

**Resource Center for Alzheimer's and Dementias**

**Research in Asian and Pacific Americans (RCASIA)**

**2026 Call for Pilot Proposals: Application Instructions**

**Key dates:**

Deadline for Application Submission: **May 1, 2026**, by 11:59 PM EST

Anticipated Award Date: **October 2026** (pending NIH approval)

**Required Application Components: All materials must be submitted as a single PDF with numbered pages to [RCMAR@ifh.rutgers.edu](mailto:RCMAR@ifh.rutgers.edu)**

**1. Cover Page and Abstract**

- Project title
- Names, faculty ranks, and affiliations of PI and team members
- PI contact information (phone number and email address)
- Lay abstract (250 words or less)

**2. Research Proposal:** This section has a 3-page limit excluding figures, tables and references. Appendix material will not be accepted. Proposals should be written using 11-point Arial font single spaced and no less than 0.5" margins. The proposal should describe the research plan and should include:

- Specific aims
- Scientific significance and innovation
- Preliminary studies (if any)
- Research design and methods, including any analytic procedures
- Limitations
- Pathway to external funding
- Career development and mentorship plan
- Contribution to RCASIA and Asian American older adults
- Relevance to aging research

**3. Biosketches:**

- NIH-format biosketches for PI and Primary Mentor (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>)

**4. Budget & Justification**

- NIH Budget form
- Direct costs only; no indirects
- Research expenses only

**5. Human Subjects Documentation**

- NIH Enrollment tables (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/inclusion-enrollment-report.pdf>)
- Single IRB approval required prior to funding

## 6. Letter of Support

- Required from primary mentor

### **Submission:**

Email full application in a single PDF to [RCMAR@ifh.rutgers.edu](mailto:RCMAR@ifh.rutgers.edu)

### **Pilot Proposal Review Criteria**

Applications will be reviewed by designated review committees. Reviewers will assign a score on the overall application based on the following review criteria:

- **Significance:** The project addresses AD/ADRD-related Behavioral, Social, and Economic Research involving Asian American older adults or comparative research between Asian American older adults and other populations. The aims of the project advance scientific knowledge, technical capability, and have near-term impact.
- **Innovation:** The application utilizes novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.
- **Investigators:** The PI, Primary Mentor, collaborators, and other key personnel have the necessary experience and expertise to accomplish the goals of the proposed research project.
- **Approach:** The overall strategy, methodology, and analyses are well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project.
- **Career Development:** There is a strategic and reasonable plan for career development of the junior investigator. Mentor(s) have been identified and the appropriate mechanisms are in place to achieve career development goals.
- **Potential for External Funding:** There is a high likelihood that the proposed research project will lead to NIH or other types of foundation funding.

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The RCASIA pilot award application and/or any inquiries regarding this funding opportunity should be submitted via email [RCMAR@ifh.rutgers.edu](mailto:RCMAR@ifh.rutgers.edu)