Nina Ireland Program for Lung Health (NIPLH)

2027 GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Proposals: *PLEASE CHECK THE BOX FOR THE TYPE OF GRANT YOU ARE APPLYING FOR*

(1) Research ☐

(2) Clinical Program Development ☐

(3) Medical Education ☐

(4) Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QI/PS) ☐

Research Proposals

The NIPLH is seeking submissions for innovative research proposals. Proposals likely to have the most **impact** will be funded. In addition to high quality of science and innovative approaches, other key components of impact include projects likely to lead to extramural funding for which there is no alternative source of seed funding available.

The 2027 Request for Application (RFA) will consider any topic in Pulmonary medicine. However, projects related to the underserved and health disparities, locally and globally, will merit special consideration for acceptance.

Research proposals can be in clinical, translational or bench research. Innovative **partnerships** between clinical and bench research, or in the development of broadly useful and innovative methodologies are also encouraged.

1. Cellular and molecular mechanisms of lung disease: studies using in vitro and in vivo models of lung disease to reveal mechanisms and suggest novel treatment approaches.

2. Translational research in lung disease: human studies focused on biomarkers or interventions that advance knowledge of disease mechanisms or disease biomarkers.

3. Clinical research in lung disease: studies using patient cohorts to advance understanding of disease epidemiology, disease impact, or disease natural history.

4. Implementation Science (IS): studies focused on integrating research findings and evidence into "real-world" settings. Implementation science recognizes that the impact of interventions is often only a fraction of what was observed in tightly controlled clinical trials or cohort settings.

Clinical Program Development Proposals

The NIPLH will consider funding innovative proposals for clinical program development and expansion. These proposals can address any topic in Pulmonary Medicine. Submissions will be favored that would provide key missing infrastructure to promote the success of pulmonary divisional activity.

Projects can include improving the patient experience, community engagement and/or outreach. A **community outreach grant** could be an RFA specifically to work with the SF underserved that addresses a major problem identified by a community member. As an example, an East Bay school board asked for an asthma action plan regarding asthma absenteeism.

Evaluation Criteria

The grant review committee will evaluate the proposals based upon the following criteria:

- Programs or services directly impacting patient care
- Seeks to close current gaps in care
- Identification of a compelling issue or problem in need of a solution.
- Realistic and achievable goals and metrics
- A concrete plan to financially sustain the project beyond the grant period
- Future scalability and dissemination - with potential to disseminate learnings nationally
- Feasible to implement program and conduct initial evaluation of program metrics within the time frame of the grant.

Medical Education Innovation Proposals

The NIPLH 2027 RFA is seeking submissions for innovative education proposals. This Medical Education category will consider any topic in Critical Care and Pulmonary Medicine. Submitted proposals may include faculty from outside the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy and Sleep Medicine, but a member of the division (faculty or fellow) must be included.

Education proposals should focus on aspects of Teaching and Learning Approaches and Curricular Content Areas. Proposals that have the potential to be disseminated beyond a single program, institution or discipline and include junior investigators from within the Division will be more highly rated.

To highlight this new NIPLH RFA category, specific education topics could be exemplified by chest tube training, ultrasound education, mechanisms regarding critiques of teaching styles, teaching in low resource or developing regions. More general examples are included in the UCSF Innovations Funding for Education (https://meded.ucsf.edu/faculty-educators/health-professions-education-and-research/funding-opportunities/innovations-funding).

Specific examples of topics for education research proposal could include:

- New frameworks in assessing competency-based learning (e.g. new assessment tools, and outcomes-based assessments)
- Curricular innovation projects that address the climate of equity and inclusion for diverse learners, patients and team members
- Exploration of new teaching and learning methods that align with the fellowship program mission and curricular goals

Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QI/PS) Proposals

This Quality Improvement And Patient Safety (QI/PS) projects category will consider topics in Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy, or Sleep Medicine. Submitted proposals for QI/PS for this year must be from faculty or trainees in Division(s) of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy and Sleep Medicine at UCSF, ZSFG, or SFVA.
This NIPLH funding is designed to support projects for systematic and continuous actions that lead to measurable improvement in health care and the health status of individuals and patient safety. Quality improvement considers aspects of quality such as clinical competence, outcomes and process assessment, program evaluation, quality indicators, and quality assurance using methodologically rigorous protocols. QI Grants are intended to help providers advance along a quality continuum.

Application should include:

- Background: What problem are you talking about and why?
- Current Conditions: Where do things stand now?
- Target Conditions (Goals): What specific outcome is desired?
- Funding needs: Projected funding needs and budget.
- Impact: How would this project will impact the division / patient care?

Funding Details

Research Proposals

Funding amount will be up to $50,000 per year per award for one or two years (no overhead allowed).

Clinical Program Development and Medical Education Projects

Acknowledging that some Programmatic and Medical Education Projects may require less funding than Research Proposals per se, pilot grants of up $10,000 per year will be awarded in addition to larger grants of up to $50,000 per year.

Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Proposals

Acknowledging that Quality and Safety projects generally require smaller budgets than research projects, project funding is up to $20,000 per year.

Applicant Requirements

Research proposals:

Assistant Professors, fellows in training (ACGME Year 3 or higher) and postdoctoral fellows in Year 3 or higher of research training from any division, department or school at UCSF are eligible to apply. Regarding fellows, the proposal should be clearly and distinctly different than the investigations of their mentors.

Clinical Program Development, Medical Education and Quality Improvement/Patient Safety proposals:

All UCSF Pulmonary Division faculty and fellows are eligible to apply.

All Proposals:

Applicants will not be eligible for the 2027 NIPLH grants if they have an on-going NIPLH grant that would overlap with a 2027 award.

Proposals budgeted with prominent salary support for principal investigators are discouraged and not considered responsive to the goals and objectives of this call for proposals for Innovative Grants. The number of awards and apportionment between Research and Clinical Development, Medical Education and Quality Improvement/Patient Safety Proposals will depend on the quality of the grants.

Partnerships between and among faculty are encouraged, as are applications or collaborations from non-pulmonary investigators whose work would impact lung health and disease. Proposals can include collaborations with non-UCSF investigators.

All grantees will be expected to present their work at one of the weekly UCSF pulmonary research conferences.

Two Year Awards: If a two-year proposal is submitted, the plan of work proposed for each of the years should be clearly delineated with a timeline and related budget. In addition, two-year grant submissions should include year 01 milestones. If funded, a progress report at month 10 of year 01 regarding these expected milestones will be evaluated to determine if proposals qualify for release of the second year of funding. The second year of funding is not guaranteed.

The number of awards and apportionment between Research, Clinical Development, and Medical Education Proposals will depend on the quality of the applications.

UCSF and the Department of Medicine do not use race, gender, sex, or other protected categories or proxies for protected categories in the selection process for this award.

UCSF and the Department of Medicine comply with all Federal and State Antidiscrimination laws such as Title IX, VI, VII, and CA Proposition 209 and AM 2925 and any additional prevailing laws.

Review: UC Antidiscrimination Policy (https://policy.ucop.edu/doc/1001004/Anti-Discrimination)

Application Process

Applications must be submitted by November 16th, 2026**.** The core application must be **no more than three** pages exclusive of cited literature, biosketches, budget justification, and impact statement. No other supplemental material can be submitted. Funding decisions will be based upon the criteria outlined above. Evidence of required human, animal and related institutional review approvals must be submitted before funding is released.

Applicants Impact Statement

In a brief paragraph, state the impact this proposal will have on your career.

Mentoring Review

Consistent with the mission of the pulmonary division, the proposals of Assistant Professors and fellows should be reviewed by a senior faculty mentor prior to submission. Project specific aims, research questions or hypotheses, significance, methods and objectives, and anticipated impact must be made clear in the proposal. Education projects lacking sufficient methodological detail or anticipated impact will not be reviewed favorably.

If there are questions regarding mentorship, fellow applicants should reach out to Antonio Gomez and/or their own division's fellowship director.

Guidelines and examples to help junior faculty and fellows develop their grant writing skills are available.

Link to grant application examples: http://tiny.ucsf.edu/LNUOY7

Application Instructions

Format Requirements: Arial font; 11pt minimum; single spaced; 1" margins all sides. Proposals should consist of the following, in order:

1. Grant Application Cover Sheet.
2. Proposal: No more than three pages (excluding cited literature, biosketches, and budget) that describe the proposed research and indicate its potential significance.
3. Principal Investigator's NIH Biosketch (NIH PHS 398).
4. A detailed one-year budget with justification (NIH PHS 398, Form page 4).
5. Submit an electronic copy of your application in **PDF format** to Matthew Lau at Matthew.Lau@ucsf.edu

NIPLH Director:

Jeffrey Golden, MD

NIPLH Executive Advisory Board:

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Ananse' Taharka, MD

Neeta Thakur, MD

Prescott Woodruff, MD, MPH

Paul Wolters, MD

Application Timeline

COVER SHEET (next page)

Application Due	November 16th, 2026
Grant Selection Notification	December 18th, 2026
Start Date	January 11th, 2027

PROPOSAL TITLE:	
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION	
NAME (Last, first, middle)	DEGREE(S)
POSITION TITLE	MAILING ADDRESS BOX #
DEPARTMENT	MAILING ADDRESS BOX #
PHONE	EMAIL
DATES OF FULL PERIOD OF SUPPORT REQUESTED (month, day, year) From Through	COSTS REQUESTED FOR PROPOSED PERIOD OF SUPPORT ($) Total Cost YEAR 1 YEAR 2 $$
SENIOR FACULTY MENTOR	
NAME	EMAIL
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER TO BE NOTIFIED IF AWARD IS MADE	
NAME	EMAIL