



## Rustbelt Center for AIDS Research

Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center  
10900 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106-4960  
Phone (216) 368-3915

University of Pittsburgh  
204 Craft Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3005  
Phone (412) 641-6435

---

### Principal Investigators

Jonathan Karn, PhD  
Sharon Hillier, PhD

### Co-Directors

Alan Levine, PhD  
Nicolas Sluis-Cremer, PhD

## Solicitation for HIV/AIDS-Related Developmental Project Grants

The RUSTBELT CFAR is inviting applications for developmental project grants focused on HIV/AIDS research in the following areas:

1. Novel approaches to prevent HIV infection
2. HIV persistence and viral latency
3. NeuroAIDS including substance use
4. Antiretroviral therapy and drug resistance
5. Basic science focused on viral pathogenesis, host-protein interactions and drug discovery

We encourage applications that investigate sex and gender differences in HIV/AIDS.

### Application Criteria:

- Early career investigators (Senior Research Associates, Instructors, Assistant Professors)
- Established investigators new to HIV/AIDS research
- Investigators in Uganda
- All applications must propose use of at least one RUSTBELT CFAR Core. **We encourage applicants to discuss their research ideas with CFAR Core Directors.**

**Budget and Project Period:** 5 awards of \$50,000 (total costs; no indirect cost recovery) will be funded for 1 year.

### Key Dates:

*Application Due Date:* **September 26, 2022**

*Peer Review:* **October 2022**

*Notification of Award Date:* **November 7, 2022**

*Anticipated Start Date:* **December 5, 2023**

### Required Application Components and Application Format:

- Face Page (NIH PHS 398)
- Budget and Budget Justification (Funds are for research supplies and staff salary support)
- NIH biosketches for key personnel
- Proposal Narrative (sections A – C, 3-page total)
  - A. Specific Aim(s)
  - B. Significance & Innovation
  - C. Research Design and Methods
  - D. Plans for future funding (1/2 page)
  - E. References Cited (not included in page limit)

**Submission:** All proposals must be submitted electronically via email, as a **single PDF file**, to Michelle Leszczewski at [leszczewskimn@upmc.edu](mailto:leszczewskimn@upmc.edu)

**Questions:** Please contact Dr. Alan Levine ([alan.levine@case.edu](mailto:alan.levine@case.edu)) or Dr. Nicolas Sluis-Cremer ([nps2@pitt.edu](mailto:nps2@pitt.edu)) with any questions.