



GULF COAST CENTER
**PRECISION
ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH**

Pilot Project Funding Opportunity

Request for Application

Projected Funding Period July 15th, 2026 through May 31st, 2027
Letter of Intent Package Submission Due **May 8, 2026**

The Gulf Coast Center for Precision Environmental Health (GC-CPEH), an NIEHS-funded P30 Center (P30ES030285) and a joint initiative of Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB), and The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Public Health, announces the availability of funds to support pilot studies advancing precision environmental health research. Projects should focus on the intersection of genetics/epigenetics, environmental health, data science, and/or community research. Expected outcomes should contribute to a better understanding of individual and place-based disease determinants stemming from environmental exposures. Note that the NIEHS defines environmental exposure as “contact between a person and external factors—chemical, physical, or biological—that may cause harmful health effects. This includes factors in air, water, soil, and diet, encompassing everything not determined by genes, such as pollutants, stress, and lifestyle.”

Eligibility. Proposals are open to faculty members (instructor level and above) from BCM, UTMB, and UTHealth who are eligible to serve as principal investigators on federal grants. Projects must align with the Center’s mission to advance environmental health research or community engagement. Applications from junior investigators, those using GC-CPEH Facility Cores, and collaborative teams are especially encouraged. Collaborators from institutions outside BCM, UTMB, and UTHealth are permitted. Investigators may submit only one application per cycle as either PI or Co-PI.

Keywords. Exposure; biomarkers; genome/epigenome-environment interactions; comparative biology; big data; bioinformatics; epidemiology; toxicology; disease susceptibility; public health; community health; Research-to-Action.

Award Duration and Amount. Funding is limited to approximately one year with no extensions (including no-cost extensions). Applicants may request up to \$40,000 in direct costs; indirect costs (F&A) are not supported. Non-Center members who receive pilot funding will be granted Center privileges during the funding period, including access to subsidies through the Matching Funds Core Utilization Program, which may cover up to 100% of costs for Center-supported Facility Core services (e.g., 50% from pilot award and 50% from the Core).

Letter of Intent Package Submission and Review Timeline.

Applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) package electronically via [REDCap](#) to be considered for invitation to submit a full application. The LOI package must include 1) a cover letter, 2) a one-page summary of research objectives (Background, Significance, and Specific Aims), and 3) the principal investigator’s NIH-format biosketch. Up to 12 applicants will be invited to submit a full application. **The LOI package must be uploaded no later than 11:00 PM (CT) on May 8, 2026.**

Application Open	April 6, 2026
Letter of Intent (LOI) Due	May 8, 2026
LOI Decision Notification	May 29, 2026
Invited Full Proposal PPT Slides Due	June 19, 2026
Oral Presentation of Full Proposal	June 26, 2026
Just-in-Time Request	June 30, 2026
Earliest Anticipated Award Notification & Start Date	July 15, 2026

Note: Selected applicants must attend in person between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM on June 26 for a 25-minute presentation and review session. Presentation times will be assigned and shared closer to the date.

Full Application Preparation and Review (for Invited Applicants). Applicants invited to submit full applications must deliver an in-person oral presentation to the GC-CPEH Internal Advisory Committee at BCM on **June 26, 2026**, between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Each applicant will give a 15-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute Q&A session. Applicants must reserve this time block until final schedules are shared; once confirmed, attendance is only required during the assigned 25-minute slot. Presentations must address the project’s significance, innovation, and approach (including specific aims and future research directions), present an itemized budget (PI salary support is not allowed), and note anticipated use of GC-CPEH Facility Cores, if applicable. Final PowerPoint files are due by **June 19, 2026**. **IRB and/or IACUC approvals**, if applicable, must be in place before the project start date.

For questions and/or assistance on the application process contact:

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