

## **TCHD STAR Leadership/Pilot Project Program**

### **Frequently Asked Questions (Q) Answers (A)**

**Q. What is the STAR Leadership program? Why should I participate in the STAR Leadership program to apply for pilot projects?**

A. The key innovative features of the **STAR Leadership Program** include:

- A three year program designed to provide training in grantsmanship, leadership, mentorship and coaching.
- A mentorship team consisting of a subject matter expert (scientific mentor), coach and a community stakeholder from the Community Advisors on Research Design and Strategies team of the Community Engagement and Dissemination Core.
- A pilot project program is part of the STAR leadership program. Scholars will receive rigorous long-term training to develop competitive health disparity research projects.
- Only the STAR participants and the previous pilot project applicants who are not funded are eligible to apply for 2019 pilot projects (tentative due date: for pilot projects: April, 2019).
- A competitive pilot project and renewal program supported by institutional funds that motivates scholars' accountability/productivity to design high quality research projects

**Q. How long is the program and what does the training entail?**

A. The pilot project program is part of the STAR Leadership program which is a 3-year program.

Year 1: Participants in STAR leadership program, prepare a research project and submit a pilot project for potential pilot funding.

Year 2: Pilot project awardees work on their pilot projects. If the application is not selected for funding they may further improve their project for the next submission cycle. Scholars will participate in leadership development offered by the Office of People Advancement.

Year 3: Participants will apply for competitive renewal for a second year of support focused on identifying opportunities and submitting grant application(s) to extra-mural agencies. Scholars will participate in leadership development offered by the Office of People Advancement.

**Q. Am I eligible as a foreign postdoctoral researcher on OPT?**

A. There is no citizenship requirement for applicants. The only requirement is that the applicant is an employee of UNTHSC and all of the research is conducted at UNTHSC.

**Q. Are there Specific Areas of Research Interest for the Pilot Projects**

A. Areas of specific interest regarding the “Women’s Health Disparities” thematic focus include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

- Projects that encompass multiple health disparity populations and/or the intersectionality of multiple health disparity populations (e.g., race/ethnicity and SES, SGM status and rural vs. urban residence, etc.)
- Understanding or addressing risk factors or mechanisms that are common to multiple diseases or conditions.
- The pathways and mechanisms by which biologic or non-biologic determinants contribute to or influence minority health or health disparities.
- Development of methodological tools, measures, validated instruments, and novel research designs for disentangling the contribution of biologic factors, behaviors, and social factors to health disparities.
- Multi-sectoral collaborations and/or interventions, i.e., those that involve other service sectors in addition to health, such as education, housing, justice, transportation, labor, etc.
- Interaction of culture and other factors on recruitment into research studies and clinical trials, utilization of health services, adherence to lifestyle and behavioral changes; and understanding individual cultural beliefs and expressions within a multicultural setting.
- Communications research – how to reach minority and health disparity populations and clinicians serving these populations with information that will lead to positive changes in behaviors, practices, and health.
- Understanding the dynamics governing the successful translation of minority health and health disparities research into multilevel interventions, health promotion/prevention programs or sustained behavioral changes and practices in communities, schools, businesses, families, prisons, etc.

**Q. Is it required to have a grant application or project ready to participate in the program?**

A. No. You can develop the project/grant application while you are participating in the program.

**Q. Where can I find application for the STAR Leadership program?**

A. Application for the STAR Leadership program is found on the TCHD web site ([TCHD](#)).

**Q. Why must I sign up with the National Research Mentoring Network ([NRMN](#)) to participate in STAR Leadership program?**

A. The program will utilize a group mentoring and networking function in the NRMN. In addition, participants will have opportunity to receive benefits from all resources available on the national network.

**Application Due Date: May 21, 2018 5:00 P.M. (Central Time)**