



# OREGON NATIONAL PRIMATE Research Center

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## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT: 2026 ONPRC Pilot Grant Research Program**

### **Key Dates:**

Letter of intent (LOI) deadline	January 8, 2026,
Full application deadline (if invited)	February 17, 2026
Earliest funding start date	May 1, 2026

### **PURPOSE**

The Oregon National Primate Research Center (ONPRC) is soliciting proposals for the annual pilot grant research program. The purpose of this funding mechanism is to encourage activities related to the use of nonhuman primates (NHPs) for biomedical research or for studies that enhance NHP welfare or husbandry. Pilot research should be developmental or high-risk and, in the case of biomedical research proposals, should be used to generate preliminary data in support of applications for further project support, such as NIH, other federal, or foundation grants. We encourage proposals from external applicants, early-stage investigators, and researchers new to NHP research.

Applicants are encouraged, whenever possible, to utilize study animals or samples from ongoing studies or biobanks. Studies focusing on the development of new approach methodologies (NAMs) that encompass *in vitro*, *in silico*, and *in chemico* technologies are encouraged.

### **PILOT RESEARCH PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

1. All activities related to the use of NHPs must be conducted on-site at ONPRC. Other activities can be performed at other sites, depending on the nature of the pilot project. If relevant, a subcontracting mechanism within the pilot project can be used to support a non-animal component of the pilot project performed outside of ONPRC.
2. Pilot research funds may not be used to provide interim support for established projects or for investigations funded from other sources. This solicitation is for one-year projects at a maximum direct cost budget of \$75,000 (Indirect costs incurred by an external subcontract are debited from the total direct cost awarded as detailed below). All work must be completed by April 30, 2027.
3. Pilot grant applicants need not be ONPRC core scientists; however, if a non-core scientist is the PI, they can serve as MPI. An ONPRC core scientist will serve as the contact PI and must be involved in the planning, execution, and project supervision, and will assume responsibility for overall project management, coordination, and progress reports. The core scientist's role must be specifically addressed in the application. Inquiries from other NPRC investigators or investigators at other institutions can be directed to Dr. Jon Hennebold at [henneboj@ohsu.edu](mailto:henneboj@ohsu.edu). A subaward will be set up for external institutions regardless of MPI or Co-Investigator status. Since pilot funds are designed to facilitate subsequent grant proposals that will expand the research topic of the pilot proposal, PIs must be of faculty rank and be eligible to serve as PIs on NIH R-type and similar grants.

4. Funds for the project may be used for the following purposes:
- Personnel, excluding salary support for PIs/core scientists.
  - Supplies.
  - Animals and animal care costs.
  - Items of equipment costing less than \$5,000. Equipment costing more than \$5,000 must be approved before beginning the pilot project.
  - Consultants and other special services, including ONPRC core services such as surgery, pathology, assays, or clinical services.
  - F&A funds may be requested by subcontractors but will apply toward the direct cost amount awarded. Subcontracting institutions are encouraged to waive F&A due to the limited funding available.

## **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

### **A. LETTER OF INTENT**

Letters of intent must address the following points: (1 page maximum)

- Title and PI/MPI affiliations
- Brief summary of the scientific plan.
- Why is this a “pilot” application and how will the data generated be applied to future funding applications?
- How does the proposed project differ from the PI’s current research?
- How can the proposed research be accomplished in 1 year at the requested budget?
- Indicate the affiliated ONPRC core scientist and their role.

### **B. FULL APPLICATION (11-pt Arial, single-spaced, ½-inch margins; 6-page maximum)**

- Title and abstract that includes specific aims (1/2 page)
- Significance and innovation (up to 1 page)
- Approach (up to 3 pages)
- References cited (1/2 page)
- Summary budget and justification, including Subaward budget cost detail, if applicable. (up to 1 page). Applicants will be directed to contact the appropriate ONPRC Business Office FA immediately upon notification of the request for a full proposal.
- Vertebrate Animals Section (NIH format; not included in page limit)
- Biosketches for PI and Key Personnel (NIH format; not included in page limit)

### **C. SUBMISSION**

Letters of intent should be submitted through [CAP](#) at no later than **11:59 pm on January 8, 2026**. Revisions or additions to the application will not be accepted after the due date. Submissions that do not follow the formatting guidelines will not be reviewed.

### **D. REVIEW PROCESS**

- LOIs will be reviewed and prioritized by the ONPRC Research Advisory Committee (RAC), with the most meritorious invited to submit full proposals. Summaries of the review of the LOIs will be provided to all applicants.
- Full proposals will be evaluated by expert external reviewers using NIH scoring criteria.
- Final funding decisions will be made by ONPRC leadership based on recommendations from the RAC.

**E. AWARDEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Funds are restricted to supporting the research project as described in the application submitted and as approved by the RAC.
- IRB and IACUC approval (if needed) are required prior to the release of funds.
- Project summary report due by July 31, 2027. Submit additional information describing project accomplishments, pilot project-supported publications, and grant submissions and awards when requested for the P51 core grant annual progress reports and 5-year renewal. The NIH evaluates the ONPRC on the effectiveness of the Pilot Program in stimulating new research findings and publications. Key metrics for the success of Pilot Projects include securing new funding, publishing research, obtaining licenses, and securing patents. ONPRC may approach investigators for additional details related to the success of Pilot Projects. Awardees are expected to submit a manuscript to a peer-reviewed, scientific journal and/or submit a grant application to one or more external agencies as part of the successful execution of the pilot project.
- The following acknowledgement must be included on all publications that result from ONPRC support (funding and/or infrastructure services): *This publication was made possible with Pilot Program support from the Oregon National Primate Research Center, grant number P51 OD011092.*

**F. FURTHER INFORMATION**

Please direct all questions to Dr. Jon Hennebold at [henneboj@ohsu.edu](mailto:henneboj@ohsu.edu).