Children: A Multi-State Pilot Study*. This research will develop and test the feasibility of a tool designed to assess the food environment in chain dollar stores and determine stores' readiness to participate in the Federal Nutrition Assistance Program Women, Infant, and Children (WIC). The tool will then be used to conduct pilot data collection in 300 dollar stores across 11 states.



Lucia Leone, Associate Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, is PI on a new award from the USDA for the project entitled, *Expansion of a Campus-based Mobile Market: Supporting Western New York Producers through Increasing Food Access and Education Among Underserved Students*. This project will improve the reach and effectiveness of the UB Veggie Van by meeting the following objectives: 1) Increase local producer access to new markets, sales, and light processing to create value added products in the form of ready-to-use products; 2) Increase food access through the adaption and implementation of the Veggie Van mobile market model to a campus setting; and 3) Raise awareness of locally produced food among campus community through promotion of an Eat Local food campaign and pledge. Together these objectives will help expand access to locally grown and produced foods in underserved communities and connect producers with new markets. **Leah Vermont**, Assistant Director of Community Outreach and Partnerships; Community Interventions Lab in CHHB was instrumental in the successful submission of the application.

Dr. Leone also is PI on a continuation award from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities/NIH for the project entitled, *Adapting the Veggie Van Mobile Market Intervention to Address Disparities in Nutrition Security among College Students*. This research proposes an innovative shift from merely providing emergency food assistance to promoting nutrition security. It plans to adapt the Veggie Van—an evidence-based approach to increasing access to healthy food in underserved communities—to a college context. The study continues to utilize implementation science adaptation frameworks to assess needs, engage stakeholders, monitor and document adaptations, and evaluate the effects of adaptations. **Anne Mathiebe**, Research Assistant Professor in Community Health and Health Behavior is Co-I on the project.



Elizabeth Mietlicki-Baase, Associate Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, is PI on a continuation award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH for the research project entitled, *Effects of Mesolimbic Amylin Signaling on Macronutrient Intake*. Work continues to assess mechanisms by which the hormone amylin suppresses food intake and body weight by influencing macronutrient intake, with particular focus on its actions in the ventral tegmental area (VTA), a key nucleus in the brain important for feeding and other motivated behaviors.



Riana Pryor, Assistant Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, is Co-I on a new award from the Administration for Community Living (PI: Jordana Maisel, Urban and Regional Planning) for the research project entitled, *Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on People with Disabilities*. The goal of the proposed FIP is to engage end users and policy makers in studying two critical impacts of climate change—extreme weather events and emergency planning—by using and evaluating housing environments and emergency planning processes and documents.



Reminder of Updates to NIH Training Grant Application Data Tables for Application Due Dates on or After January 25, 2025

This notice serves as a reminder regarding updates to the NIH Institutional Training Program application required training data tables. These changes take effect starting with submissions for due dates *on or after January 25, 2025*. The overall goals of these changes are to: (1) reduce applicant and reviewer burden and (2) promote consistent information collection across training programs. The following activity codes are affected:

- Institutional Training – T series, e.g., T15, T32, T34, T35, T37, T90/R90, TL1, TL4
- International Institutional Training – D43, D71, U2R
- Institutional Career Development – K12, KL2

Training data tables required as part of the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR), must use the updated training data tables effective for submissions on or after January 26, 2025. Please see notice for detailed explanation of updates.

NIH Funding Opportunities: Request for Applications (RFA)

Addictions

[RFA-DA-26-055](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-DA-26-056](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Accelerating the Pace of Substance Use Research Using Existing Data

This NOFO is for applications proposing innovative analysis of existing social science, behavioral, administrative, and neuroimaging data to study the etiology and epidemiology of substance using behaviors (defined as alcohol, tobacco, prescription, and other substances) and related disorders, prevention of substance use and HIV, and health service utilization. The analyses of public use and other extant community-based or clinical datasets to their full potential in order to increase our knowledge of etiology, trajectories of substance using behaviors and their consequences including morbidity and mortality, risk and resilience in the development of psychopathology, strategies to guide the development, testing, implementation, and delivery of high quality, effective and efficient services for the prevention and treatment of substance use disorder and HIV is encouraged. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** December 4, 2027.

HIV/AIDS

[RFA-DA-26-003](#) – (R01 Clinical Trials Required)

[RFA-DA-26-004](#) – (R34 Clinical Trials Required)

Research to Address Systemic and Structural Barriers and Facilitators to Improve the HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Care Continuum for People Who Use Substances

This notice invites applications for research to address systemic and structural factors that impede or facilitate the pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) uptake and persistence among people who use substances in the U.S. and worldwide. Research projects supported by this NOFO will develop, implement, and evaluate system/structural-directed strategies that meet the needs of people who use substances to improve the PrEP uptake and persistence. For R01 projects, emphasis should be placed on strategies designed to benefit populations disproportionately affected by substance use and human immunodeficiency viruses (HIV). R34 projects should focus on equitable, scalable, and sustainable approaches for accelerating the improvement of the PrEP uptake and persistence for marginalized and underserved people who use substances. **Application Due Date:** March 12, 2025. **Expiration Date:** March 13, 2025.

[RFA-AI-24-076](#) – (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Advancing Translation of Long-Acting Strategies for HIV and HIV-Associated Co-infections (AT LAST)

The purpose of this notice is to support preclinical activities for the development of safe and effective long-acting/sustained release (LA/SR) technologies for prevention and treatment of HIV and HIV-associated tuberculosis (TB), hepatitis B (HBV) and hepatitis C (HCV), and to ultimately advance these products toward submission of an Investigational New Drug (IND) application to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). **Application Due Date:** March 13, 2025. **Expiration Date:** March 14, 2025.

[RFA-DA-25-070](#) – (R34 Clinical Trial Optional)

[RFA-DA-25-072](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Required)

Ending the Epidemic: New Models of Integrated HIV/AIDS, Addiction, and Primary Care Services



The purpose of this NOFO is to support the development and testing of enhanced models of care that optimally integrate HIV, Hepatitis B and C, addiction, and primary care services. The NIDA is interested in research that addresses gaps related to the delivery of comprehensive, integrated health services to include the full continuum of HIV/AIDS services, addiction prevention and treatment services, and primary care services, with a goal of improving the coordination of care, and improving health outcomes related to HIV, Hepatitis (optional), and substance use disorder (SUD) in the US. **Application Due Date:** March 19, 2025. **Expiration Date:** March 20, 2025.

Miscellaneous

[RFA-DA-26-024](#) – (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Optional)

Engaging Loved ones in Recovery Processes to Enhance Recovery Capital and Outcomes

This notice addresses a crucial research gap regarding approaches to understanding and enhancing relationships individuals with a substance use disorder (SUD) have with their loved ones. Please see NOFO for additional information that seeks phased studies that address the role of support persons and loved ones in six focal areas. **Application Due Date:** February 27, 2025. **Expiration Date:** February 28, 2025.

[RFA-HD-26-005](#) – (K12 Clinical Trial Optional)

Rehabilitation Research Career Development Programs

This opportunity seeks applications to support national programs of mentored career development and training in research for junior faculty in clinical rehabilitation fields. The goal is to attract and nurture a new and geographically-diverse cadre of clinically trained rehabilitation researchers and support their transition to independent funding. The program should support scholars with a clinical background in medical rehabilitation (e.g., physiatry, physical/occupational therapy and allied health). **Application Due Date:** March 19, 2025. **Expiration Date:** March 20, 2025.

[RFA-OD-25-001](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

High-Priority Research in Tobacco Regulatory Science

The purpose of this notice is to invite applications to support new high-priority biomedical and behavioral research that will provide scientific data to inform the regulation of tobacco products to protect public health. Research Projects must address the new high-priority research topics related to the regulatory authority of the Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products. **Application Due Date:** June 6, 2025. **Expiration Date:** June 7, 2025.

[RFA-MH-25-206](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

Bidirectional Influences Between Adolescent Social Media Use and Mental Health

The purpose of this NOFO is to encourage applications that focus on understanding bidirectional relationships between social media use and adolescent mental illness, psychiatric symptoms, and risk or resilience for psychopathology, as well as intervention/services research focused on examining the feasibility, acceptability, and preliminary utility of social-media focused interventions and services. A companion funding opportunity [RFA-MH-25-205](#) seeks R01 applications proposing longer term projects with supporting preliminary data. **Application Due Date:** January 28, 2025 and October 20, 2025. **Expiration Date:** October 21, 2025.

[RFA-ES-25-003](#) – (R21 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

Time-Sensitive Research Opportunities in Environmental Health Sciences

This notice is intended to support novel environmental health research in which an unpredictable event or policy change provides a limited window of opportunity to collect human biological samples or environmental exposure data. The primary motivation of the NOFO is to understand the consequences of natural and human-made disasters, emerging environmental public health threats, and policy changes in the U.S. and abroad. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** December 2, 2025.

NIH Funding Opportunities (PAR)

Addictions

[PAR-25-100](#) – (R34 Clinical Trial Optional)

Pilot Health Services and Economic Research on the Treatment of Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Use Disorders

The purpose of this notice encourages pilot and preliminary research in preparation for larger-scale services research effectiveness trials. Relevant trials may test a wide range of approaches, including interventions, practices, and policies



designed to optimize access to, and the quality, effectiveness, affordability and utilization of tobacco or substance use disorder treatments and related services, as well as services for comorbid medical and mental disorder conditions. Relevant approaches may include both those that are novel, and those that are commonly used in practice but lack an evidence base. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** May 8, 2027.

[PAR-26-001](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Required)

Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment or Prevention (SBIRT/P) for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD) Use and Misuse in Adult Populations that Experience Health Disparities

This NOFO is seeking applications to test innovative approaches to implementing SBIRT/P for alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) use and misuse in adult populations that experience health disparities. Projects are strongly encouraged to include robust engagement with relevant healthcare and community partners to enhance the acceptability, feasibility, and sustainability of SBIRT/P for ATOD use and misuse in adult populations that experience health disparities. Please see announcement for specific areas of interest by sponsor. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** May 8, 2027.

HIV/AIDS

[PAR-25-261](#) – (DP1 Clinical Trial Optional)

NIDA Avant-Garde Program for HIV and Substance Use Disorder Research

The NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV Research supports exceptionally creative scientists, who propose high-impact studies that open new areas of HIV research in the context of substance use and Substance Use Disorders and/or lead to new avenues for prevention and treatment of HIV in people with SUD. Applications responding to this NOFO must propose pioneering research that aligns with the NIH HIV/AIDS Research Priorities as described in [NOT-OD-20-018](#) and is substantially different from what is currently being pursued by the principal investigator or others in the field. **Application Due Date:** August 15, 2025. **Expiration Date:** August 16, 2025.

[PAS-25-161](#) – (R34 Clinical Trials Optional)

[PAS-25-208](#) – (R01 Clinical Trials Optional)

HIV Prevention and Alcohol

The NOFO seeks to expand the HIV/AIDS prevention toolkit among alcohol impacted populations with a range of patterns of episodic and long-term use and associated behavioral and biological risks for HIV acquisition. This includes integration of effective prevention and treatment interventions with an understanding of the overarching framework for reducing the incidence of new infections by facilitating cross-cutting informative research. The funding opportunity supports studies that are both necessary and sufficient to inform the planning of a clinical trial within the scope of the companion announcement [PAS-25-208](#). **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** May 8, 2026.

Cancer

[PAR-25-186](#) – (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Cancer Epidemiology Cohorts: Building the Next Generation of Research Cohorts

This notice seeks to support initiating and building the next generation of population-based cancer epidemiology cohorts to address specific knowledge gaps in cancer etiology and survivorship. It will support methodological work necessary to initiate and build cancer epidemiology cohorts that can address critical scientific gaps concerning (i) new or unique exposures in relation to cancer risks and outcomes and (ii) achievement of diverse populations in cohorts with the inclusion of understudied populations with substantial community engagement. **Application Due Date:** February 28, 2025. **Expiration Date:** March 1, 2025.

[PAR-25-275](#) – (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Research Opportunities in Established Cancer Epidemiology Cohort Studies

Through this NOFO, the NCI encourages grant applications to support research in established cancer epidemiology cohort studies, defined as studies that have achieved their initial planned recruitment goal. Applications must include hypothesis-based research using data from an established cohort study and are expected to include support for cohort maintenance, continued follow-up, and sharing of the existing resources in addition to addressing research questions across the cancer control continuum. **Application Due Date:** February 28, 2025. **Expiration Date:** March 1, 2025.

[PAR-25-139](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)



NCI Clinical and Translational Exploratory/Developmental Studies

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to promote innovative preclinical, early phase clinical, and correlative studies that are hypothesis-driven and based upon established basic cancer research discoveries. By using the R21 mechanism, this NOFO will support exploratory/developmental projects in the advancement of novel anti-cancer agents, diagnostic tools, correlative biomarker identification, clinical approaches in treatment, symptom management, and prevention of common or rare tumors, as well as research on cancer disparities. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** July 2, 2025.

[PAR-25-072](#) – (UG3/UH3 Clinical Trial Required)

Pragmatic Trials across the Cancer Control Continuum

Through this opportunity, the NCI intends to accelerate the development of evidence-based cancer-related interventions that reflect the diversity of people, places, contexts, and settings in the U.S. Specifically, this NOFO will support research that tests the impact of cancer-related interventions on cancer-related outcomes across the cancer control continuum using a pragmatic trial study design. The UG3 phase will support refining the cancer-related intervention and finalizing study-related activities in preparation for conducting the pragmatic trial during the UH3 phase. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** November 18, 2025.

[PAR-25-078](#) – (R03 Clinical Trial Optional)

NCI Small Grants Program for Cancer Research (NCI Omnibus)

This notice supports small research projects on cancer that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources. The grant mechanism supports different types of projects including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology. Projects submitted to this NOFO may involve basic, translational, clinical, and/or population research related to cancer. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** January 8, 2026.

[PAR-25-082](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Co-infection and Cancer

This NOFO is to enhance mechanistic and epidemiologic investigations addressing the roles of co-infection and cancer to shed light on presently unestablished pathways in carcinogenesis that may inform prevention and treatment strategies for infection-related cancers. Applicants may also propose developing new models needed to investigate molecular mechanisms of co-infection in cancer. Applicants are encouraged to propose studies to investigate differences in mechanisms contributing to co-infection and its relation to cancer risk, progression, and survival among racially/ethnically diverse populations, those from urban and rural areas who are poor and medically underserved, and populations who may have a disproportionate burden of infection-related cancers. Preference will be given to investigations of co-infections with known oncogenic agents (excluding human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]) and of co-infections that engender novel opportunities for prevention and treatment. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** January 8, 2026.

[PAR-25-094](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

[PAR-25-152](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

Impacts of Climate Change Across the Cancer Control Continuum

This notice aims to support innovative research relevant to advancing the understanding of the effects of climate change across the cancer control continuum, from cancer etiology and cancer risks through survivorship, and ways to prevent or mitigate negative health effects. This includes, but is not limited to, studies to improve knowledge of the impact of climate change related environmental effects on cancer risks, control and behavior. Research with consideration for populations that experience cancer health disparities and who are likely to experience a disproportionate burden of effects from a changing climate, is encouraged. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** May 8, 2026.

[PAR-25-254](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Required)

Understanding Expectancies in Cancer Symptom Management

This funding opportunity will solicit mechanistic research that aims to understand how and why expectancy effects occur in a cancer context, elucidate their role in cancer symptom management, and identify patients, symptoms, cancer sites, and contexts in which expectancy effects can be leveraged to improve cancer outcomes. Program is particularly interested in applications that enroll individuals and groups from populations historically underrepresented or excluded from biomedical and behavioral research. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** May 8, 2026.



definition of basic research should review [PA-25-126](#). **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** January 8, 2025.

[PA-25-294](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

[PA-25-295](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

Innovative Approaches to Studying Cancer Communication in the New Information Ecosystem

Through this NOFO, the NCI announces its interest in supporting meritorious research projects in three distinct domains related to cancer communication: 1) the utility and application of new cancer communication surveillance approaches; 2) the development and testing of rapid cancer communication interventions using innovative methods and designs; and 3) the development and testing of multilevel cancer communication models emphasizing bidirectional influence between levels. Please see companion announcement [PA-25-295](#) with a similar scope, which utilizes the exploratory/Developmental Grant mechanism. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** September 8, 2025.

[PA-25-172](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Modular R01s in Cancer Control and Population Sciences

This notice encourages applications for research in cancer control and population sciences. The overarching goal is to provide support to promote research efforts on novel scientific ideas that have the potential to substantially advance cancer research in statistical and analytic methods, epidemiology, cancer survivorship, cancer-related behaviors and behavioral interventions, health care delivery, digital health and data science, and implementation science. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** January 8, 2028.

[PA-25-253](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

Exploratory Grants in Cancer Control

Through this NOFO, the NCI encourages the submission of exploratory/developmental research grant applications that focus on different aspects of cancer control by modifying behavior, screening, and understanding etiologic factors contributing to the development of cancer, and developing ways to control cancer. **Application Due Date:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** September 8, 2028.

Limited Submissions

Only one application per institution is allowed for the following FOAs and prior approval from the OVPR is required to be the sole applicant. If interested in applying, please provide the OVPRED with notification 60 days prior to the deadline to ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu before proceeding with the application.

Limited Submission Funding Opportunities

Prior Research Opportunities can be found on the SPHHP RAS website and by clicking the link below:

[Research Opportunities from Past Newsletters](#)

Words to Live By

“Truth, like beauty is neither created nor lost.”

– poet Nicanor Parra

For more information on RAS services, visit our website at sphhp.buffalo.edu/ras

