

**Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort Study Opportunity Pool Program  
Funding Opportunity Announcement: Fall 2018**

**National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases  
and the University of Pennsylvania**

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**Background** The Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort (CRIC, <http://www.cristudy.org>) Study is a longitudinal cohort study of patients with chronic kidney disease. CRIC was established by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) in 2001 to promote advancement in our understanding of chronic kidney diseases (CKD) and associated consequences. The study has enrolled 5,500 participants with CKD, who are engaged in ongoing core and ancillary research activities. The overarching goal of the new CRIC Opportunity Pool Program (CRIC OPP) is to engage the broader research community, including investigators who have not previously worked on CKD epidemiology as well as those from outside of the field of nephrology, in novel investigations involving CRIC participant data.

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**Overview** We are accepting applications to fund innovative studies to develop, evaluate, or implement novel analyses, including novel and integrative analytic methods, using existing CRIC Study participant data, led by investigators in any scientific or clinical discipline including, but not limited to public health researchers, biostatisticians, informatics scientists, etc. Applications for studies addressing topic areas not fully explored in prior CRIC investigations and that promise significant potential health impact are strongly encouraged.

The CRIC Scientific and Data Coordinating Center (SDCC) at the University of Pennsylvania administers this program. During the first funding cycle, we anticipate that there will be 10-12 awards (up to \$150,000 total costs for the entire project period).

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**Eligibility and Scope of Applications** Individuals eligible to apply for CRIC Opportunity Pool funding include faculty members at higher education institutions and members of other non-profit or for-profit organizations.

This funding announcement is intended to support research utilizing existing CRIC Study participant data. Applications focused exclusively on individuals not enrolled in the CRIC Study will be considered non-responsive to this announcement and will not be reviewed.

Studies that overlap with ongoing or approved CRIC ancillary studies will typically not be reviewed. Please contact the SDCC with any questions related to overlap with existing studies (see contact information at the end of this announcement).

Existing publications and funded ancillary studies can be found at <http://www.cristudy.org/Chronic-Kidney-Disease/Chronic-Renal-Insufficiency-Cohort-Study/collaborate-with-cric-study>.

Existing data and resources can be found at <http://www.cristudy.org/Chronic-Kidney-Disease/Chronic-Renal-Insufficiency-Cohort-Study/research-data>.

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**Application Instructions: Letter of Intent** A letter of intent must be submitted no later than **January 31, 2019**. It should be a maximum of one page in length (no smaller than 11 point Times New Roman font, single line-spacing) and include:

1. The study question, justification of its importance, and brief rationale
2. A brief description of intended methods/study design and key data elements that will be utilized
3. An explanation of the novelty/innovation and potential public health impact of the proposed approach or topic area
4. Separate from the letter of intent, please identify all members of the study team and their anticipated roles. Please include an NIH biosketch for each investigator.

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**Application Instructions: Full Application** Letters of intent will be reviewed and selected applicants will be invited to submit a full application that will include the following elements: **Abstract, Research Plan, Reference List, NIH Biosketches, and Budget and Justification.**

The Abstract should be a succinct summary of the project that includes the significance of the proposed study, the hypothesis, and the innovation potential of the study. The Abstract should not exceed 200 words in length.

The Research Plan should not exceed four pages (no smaller than 11-point Times New Roman font, single line-spacing, with 0.5” margins). Other aspects of the Full Application (i.e. Abstract, Reference List, NIH Biosketches, and Budget and Justification) are not included within these page limitations. No appendices may be submitted. The research plan will include:

1. Specific Aims
2. Background and Rationale
3. Novelty and Innovation
4. A detailed description of intended Methods/Study Design
5. Key Measurements and Data to be used
6. A Statistical Analysis Plan including assessment of study power

Please identify all members of the study team and their anticipated roles. Please include an **NIH Biosketch** for each team member.

Please also include a detailed Budget and Justification using the **NIH SF424 (R&R) Budget form.**

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**Key Dates** Letter of intent due date: **January 31, 2019**  
(by 5:00pm local time of the applicant’s organization)

Applicants will be notified of invitation to submit a full application on or about **March 31, 2019.**

Full applications will be due eight weeks after receipt of the invitation for submission.

Notifications to awardees are anticipated to be made in **late 2019- early 2020.**

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<b>Budget</b>	Budgets will typically be approximately \$75,000 (total costs) for the entire project period to be budgeted over one year. When extremely well justified, budgets up to \$150,000 (total costs) will be considered.
<b>Application Submission Instructions</b>	Letters of Intent and Full applications must be submitted via electronically through the CRIC Study website. <a href="http://www.cristudy.org/Chronic-Kidney-Disease/Chronic-Renal-Insufficiency-Cohort-Study/opportunity-pool">http://www.cristudy.org/Chronic-Kidney-Disease/Chronic-Renal-Insufficiency-Cohort-Study/opportunity-pool</a>
<b>Requirements of Awardees</b>	Awardees are required to submit a progress report twelve months after receiving funding.  Awardees will present their findings to the CRIC Steering Committee at the conclusion of the study. It is expected that each study will culminate in publication(s).
<b>Contact Information</b>	For questions, please contact: Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort Study Scientific and Data Coordinating Center The University of Pennsylvania <a href="mailto:cricprog@penncmedicine.upenn.edu">cricprog@penncmedicine.upenn.edu</a>

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