



## Call for Proposals: 2025 CBMH Pilot Awards

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The Yale Center for Brain and Mind Health (CBMH) invites applications for pilot grants to advance research in clinical and translational neuroscience. While projects from any area of neuroscience are welcome, proposals should aim to benefit patients in the near term. Examples include translational research, analysis of human-derived data, method development, or studies of at-risk communities.

### Key Priorities:

- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Competitive proposals will feature collaborations between two or more PIs from different disciplines or levels of analysis (e.g., an engineer with a neurologist, or a psychiatrist with an epidemiologist). Applicants are especially encouraged to establish interdisciplinary collaborations with faculty from other Schools at Yale, such as the School of Engineering, or Arts and Sciences, or Public Health, to foster innovative approaches to brain and mind health research.
- **Novelty:** Applications should propose transformative research, whether proof-of-concept studies or pilot projects designed to acquire data for future large-scale funding. Projects can leverage ongoing research but must be scientifically distinct and innovative.

### Eligibility:

- Prior awardees of a CBMH Pilot Award (PI or co-PI) are not eligible to re-apply until five years has elapsed from the start of the prior award.

### Evaluation Process:

1. **Stage 1:** Submit a two-page scientific proposal (with supporting materials as outlined below) by **March 1, 2025**. A CBMH grant review panel will evaluate these proposals and select finalists.
2. **Stage 2:** Finalists will present their research plans at the **CBMH Symposium on May 28, 2025**, followed by a Q&A session. Audience feedback will inform the final decision alongside criteria such as ambition, feasibility, interdisciplinarity, and potential to advance clinical neuroscience research benefiting patients.

Projects will be funded with a start date of September 1, 2025, and a project duration of two years. We expect to fund two \$100,000 grants and one \$250,000 grant.

### Proposal Requirements

Proposals must include the following:

1. **Title Page:**
  - Project title
  - Investigators, specifying the contact PI (must be Yale-affiliated)



- Funding category (\$100K or \$250K)
- Business office contact for the PI
- 2. **Scientific Proposal:** (2 pages, NIH formatting)
  - Significance
  - Hypotheses
  - Methods
  - Innovation
  - Clinical impact
- 3. **References** (not included in page limit)
- 4. **NIH-style Biosketches** for lead investigators
- 5. **2-Year Budget** (Excel format):
  - Direct costs only
  - No subawards
  - Includes salary (up to NIH cap) and other research-relevant expenses
  - Flexibility in fund utilization once awarded
- 6. **Budget Justification** (not included in page limit)

**Submission Instructions is through Yale's InfoReady.**

**The opportunity can be found at <https://yale.infoready4.com/#>**

**Titles of 2024 Awardees:**

- Functional Mapping of the Primary Motor Cortex in Parkinson's Disease: Effector and Inter-Effector Circuits
- Low-Intensity MR-Guided Focused Ultrasound to Restore Consciousness in Coma and Related States
- Multi-Modal Phenotyping of Patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke to Inform Precision-Driven Secondary Stroke Prevention Treatment Implementation
- Targeting Fronto-Striatal Neural Circuitry Using Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation to Reduce Irritability

We look forward to receiving your proposals and advancing innovative neuroscience research!

CBMH directors:

Eyiyemisi Damisah, MD, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Neuroscience  
James McPartland, PhD, Harris Professor in the Child Study Center and Psychology  
Christopher Pittenger, MD, PhD, Elizabeth Mears and House Jameson Professor of Psychiatry  
Kevin Sheth, MD, Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery  
Serena Spudich, MD, Gilbert H. Glaser Professor of Neurology