

## Professional Development Core (PDC)



## The Art of Grantsmanship: A Hands-On, Intensive Workshop

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Advancements through research hinge on the availability of extramural funding. While the outcome of the grants process is a funded proposal, grantsmanship is far more than the art of writing proposals and obtaining grants. It is a philosophy, a code of ethics, and a set of skills applied simultaneously to bring about positive change. This course includes didactic and experiential learning activities that assist the investigator in developing requisite skills to plan and write clear, effective, and fundable grants; conduct thoughtful and proactive funding searches; build partnerships with funders and colleagues; and apply grantsmanship principles to various funding sectors such as NIH, industry, and foundations.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** At the end of the course, the investigator will be able to:

1. Assess the needs, environment, skills, and resources available to address given research and funding needs.
2. Compare and contrast the funding objectives and processes of federal, state, private, and foundation funders.
3. Identify and complete the pre-writing tasks of grant writing.
4. Explain how to build partnerships and collaborations with funders, community, industry, diverse groups of researchers, and other stakeholders.
5. Write a grant application that is specific to an identified funding opportunity that supports the investigator's/institution's needs/mission.
6. Submit a completed grant to a major funder, e.g., NIH, SAMHSA, CDC, etc., within 2 months of completing the course.

**ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY:** This course is designed to support early- to mid-career investigators who are beginning to develop their extramural funding and research career or who are making a significant change in their research areas. Enrollment is limited to 10 individuals that are distributed among the three Consortium member institutions. While each institution should determine which applicants to put forward for consideration by Consortium leadership, the following are the general criteria for investigators interested in applying must have:

- ✓ received limited extramural funding for research (service and/or training (education) projects

- are excluded from consideration) within the previous 10 years of their career;
- ✓ a research idea/project that reflects a transdisciplinary/translational approach;
- ✓ a terminal degree in their field with at least one degree in a health-related or basic science discipline; AND
- ✓ an identified mentor who will work with the investigator in the development of their research concept. A letter of commitment and recommendation is required from this individual as part of the application package.

Each institution is encouraged to identify those investigators that fulfill the criteria described above and that demonstrate commitment to submit a grant within the time frame established and who have little or no experience in grant development for extramural funding. Following the expectations of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Enhanced Review Criteria for grants, we will look for evidence that Early Stage or New Investigators, or those in the early stages of their independent research careers, have appropriate experience and training, including some history of publications. While there is no requirement that an applicant must have peer-review publications, in the final analysis, an absence of a publication history may work against the individual when applying for extramural funding. For this opportunity, at the institution level, leadership should consider how a promising applicant can be supported in developing his or her publication record. Preference will be given to those projects grounded in one of the four priority areas of the Puerto Rico Clinical and Translational Research Consortium:

- ✓ HIV/AIDS
- ✓ Cancer
- ✓ Cardiovascular and Metabolic Syndrome/Diabetes
- ✓ Neuroscience

It is strongly recommended that applicants also have a possible funding outlet identified, although this is not an exclusionary factor. However, applicants are reminded that a required outcome of participation in this course is that he or she will submit a completed grant to a major funder, e.g., NIH, SAMHSA, CDC, etc., within 2 months of completing the course. Individuals accepted into the course will be expected to make the necessary commitment of time and effort to meet assignment deadlines and to have a completed proposal by the end of the course. Those individuals who do not comply with course requirement requirements may be dropped from the program.

**IMPORTANT KEY POINTS:**

- ✓ Open to any early/new investigator and mid-career investigator who is making a major change in his/her research focus
- ✓ Hybrid course (online/asynchronous and six synchronous sessions conducted through Go-to-Webinar)