The Center of Excellence in Oral and Craniofacial Biology is pleased to announce that funds will be available (up to $10,000/ea.) to support pilot clinical research projects for junior or established dental clinician scientists for up to 2 years. Funds are restricted to supplies; no salary or major equipment costs will be allowed. Areas of interest for funding should align with departmental goals. Additional priority will be given to applications that detail a structured research mentoring experience within the proposal. Investigators who are seeking to develop or market a patentable product or develop intellectual property are also encouraged to apply. The following steps must be taken for all applications.

1. Consult with Dr. Paul Fidel (pfidel@lsuhsc.edu) or Dr. Gary Klasser (gklass@lsuhsc.edu) on the project concept/idea.
2. Host a “Lunch and Share” session with other clinicians and basic scientists. Sessions should be scheduled through the COE and the COE will provide lunch. Clinical investigator to provide the COE a list of up to 5 clinicians to be invited. COE will make the invite to clinicians and basic scientists.
3. Prepare the proposal using the template for the Research Methods course that includes a budget. Mentoring plan can be a separate section.
4. Proposals should be submitted electronically to Dr. Fidel (pfidel@lsuhsc.edu) accompanied by the respective forms confirming the prerequisites.
5. Proposals will be reviewed and possibly returned for revision.
6. Funded proposals will be managed by the Center of Excellence.
7. Projects funds will not be made available until all related institutional approvals are obtained (i.e., IBC, IRB, IACUC)
8. Progress reports will be due every 6 months during the funded period with future benchmarks.
9. Deliverables at the conclusion of the funding period will include any or all of the following:
   a. Abstract submitted to national meeting with presentation
   b. Research Contract in progress
   c. Intellectual property disclosure (if applicable)
   d. LA CaTS pilot grant submission
   e. Grant submission in progress
   f. Publication in progress