The NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH) announces the availability of two award types in its Pilot Project Program to support postdoctoral fellows, junior faculty, and early stage investigators in performing pilot research and generating preliminary findings on Asian American health and health disparities. CSAAH is guided by principles focused on achieving systemic change across multiple domains and levels of influence and stimulating action-oriented research to reduce health disparities. We have identified and established seven key strategies for advancing a transdisciplinary population health equity agenda that informs CSAAH’s approach to health disparities research. We anticipate funding pilot awards that address one or more of these overarching seven themes. These strategies are:

1) Apply a social determinants of health approach by performing ongoing descriptive and longitudinal research to monitor measurable changes in social factors and population health outcomes.
2) Conduct research that is guided by multi-sectoral coalitions that recognize the role of social determinants on health equity, and incorporates health considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas.
3) Engage communities through community-based ethnic coalitions and pan-ethnic advisory groups including diverse stakeholders.
4) Perform disaggregated data collection that bridges information gaps and promotes equitable collection, reporting, and analysis of data, to identify underserved population needs and inform areas of health equity research.
5) Build human and social capital by integrating community health workers (CHWs) and other community leaders in program design and implementation.
6) Foster linkages and access to care by partnering with health care systems and disseminating information through community-based organizations and social service agencies.
7) Develop sustainable development of internal structures by strengthening organizational and community-based infrastructures through capacity-building activities.

Award Types and Application Process:

1) Postdoctoral Fellow Awards – up to $10,000.
   Applicants submit full proposal materials (see below for required sections and materials) via REDCap by June 8, 2018 at 5PM ET.

2) Junior Faculty and Early Stage Investigator Awards – up to $30,000
   Selection will occur in two stages:
   a. Stage I: Applicant submits a 500 word Letter of Intent (see below for required sections) and updated CV or biosketch via REDCap by May 14, 2018 at 5PM ET.
   b. Stage II: If invited to submit a Full Proposal, applicant will be notified by May 18, 2018. The applicant will then submit a detailed, three-page proposal that expands upon the LOI and other required full proposal materials (see below) via REDCap by June 8, 2018 at 5PM ET. Assistance is available for methods, biostatistics, and/or analytic plan development.

Eligibility: Post-doctoral fellows, junior faculty, and other early stage investigators as defined by NIH (see https://grants.nih.gov/policy/new_investigators/index.htm#definition) at the NYU School of Medicine.

Cycle I Award Period: September 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 (10 months). No extensions or carry-over allowed.
Application Instructions and Formatting:

1) The three-page Proposals and the 500-word Letter of Intent should be single spaced, Arial 11 point font, 1 inch margins, in PDF format, and must include the following sections:
   a. Project title
   b. Brief background and rationale
   c. Specific aims
   d. Hypothesis
   e. Research design (indicate how study addresses one or more of CSAAH’s overarching strategies)
   f. Brief methodology
   g. Mentorship plan
   h. Products/knowledge gained to be applied towards future research

2) Full Proposal submissions should include the following supporting materials uploaded appropriately via REDCap:
   *These templates & more information can be downloaded from CSAAH Pilot Program Cycle 2 Box folder*
   a. Three-page detailed project proposal (see above for required sections)
   b. Updated CV or NIH biosketch
   c. Letter of support from their faculty mentor
   d. Completed budget template
   e. Completed Targeted/Planned Enrollment Report
   f. CITI Training Certificate
   g. Completed Other Support

3) Application files should be titled with “CSAAH”, award type (i.e., Postdoctoral, Junior Faculty & ESI) with the applicants last and first name; each element should be separated by an underscore. An example file title is: “CSAAH_Junior Faculty & ESI_Park, Rebecca_Enrollment Report”

IRB: Applicants interested in formative data collection are strongly encouraged to initiate a study submission in Research Navigator during the application period as disbursement of funds is linked to final IRB approval. Postdoctoral fellow applicants are also encouraged to submit amendments to an existing study.

Project Scope: Projects may range from basic science research to translational research at the community or citywide levels. Basic science research, however, must be relevant towards improving Asian American population health and/or an add-on to an existing study (e.g., additional assay of stored specimens). Preference will be given to projects that focus on one specific Asian subgroup (e.g., Chinese, Asian Indian) vs. a general “Asian American” focus.

Some example projects might be:

- Qualitative data collection (focus groups or key informant interviews), analysis, and reporting to understand a health concern in the Asian American population
- Quantitative data collection (surveys, direct observation or other methods), analysis, and reporting to understand a health concern in the Asian American population
- Secondary analysis of electronic health record data or national datasets to either describe a health issue or assess the associations between an exposure and outcome in the Asian American population
- Community needs assessments
- Biomarker analysis of existing specimens

Allowable costs: There are no indirect costs awarded on these projects. Budgets should be for Direct Costs only. Budgets should not include requests for office supplies, or salaries for mentors. Subcontracts are discouraged. Budgets may include salaries for the applicant, ancillary staff (e.g., analyst, lab technician); however, fringe-benefit costs must be included (note: NYU School of Medicine fringe benefit rate is currently 36.5%).
Important Dates:
- **May 14, 2018**: Letter of Intent from junior faculty and early stage investigators due
- **May 18, 2018**: Junior faculty and early stage investigators LOI applicants notified to submit full proposal
- **June 8, 2018**: Full Proposals (including required supporting materials) from Postdoctoral Fellows and Junior Faculty and Early Stage Investigators due
- **July 10, 2018**: Applicants notified

Requirements of Awardees:
- After notification of award, include any revisions to the proposal as advised by mentoring team (if needed)
- Attend kickoff meeting TBD in July 2018 and other requested group meetings
- Conduct at least one conference call a month with mentoring team chair to provide updates
- Meet regularly and as needed with mentoring team
- Participate in monthly brown bag sessions to share project progress and experience with peers
- Complete progress report of the project **due April 1, 2019**
- Complete a final report in the form of a brief or full-length peer-reviewed manuscript **due June 30, 2019**
- Complete an end-of-year evaluation with the CSAAH Pilot Project team
- Present project findings in CSAAH’s biennial Asian American Health conferences

Questions? Please contact Rebecca Park at Rebecca.Park@nyumc.org.