



**CENTER FOR AGING  
AND POLICY STUDIES**  
Cornell • Syracuse • UAlbany

## **Announcement of Pilot Research Project Funds**

The Center for Aging and Policy Studies (CAPS), a collaborative effort of Cornell University, Syracuse University, and the University at Albany, invites applications for Pilot Project funds to support projects that will take place during the period July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022.

**Who is eligible:** Support is available to current affiliates of CAPS as well as to any faculty at the participating universities who seek to become CAPS affiliates.

**Focus of projects:** There is wide latitude regarding appropriate topics of research, but applicants must show how their proposed work fits into and advances one or both of CAPS's two established research themes: **health and well-being** and **family and intergenerational supports**. CAPS also seeks to promote work that reflects any of its three cross-cutting themes: the role of **policy**, the importance of **place**, and the distinctive circumstances of **specific populations**, whether defined by social identities, health status or disease condition, or institutional history. CAPS is particularly interested in projects that are multidisciplinary, collaborative, and that will advance the careers of new investigators and junior scientists. Collaborations across participating universities are welcome, as is the involvement of collaborators elsewhere (the project leader, however, must be at one of the three CAPS sites).

**What to submit:** Applicants must submit a single pdf that includes: (1) a cover page with a 300-word abstract that summarizes the significance and innovation of the project, and that explains how it fits into CAPS's signature themes, (2) an NIH face-page form, (3) a 3-4 page description of the project, (4) an NIH biosketch for all investigators, and (5) a proposed project budget with justification. The project description should include sections that correspond to those typically required in an NIH proposal: specific aims, significance, innovation, and approach. Email the pdf to [CAPS@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:CAPS@maxwell.syr.edu) with subject line: 2020-2021 Pilot Grant Application

**Timeline:** Applications are due by **January 15, 2021**. Initial funding decisions will be made by the CAPS leadership team by February 15. Applications selected for funding must then apply and receive IRB approval or exemption by April 1. Final funding decisions will be made by NIA by June 30, 2021.

**Scope:** CAPS anticipates supporting up to 3 Pilot Projects at an average direct-cost level of \$30,000 to \$35,000 for a 12-month period. Individual project direct-cost budgets in the range of \$15,000-\$60,000 are permitted, but applicants must be prepared for adjustments to their requests, depending on the number and size of applications selected. Two-year projects are allowed, but priority will be given to one-year projects.

**Review of applications** will be led by the CAPS leadership team and additional reviewers as needed. Reviewers will follow NIH review criteria for significance, innovation, approach, investigators, and environment. Applications will further be assessed on the extent to which the proposed project advances CAPS's signature research themes, its relevance to the general field of demography and economics of aging, and its potential to serve as the foundation for a successful follow-up NIA research proposal (e.g., R01, R03, R21, or a career development award).

Potential applicants should feel free to contact any members of the CAPS leadership team (Jennifer Karas Montez, Douglas Wolf, Janet Wilmoth, Kelly Musick or Ben Shaw) for clarification or additional information, using [CAPS@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:CAPS@maxwell.syr.edu).