

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH (HSR) PILOT GRANTS RESOURCE LIST

LAST UPDATED 9/21/2026

ACCORDS DIRECTOR'S CROSS-COLLABORATION PILOT GRANT

FOCUS: Promotes cross-school / college and external organization collaborations in health services research

ELIGIBILITY: Full-time faculty at CU and a faculty or faculty equivalent from another school / college or external organization. The application should use a Core(s) from ACCORDS to carry out their HSR study.

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Up to \$50,000 funding for up to 18 months, with up to \$25,000 in fixed funding for faculty salary coverage.

DEADLINE: December 15, 2026

[**LINK FOR MORE INFO**](#)

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY IRG SEED GRANTS

FOCUS: Support the development of exceptional research projects that will help lead to the conquest of cancer and will further the objectives of the CU Anschutz Cancer Center

ELIGIBILITY: Instructor or Assistant Professor within six years for appointment (cannot have received major peer-reviewed funding already such as an NIH R01 or its equivalent; K awards are allowable).

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$55,000 - 1 year (Possible 1-year no-cost extension)

DEADLINE: March

CONTACT INFO: Traci.Lyons@cuanschutz.edu | John.Tentler@cuanschutz.edu | Elizabeth.Spiker@cuanschutz.edu

[**LINK FOR MORE INFO**](#)

BRAIN RESEARCH FOUNDATION

FOCUS: Support new and innovative projects for neurosciences, whether cognitive, neurodegenerative, related to learning and development or diseases

ELIGIBILITY: Assistant and Associate Professors

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$100,000 - 2 years

DEADLINE: CU Internal Deadline in September; Sponsor Deadline in November

CONTACT INFO: Limited.Submissions@cuanschutz.edu

[**LINK FOR MORE INFO**](#)

CANCER INNOVATION PILOT GRANTS

FOCUS: Provide funding support for research-related expenses of novel cancer-focused research projects that have a high likelihood of leading to NIH F/K or R funding or equivalent extramural support

ELIGIBILITY: Adjunct Cancer Center members (see website for details)

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$10,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: October 2026

CONTACT INFO: CRTEC@cuanschutz.edu

[**LINK FOR MORE INFO**](#)

CCTSI CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH PILOT PROGRAM

FOCUS: Provide initial support for proof of concept projects focused on children of all ages as well as pregnant women and mothers of newborn and young infants;

Categories for Mentored and Junior

ELIGIBILITY: Early-stage investigators

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$40,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: LOI due in December; Proposal due in January

CONTACT INFO: Kristen.House@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

CCTSI COLORADO PILOT PROGRAM (CO-PILOT)

FOCUS: Fund early-stage, preparatory or feasibility studies to overcome roadblocks in the translational process; Categories for Mentored, Junior, and CSU/CU Collaboration

ELIGIBILITY: Mentored/Junior: Early-stage investigators; CSU/CU: Experienced investigators

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Mentored/Junior: \$40,000 - 1 year |

CSU/CU: \$50,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: LOI due in December; Proposal due in January

CONTACT INFO: Kristen.House@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

CCTSI COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PILOT PROGRAM (CE PILOT)

FOCUS: Supports community-academic partnerships to perform pilot studies that will strengthen relationships and produce preliminary data for future competitive grant applications; Categories for Partnership Development and Joint Pilot Projects

ELIGIBILITY: All levels of academic rank

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Partnership Development: \$8,000 - 9 months |

Joint Pilot: \$30,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: LOI due in January; Proposal due in February

CONTACT INFO: Kaylee.Gordon@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

CCTSI CTRC MICROGRANTS

FOCUS: Purchase CTRC services for research protocols conducted at University of Colorado Hospital, Children's Hospital Colorado and the Perinatal CTRC

ELIGIBILITY: Assistant professors, post-doctoral students, and fellows preferred; other faculty stages considered if resources allow

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$30,000 - 3 years

DEADLINE: Rolling

CONTACT INFO: Kristen.House@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

CCTSI PRAGMATIC EHR-EMBEDDED TRIALS (PEET) PROGRAM

FOCUS: Conduct pilot pragmatic, electronic health record (EHR)-embedded clinical trial at UCHHealth that is not currently funded/underway

ELIGIBILITY: Associate or Full Professors with an established track record of obtaining research funding awards as a PI

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Up to \$180,000 - direct costs (2 years)

DEADLINE: Intent to Apply due in October; Proposal due in January

CONTACT INFO: Sarah.Kautz@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

CCTSI TRANSLATIONAL METHODS PILOT GRANT

FOCUS: Supports the development of novel methods and innovative technologies for clinical and translational medicine to address translational science roadblocks; Categories for General Translational Methods, Biostats/Bioinformatics, and CSU Investigator

ELIGIBILITY: All levels of academic rank

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$30,000 (1 year)

DEADLINE: LOI due in December; Proposal due in January

CONTACT INFO: Kristen.House@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO RESEARCH PILOT GRANT AWARD

FOCUS: Testing new ideas and acquiring preliminary data necessary for securing external research grant support

ELIGIBILITY: MD/DO, PhD or MD/PhD early-stage investigator who is a full-time CU Anschutz faculty member with primary appointment in 1) the Department of Pediatrics or 2) a child health-related department or division

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$50,000 for direct costs - 1 year

DEADLINE: April

CONTACT INFO: Claire.Brendel@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

COLORADO NUTRITION OBESITY RESEARCH CENTER: PILOT AND FEASIBILITY PROGRAM

FOCUS: Broad range of nutrition and obesity research

ELIGIBILITY: Junior investigators with no independent NIH (or comparable)

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Up to \$40,000 for direct costs - 2 years

DEADLINE: October 2026

CONTACT INFO: Daniel.Bessensen@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

COLORADO SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER FOR HEALTH, WORK, AND ENVIRONMENT PILOT PROJECTS

FOCUS: Supports innovative research studies and research-to-practice projects in occupational safety, health, and total worker health

ELIGIBILITY: See website

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$20,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: Non-binding LOI due in April

CONTACT INFO: Carol.Brown@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

DENVER HEALTH'S PILOT STUDY GRANT PROGRAM

FOCUS: Supports Denver Health faculty in conducting pilot and feasibility studies that strengthen their competitiveness for external research funding. Tracts for junior and mid-career investigators.

ELIGIBILITY: Denver Health employees (≥ 0.51 FTE) with a terminal degree

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$35,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: LOI due in July; Proposal due in August

CONTACT INFO: Deborah.Rinehart@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

DIABETES RESEARCH CENTER PILOT AND FEASIBILITY PROGRAM

FOCUS: Accelerate diabetes research by funding promising scientists across basic, translational, clinical, and health disparities research focused on Type 1, Type 2, or Gestational Diabetes and their complications

ELIGIBILITY: CU faculty position at time of award; early-stage investigators encouraged. Established investigators can apply if new to diabetes research or proposal is high-risk

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$50,000 per year for maximum of 2 years (\$100,000 total)

DEADLINE: LOI due in February; Proposal due in March

CONTACT INFO: Clara.Tang@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

ERGEN FAMILY ENDOWED CHAIR IN PEDIATRIC OUTCOMES RESEARCH PILOT PROGRAM: EARLY-CAREER INVESTIGATOR PILOT AWARD

FOCUS: Generate preliminary research to support future career development or early-stage investigator awards

ELIGIBILITY: Fellows or faculty in pediatric/child-related department or division at CU Anschutz who conduct T3-T4 projects to improve health and well-being of children

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Up to \$30,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: October 2026

CONTACT INFO: James.Feinstein@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

**ERGEN FAMILY ENDOWED CHAIR IN PEDIATRIC OUTCOMES
RESEARCH PILOT PROGRAM: NOVEL IDEA PILOT AWARD**

FOCUS: Generate preliminary data for a new, innovative research with strong potential for future extramural funding

ELIGIBILITY: Fellows or faculty in pediatric/child-related department or division at CU Anschutz who conduct T3-T4 projects to improve health and well-being of children

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Up to \$50,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: October 2026

CONTACT INFO: James.Feinstein@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

**LUDEMAN CENTER SEED GRANT: INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH
AWARD IN PEDIATRIC SEX DIFFERENCES**

FOCUS: Fund an interdisciplinary project involving at least two investigators from different departments or divisions in pediatric sex differences within one of the following areas: Cardiovascular disease, diabetes/metabolism, the intersection of mental and physical health

ELIGIBILITY: Full-time MD, MD-PhD, PhD, DO or PharmD faculty and fellows with a primary appointment at the University of Colorado Anschutz

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$100,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: July

CONTACT INFO: LudemanCenter@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

**LUDEMAN CENTER SEED GRANT: RESEARCH AWARD TO ADDRESS
HEALTH DISPARITIES IN WOMEN'S HEALTH**

FOCUS: Fund a project focusing on women's health or sex differences in cardiovascular disease, diabetes or mental health with a focus on factors that address health disparities

ELIGIBILITY: Full-time MD, MD-PhD, PhD, DO or PharmD faculty and fellows with a primary appointment at the University of Colorado Anschutz

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$50,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: July

CONTACT INFO: LudemanCenter@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

**MARY KAY ASH FOUNDATION INNOVATIVE / TRANSLATIONAL CANCER
RESEARCH GRANT**

FOCUS: Advance the understanding, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of breast, cervical, endometrial, ovarian, uterine, and other cancers that predominantly affect women

ELIGIBILITY: Full-time CU faculty at CU Anschutz or CU Boulder at Assistant Professor rank or higher

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$100,000 - 2 years

DEADLINE: CU Internal Deadline in September; Sponsor Deadline in February

CONTACT INFO: CC_FundingOps@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK FOUNDATION YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

FOCUS: Support outstanding early-career investigators pursuing innovative research that advances cancer care and improves outcomes for patients across the oncology spectrum

ELIGIBILITY: Full-time faculty appointment with an MD, DO, PhD, PharmD, Master's-level nursing degree, or international equivalent

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$150,000 - 2 years

DEADLINE: CU Internal Deadline in October; Sponsor Deadline in January

CONTACT INFO: CC_FundingOps@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

NIA IMPACT COLLABORATORY: REAL WORLD DATA SCHOLARS PROGRAM

FOCUS: Build practical skills and professional networks for early-career investigators, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students interested in using real-world data to improve care of people living with dementia and care partners

ELIGIBILITY: Postdoctoral fellows, advanced graduate students, and early-career faculty at or up to the assistant professor level

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$60,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: September

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

PM&R RESEARCH INNOVATION SERVICES ENTERPRISE (RISE) PILOT FUNDING

FOCUS: Improve health outcomes of the rehab population, enhance patient experience, and collect data for future funding opportunities

ELIGIBILITY: >0.5 FTE in PM&R

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Up to \$30,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: December

CONTACT INFO: Jennifer.Stevens-Lapsley@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR THE HUMANITIES

FOCUS: Promotes a well-developed scholarly or creative project rooted in the arts and humanities with clear and feasible outcomes

ELIGIBILITY: Full-time CU faculty with ≥20% effort for scholarly activities

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$15,000 - 1 year

DEADLINE: October 2026

CONTACT INFO: AcademicAffairs@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

ST. BALDRICK'S CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT

FOCUS: Hypothesis-driven research projects that are laboratory, clinical, or epidemiological in nature related to childhood cancer

ELIGIBILITY: MD, DO, PhD or equivalent doctoral degree and be employed by a U.S.-based academic, medical or nonprofit research institution

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: \$100,000 / year - 2 years

DEADLINE: CU Internal Deadline in September; Sponsor Deadline in January

CONTACT INFO: CC_FundingOps@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO INNOVATIONS TOOLBOX MICROGRANT PROGRAM

FOCUS: Remove roadblocks and unlock milestones for developing next-generation healthcare technologies

ELIGIBILITY: CU Anschutz faculty – see application for rules around intellectual property and disclosure

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: One-time allocation of \$25,000

DEADLINE: Rolling through May 2027

CONTACT INFO: Innovations@cuanschutz.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AB NEXUS PROGRAM

FOCUS: Support collaboration between CU Anschutz and CU Boulder faculty to address significant research questions through basic, translational, clinical, and/or epidemiological approaches; Categories for Exploratory / Broad and Special Topic Announcements

ELIGIBILITY: New collaborations between Anschutz and Boulder Faculty. Anschutz faculty must be tenure-track Assistant Professors within the first three years of their appointment

AWARD AMOUNT AND LENGTH: Broad: \$75,000 - 18 months |

Special: \$300,000 - 2 years

DEADLINE: May

CONTACT INFO: ABNexus_SeedGrants@colorado.edu

[LINK FOR MORE INFO](#)

NOTE: Please review and confirm award eligibility, deadlines, and processes with the program offering the funding.

OTHER HSR PILOT GRANTS OPPORTUNITIES

The following centers may offer pilot funding, but no information was available at the time of preparing this publication. Please visit websites if interested.

University of Colorado Anschutz Cancer Center - Cancer Prevention & Control Program

Cancer-related projects, extramural seed grants

Please visit this **[technical guidance for non-federal grant proposals related to research with specific demographic groups](#)** (See under “Campus Guidance”).

Sign up for the **[Funding Focus newsletter](#)** for biweekly funding notifications.

If you have a pilot funding opportunity that you would like added to this list or to request a correction, please email Catherine.Derington@cuanschutz.edu.

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