



Request for Applications
Network Collaboration Awards on Emotional Well-being and Economic Burden
(RFA-EMOT-ECON-NCA-23-001)

Who we are: The **Emotional Well-being and Economic Burden (EMOT-ECON)** Research Network is an initiative that will support **EMOT-ECON** research, i.e., research that seeks to advance the science of emotional well-being in the context of individuals facing economic burden of disease.

Economic burden of disease: There are numerous economic consequences of having a disease. These may include the money patients have to spend when getting medical care and managing their illness, and the time they may be out of work and the lost income, even if temporary. These may lead to medical financial hardship, distress, burden or toxicity.

Emotional well-being (EWB): Overall positive state of one's emotions, life satisfaction, sense of meaning and purpose, and ability to pursue self-defined goals.

EMOT-ECON is funded by the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH), the Office of Behavior and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) and the Office of Disease Prevention (ODP) (U24AT011310). Principal Investigators are Maria Pisu, PhD, Professor, Division of Preventive Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham and Michelle Martin, PhD, Professor, College of Medicine, University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

The EMOT-ECON network invites applications for collaboration awards to provide support for EMOT-ECON Network members to collaborate with other members of the Network on 1) submitting a grant to NIH or 2) developing a manuscript (see eligibility below).

Applications for the following Collaboration Awards will be accepted on a rolling basis:

1) NIH Grant Proposals Award

- Amount: \$5,000
- Grant submission to NIH: One year from date of funding or earlier
- Number funded: Up to 5
- Purpose: To provide funds to help EMOT-ECON members collaborate on an NIH grant proposal. Human subjects research not allowed. EMOT-ECON will arrange/pay for an external review of the grant proposal.

2) Manuscript Writing Award

- Amount: \$2,500
- Manuscript submission to a Peer-reviewed, Academic Journal: One year from the date of funding or earlier
- Number funded: Up to 3
- Purpose: To provide funds to help with manuscript writing, e.g., funding a student to complete a literature review. **Funds cannot be used to collect data.** Awardees can apply for the Publication Fee Award to help with publication costs.

Eligibility

Applicants must be members of the EMOT-ECON Network. For information on how to become a member, please visit emot-econ.org/get-involved/join-emot-econ.

Applicants must collaborate with other member(s) within the Network with the following specifications:

- a. Parties have **never** collaborated together on any research project (e.g., have not written a proposal together, have not conducted a project together).

- b. Parties have previously collaborated together on a research project, but **not** on the topic of EMOT-ECON, i.e., research that seeks to advance the science of emotional well-being in the context of individuals facing economic burden of disease.

Preference will be given to proposals:

- From EMOT-ECON members who have never worked together before
- On topic study areas outside of cancer research
- That emphasize partnership with patients, community-based organizations, community leaders, healthcare providers, etc.

Amount & Period of Support

1. Funding: No indirect costs are allowed.
2. Funds can be used for one year.
3. **Funds can be used for:**
 - a. Research costs (e.g., data analysis)
 - b. Fees for database access
 - c. Graduate student stipends (if supported by the graduate college/school)
 - d. Research assistants or other research staff (e.g., to conduct literature reviews)
 - e. Travel (transportation, food, parking, food & lodging) with the following **stipulations**:
 - i. Travel costs associated with attending EMOT-ECON Sponsored Scientific Meetings
 - ii. Travel costs associated with attending in-person work sessions with collaborators
4. **Funds cannot be used for:**
 - a. Indirect/F&A costs
 - b. Large equipment purchases
 - c. Secretarial/administrative personnel
 - d. Honoraria and travel expenses for visiting lecturers
 - e. Medical and Non-medical services to patients (e.g., Per diem charges for hospital beds)
 - f. Construction or building maintenance
 - g. Major alterations
 - h. Office and laboratory furniture
 - i. Office equipment
 - j. Rental of office or laboratory space
 - k. Other expenses not directly related to the proposed research

Willful misrepresentation of the budget or misuse of funds will result in loss of current and/or future eligibility.

Application Submission Process

Letter of Intent

Interested applicants must submit a letter of intent that includes the following information:

1. 1/2-page with title and brief description of the grant/manuscript topic and names of investigators/authors.
2. Please submit LOI via email to mail@emot-econ.org. Subject line should read: "RFA-EMOT-ECON-NCA LOI – [PI/Author Last Name]"
3. Approval of LOIs is based on relevance to EMOT-ECON research and is required to submit the main application. Applicants will be notified of approval or contacted for clarifications and possible revisions.

Invited main application

Applicants should submit the documents below in a single PDF file. Applications should be single-spaced, with at least 0.5-inch margins, and should use 11- or 12-point Arial or Times fonts.

1. PHS 398 Face Page (Does not need to be officially signed by applicant organization)
2. Research topic: Description of grant/manuscript topic and proposed activities for the award (1 page)
3. Request for funds: Description of how funds will be used and how they will support activities (max 1 page for items 3 and 4 [timeline])
4. Timeline for completion of grant/manuscript
5. References (no page limit)
6. NIH biographical sketch for PI and Collaborators (5-page limit each)
7. Other Support (key personnel)

Applications must be submitted via email to mail@emot-econ.org. Subject line should read: “RFA-EMOT-ECON-NCA-23-001 Submission – [PI Last Name].” Applications will be accepting on a rolling basis.

Application Evaluation Process

1. Each application will be assessed by EMOT-ECON Investigators.
2. Evaluation Process:
 - a. Applications that meet eligibility requirements will be reviewed and scored (1 [best] to 9 [worst]) using the following criteria: Overall Impact, Collaboration, and alignment with EMOT-ECON. The highest priority will be given to those requests that are deemed most promising to receive extramural funding or be accepted for publication.
 - b. Evaluation is expected to be completed within 30 days of the application submission.

Expectations of EMOT-ECON Award Recipients during the funding period:

1. PI agrees to submit a grant application to NIH or a manuscript to a peer-reviewed, academic journal by the end of the funding period.
2. A one-page progress report at 6 months past the funding date on the status of the EMOT-ECON funding must be submitted to the EMOT-ECON Pilot Project Core Leader.
3. As a final progress report, the draft NIH grant application or the manuscript ready for submission must be submitted to the EMOT-ECON Pilot Project Core Leader at 12 months past the funding date.
4. PI or other team member agrees to present findings at EMOT-ECON meetings.

For questions, please email mail@emot-econ.org.