

# Research News

## Pilot Projects for HIV Research: NIH-funded Third Coast Center for AIDS Research

Rush looks forward to joining the NIH-funded Third Coast Center for AIDS Research ([TC CFAR](#)) in 2025. The TC CFAR's upcoming pilot competition is open to Rush faculty as well as faculty at Northwestern, UChicago and UIC. The program's purpose is to generate preliminary data that will support new R01-level applications that address NIH priorities for HIV research. Two categories of faculty are eligible:

- Early stage and NIH new investigators (i.e., not yet PI of an HIV R01).
- Established PIs of R01s from different fields who want to expand their work to include HIV.

TC CFAR funds research across the translational spectrum. Examples of recent [pilot awards](#) and [other mechanisms](#) are online. In addition to supporting ESI development, the TC CFAR highly encourages established PIs from other fields to begin pursuing HIV research through the pilot program.

### Key Dates

- **Pilot RFA Q&A Session:** TBA
- **Letter of Intent Survey Due:** Wednesday, Feb. 19
- **Applications due:** Monday, March 31
- **Direct costs limit:** \$60,000 for single PI awards and \$80,000 for MPI awards

**All regulatory approvals (e.g., IRB, IACUC) must be in place** before proposals are prioritized for funding.

[Follow this link](#) to view RFA.

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