Dissemination & Implementation Pilot Instructions

NUCATS is seeking applications for Pilot Grants that support innovative approaches to the dissemination and implementation of research findings that address the gap between research discoveries and the translation of this knowledge into programs, clinical practices, and policies to improve the health of the public. These grants will support community-academic collaborations to generate products/activities that facilitate the transfer/spread of evidence-based findings to community audiences, practice or other sites, or policy makers.

Possible activities include:

- developing dissemination products/activities (e.g. white paper, policy brief, infographics, media, manuscript, etc.) or implementation products/activities (e.g. train the trainer session or training guide/video, web-portal, implementation guide/toolkit),
- conducting dissemination or implementation activities (e.g. town hall forum or community meeting to disseminate more broadly, training of community or healthcare providers, distribution of dissemination/implementation products, events/mechanisms to engage/inform study participants of research progress/findings.),

For purposes of these grants, dissemination is defined as the targeted distribution of information and intervention materials to a specific public health or clinical practice audience. The intent is to spread knowledge and the associated evidence-based interventions. Successful dissemination may occur quite differently depending on whether the audience consists of community members/patients, caregivers, practitioners, policymakers, employers, administrators, or other stakeholder groups. Implementation is the use of strategies to adopt and integrate evidence-based health interventions and change practice patterns within specific settings. Implementation efforts must seek to understand the behavior of health and healthcare professionals and support staff, health organizations, community members/patients and caregivers, and policymakers in context as key variables in the sustainable adoption, implementation and uptake of evidence-based interventions. NUCATS seeks to fund projects designed to actively disseminate and implement research results and products using context-appropriate approaches informed and guided by established dissemination and implementation models and frameworks, in the context of real-world settings.

Eligibility

D&I pilot applications are required to include both Northwestern investigators and relevant stakeholders (e.g. community, clinician, policymakers or other stakeholders). This includes an academic co-PI that is faculty in one of NUCATS partner institutions and a community co-PI that is representative of the dissemination/implementation audience. The application should illustrate that the submitting partnership is a collaborative effort between the researcher/research team and the major community/practice partner(s). There should be strong established working relationships necessary to prepare and complete the proposed project. NUCATS’ Center for Community Health offers guidance and support for partnership development. To learn more, click here.
Selection Criteria

Include quality and feasibility of stakeholder and academic partner engagement, quality and feasibility of proposed activities, potential for positive community impact, consideration/plans for sustainability.

D&I pilot grants provide up to $30,000 over 12 months.

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Center for Community Health to discuss possible application ideas. Please direct questions specific on the NUCATS Research Dissemination & Implementation Pilots to Jen Brown at jenbrown@northwestern.edu or Darius Tandon at dtandon@northwestern.edu.