SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL
University of Connecticut Mu Chapter

RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL PACKET

Each applicant should submit this packet electronically to the current Mu Chapter President.

SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL
Mu CHAPTER

RESEARCH GRANT INFORMATION

I. Information Related to Funding

A. Purpose

The purpose is to encourage qualified nurses to contribute to the advancement of nursing knowledge through research/clinical practice designs.

B. Research Funding Procedure

Each year Sigma Theta Tau International Mu Chapter sets aside funds for the support of the advancement of nursing knowledge. The Faculty Counselors or Research Committee will review applications and make recommendations to the President/Vice President on all proposals received.

C. Criteria to be Used in Making Awards

1. Applicants for awards must meet the following criteria:
    a) Be a current and continuing member of Sigma Theta Tau International Mu Chapter during the funding period.
    b) Comply with federal and local regulations concerning the protection of human subjects by submitting an institutional review board statement that confirms their approval.
    c) Submit a well-defined, competitive research project/clinical practice design pertinent to nursing.
    d) Agree to the provisions of the Sigma Theta Tau International Research Grant Agreement (contained in the application packet) and sign the document to that effect.
2. Preference will be given to beginning researchers and those researchers in the early phase of a new program of research, other attributes being equal.
3. Allocation of funds will be based on the quality of the proposed research, the past performance and future promise of the applicant, and the research budget.
4. Research Committee members are not eligible for these funds.

D. Grant Allocation

All Mu Chapter members in good standing are eligible to apply for an award amount up to $1000.00 to support their research/clinical practice designs. If the proposal is approved, the Mu Chapter reserves the right to award less than the dollar amount requested based on proposal review.

In general, funds will be allocated for expenses incurred in conducting the study; however, no funds will be allocated for non-consumable items (e.g., tape recorders, computers, video cameras, etc.).

In addition, funds will not be allocated for presenting findings at professional meetings (i.e., poster preparation, slides, travel, and registration).

E. Deadline

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and evaluated 3 times per year (June 5th, September 5th, and January 5th). Up to (6) awards will be dispersed annually.

Applications between these dates will be held to the next funding cycle and the applicant will be notified by the President/Vice President.

Submission extensions may be granted by the President/Vice President given certain circumstances after receiving a request by the applicant.

II. General Instructions for Applicants

A. Applications must be received electronically by the cycle deadline. Applications should be submitted to the Mu Chapter President/Vice President for dissemination to the Faculty Counselor/Research Chair.

B. Submit an electronic copy of the application with the following subsections:
   1. Application form (see web site)
   2. Curriculum Vitae
   3. Signed and completed Mu Chapter Application for Research Grant Form
   4. Maximum (300) word Abstract
   5. Proposal (use enclosed outline for proposal, maximum length (5) typed pages, excluding references and appendices). Use the most recent APA edition.
   6. Statement of how the proposed research/clinical practice design enhances the mission of Sigma Theta Tau International
   7. Proposed Budget Request: amount awards will not exceed $1000.00.
   8. Planned timeline for study

C. If you are a student, please include a letter of approval of the proposal statement from your major advisor indicating the research plan/clinical practice design has been approved by your respective faculty committee.

D. When appropriate, funding is contingent upon approval by the local institutional review board (IRB) indicating approval of protection of human subjects. The applicant must provide documentation showing approval from institutions or sites involved in the study. IRB materials in process may be indicated on the application form. Please note that there will be no funding distributed without documentation and submission of IRB approval. The President/Vice President will send the applicant an approved award letter stating that disbursement will not occur until IRB approval documentation has been submitted.

E. When more than one investigator is listed, the first individual named will be the principal investigator who will assume responsibility for the conduct of the research.

F. A final report must be submitted to the committee chair within (1) year of the funding approval letter date. If the research cannot be completed in the approval one-year timeline an extension may be applied for. Under certain circumstances extensions may be granted and a request for extension must be submitted ***before*** the funding deadline. If either/both criteria are not met, then ALL funds are to be returned to Sigma Theta Tau International Mu Chapter.

III. Outline for Preparation of Grant Proposal (maximum of (5) typed pages in APA format, which does not include References and Appendices where applicable)

A. Abstract

Include an abstract of your proposed research/clinical practice design. Outline objectives and methods. Specify the subject population and describe the research design, instruments, research apparatus, and/or data gathering procedure to clearly reflect their importance in the study when applicable. The length of the abstract should be ≤ 300 words.

B. Specific Aims

State concisely and realistically what the research study/clinical practice design is intended to accomplish and/or what hypothesis (es) is/are to be tested if appropriate.

C. Theoretical Frameworks/Literature Review

Sketch the background of your proposal. Critically evaluate existing knowledge. Specifically identify the gaps in knowledge that the project is intended to fill. State concisely the importance of the research/clinical practice design described by relating the specific aims to long-term objectives. Summarize the theoretical rationale as appropriate. Make clear the nursing implications of the research/clinical practice design.

D. Methods

Discuss in detail the research/clinical practice design to be used to accomplish the specific aims. Describe the protocols to be used and the tentative sequence of the investigation. Include how data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted. Describe new methodology and its advantage over existing methodology if appropriate. Discuss potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed procedures and discuss why alternative approaches to achieve aims are not proposed.

1. Subjects/Participants

   Describe the target population and characteristics of the subjects/participants. Include the number of subjects/participants, the rationale for sample size, and the sampling procedure.

2. Instruments

   Address the specific characteristics of the instruments and their reliability and validity. Address how the tool(s) will be used. The instrument(s) should be submitted in an appendix.

3. Procedure
   Describe the design and procedure to be used for the proposed data collection. Specify what kinds of data you expect to obtain. Give details of subject/participant selection and patient care if a clinical situation is involved. If an educational research project, give details of the teaching strategy and student population that will be involved. Suggest a tentative schedule for the main steps of the investigation.

E. Tentative Plan for Data Analysis
   Describe how the data will be analyzed and/or interpreted specific to each hypothesis/research question if applicable.

F. Limitations
   Describe limitations of the study.

G. Human Subjects
   Provide a statement of the subjects'/participants' rights and risks if they participate in your study.

H. Facilities Available
   Describe the facilities available for this study (e.g., laboratories, clinical resources, office space, technologies, etc.).

I. Collaborative Arrangements
   If the proposed research requires collaboration with other institutions and/or disciplines, describe the nature of collaboration and provide evidence to the reviewers that the institutions and/or disciplines are willing to cooperate.

J. Other Funding Sources
   Indicate concurrent and/or anticipated or potential funding from additional sources.

K. References
   List the references cited in the text.

L. Appendices
   Include copies of the questionnaires, interview schedules or other instruments to be used, scoring instructions, etc.

University of Connecticut Mu Chapter

Research Grant Application

Name:
Credentials:
Title: Current role (employment, student, other & specify):

□ I am a Mu Chapter member in good standing with an active membership.
□ I have completed CITI training and the certificate is attached.
□ If funded, I agree to present at a Mu Chapter event.

Signature: _____ Date: _____