



NIH funding opportunities



Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 11 Nov 2019 (#38)

[Click on blue [hyperlink](#) for further information]

The NIH funding opportunities listed below are only a **selection** of pre-screened, currently open health funding opportunities for which **South African institutions are eligible to apply**. For a comprehensive selection of NIH funding opportunities, please visit www.grants.nih.gov or www.sun.ac.za/RDSfunding (current & archive).

Confirm your intent to apply ASAP, but not later than 60 days before the submission date.

Tygerberg Campus: cdevries@sun.ac.za • Stellenbosch Campus lizelk@sun.ac.za

Important Notices & News

- FY 2019 Application and Award Totals for NIAID:** Fiscal year (FY) 2019 was a busy one at NIAID, as they received more R01 applications than ever before and, with our R01 payline the highest it's been since FY 2006, made more R01 awards than ever before. The application and award counts for the exploratory/developmental research grant (R21) did not set any records, though the two-year award continues to be popular among applicants. In FY 2019, the number of R01-equivalent applications jumped by more than 10 % over the average of the previous four years. It's too early to tell whether the increase in R01 applications is an outlier or represents what will be a sustained increase in annual R01 application totals. FY 2019 saw a slight decline in the number of R21 applications as compared to FY 2018.

Paylines for established investigators (NIAID sets a separate payline for [new and early-stage investigators, usually four](#) percentiles higher than the R01 payline for established investigators)

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
R01- Equivalent	12	13	11	13	14 (percentile)
R21	30	30	28	32	31 (Impact Score)

Note that the R01 paylines are calculated as percentiles, while the R21 paylines are determined as overall impact scores, as explained at [Understand Paylines and Percentiles](#).

Success Rates (in percentage)

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
R01-Equivalent	18.1	21.7	18.9	21.9	20.1
R21	20.5	22.5	15.9	21.0	20.2

The FY 2020 interim R01 payline for established investigators is currently set at the 10 percentile. An interim payline is simply an administrative measure that lets NIAID get some top-scoring grants out the door while awaiting for appropriation.

- Last month, ClinicalTrials.gov hosted the [Updated Quality Control and Posting Procedures Webinar](#) to preview updated posting procedures that will go into effect in January 2020 for submitted results information for applicable clinical trials. The presentation describes the new procedures and includes a question-and-answer session. Beginning in January 2020, ClinicalTrials.gov is expecting to update posting procedures for submitted results information for applicable clinical trials. Consistent with 42 CFR Part 11, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) will publicly post submitted results information within 30 days of submission, regardless of whether the quality control (QC) review process is complete.
- Remember To Acknowledge NIH Grant Support** you must acknowledge federal funding when describing your project in products such as research publications, press releases, requests for proposals, bid invitations, and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with federal funding.
- NOT-OD-20-013 Request for Public Comments on a DRAFT NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing.** The purpose of this DRAFT policy and guidance is to promote effective and efficient data management and sharing to further NIH's commitment to making the results and accomplishments of the research it funds and conducts available to the public. NIH encourages feedback on the utility of these supplemental DRAFT guidance documents and any additional guidance to help researchers integrate data management and sharing practices into routine research.

- [NOT-HD-19-041](#) The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) is soliciting input from the public on its vision for supporting multisite clinical trials infrastructure. Support of rigorous clinical trials is a key component of the implementation of the recently released [NICHD Strategic Plan 2020](#).
- [NOT-CA-20-008](#) **Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Research Answers to National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Provocative Questions.** NCI intends to publish Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) as Request for Applications (RFAs) to solicit applications responding to the new set of 9 Provocative Questions. This Notice is being provided to allow potential applicants time to develop responsive projects and meaningful collaborations.
- [NOT-HD-19-037](#) **Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Biophysical and Biomechanical Aspects of Embryonic Development (R01).** The purpose of this Notice of Scientific Interest (NOSI) is to support research in the area of physics and mechanics of embryonic development. Applicants should propose hypothesis-driven developmental biology research with the prospect of gaining new and critical information about tissue mechanics relevant to vertebrate development and understanding the basis for developmental disorders. Interdisciplinary research through collaborations between developmental biologists, physicists and engineers is encouraged. [PA-19-056](#) NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01, Clinical Trial Not Allowed); [PAR-19-158](#) Bioengineering Research Grants (BRG) (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).
- [NOT-HD-19-038](#) **Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Biophysical and Biomechanical Aspects of Embryonic Development (R21)** The Notice of Scientific Interest (NOSI) is intended to encourage innovative and high risk/impact research in the area of physics/mechanics of embryonic development to be explored in model organisms. The research proposed under this program can explore approaches and concepts new to the area of developmental tissue mechanics, research and development of new technologies, or initial research and development of data upon which significant future research may be built. The focus of this NOSI is to promote research aimed at generating new and critical information about tissue mechanics relevant to vertebrate development and understanding the basis for developmental disorders. [PA-18-482](#) NICHD Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21, Clinical Trial Optional).

1. National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Research Grants for Analyses of Existing Genomics Data (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: [PAR-20-045](#)

Type: R01

Application Due Date: [Standard dates](#) and [Standard AIDS dates](#) Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this FOA is to announce support for meritorious research projects that address research questions relevant to human dental, oral, or craniofacial (DOC) conditions or traits through analysis of existing and publicly available genomics data using statistical and computational approaches. Data analysis for each project can be performed using existing and/or novel methods to be developed in the same project, including machine learning-based methods (ML). In addition to analysis of existing data, experimental or *in silico* work is required to validate data analysis results, or to validate a newly developed analytic method. Work that tackles causal mechanisms of action for onset and progression of disease for identified candidate causal genetic variants is highly encouraged.

Budget: Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. A project duration of up to three years may be requested.

2. National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Small Research Grants for Analyses of Existing Genomics Data (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: [PAR-20-046](#)

Type: R03

Application Due Date: [Standard dates](#) and [Standard AIDS dates](#) Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this FOA is to announce support for meritorious research projects that address research questions relevant to human dental, oral, or craniofacial (DOC) conditions or traits through analysis of existing and publicly available genomics data using statistical and computational approaches. Data analysis for each project can be performed using existing and/or novel methods to be developed in the same project, including machine learning-based methods (ML).

Budget: The combined budget for direct costs for the two year project period may not exceed \$200,000. No more than \$200,000 direct costs may be requested in any single year. A project duration of up to two years may be requested.

3. National Cancer Institute (NCI) Small Grants Program for Cancer Research for Years 2020, 2021, and 2022 (NCI Omnibus Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: [PAR-20-052](#)

Type: R03

Application Due Date: February 24, 2020; June 24, 2020; October 20, 2020; February 24, 2021; June 24, 2021; October 20, 2021; February 24, 2022; June 24, 2022; October 20, 2022 and AIDS Dates May 7, 2020; September 7, 2020; January 7, 2021; May 7, 2021; September 7, 2021; January 7, 2022; May 7, 2022; September 7, 2022; January 7, 2023. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) supports small research projects on cancer that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology.

Budget: A budget for direct costs of up to \$50,000 per year may be requested. The maximum project period is 2 years.

4. Assessing the Effects of Cannabinoids on HIV-Induced Inflammation (Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: [RFA-DA-20-022](#)

Type: R01

Application Due Date: March 11, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage basic science and preclinical research to determine the biological mechanisms underlying the effects of cannabinoids and the endocannabinoid system on HIV-associated persistent inflammation and its consequent effects on nervous system function. Projects submitted in response to this FOA must include expertise and resources in both areas of HIV/AIDS and addiction science.

Budget: National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) intends to fund an estimate of 4-6 awards, corresponding to a total of \$2 million, for fiscal year 2020. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

5. Mechanisms Underlying the Contribution of Type 1 Diabetes Disease-associated Variants (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: [RFA-DK-19-020](#)

Type: R01

Application Due Date: March 26, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages applications from integrative teams and individual investigators for large-scale complex multi-disciplinary Functional Genomics Projects (FGPs) to determine the contributions and mechanisms underlying the contribution of associated variants for type 1 diabetes (T1D). Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) and other genomic studies of T1D have found many variants that are statistically associated with disease risk or disease protection, but they have not clearly shown which variants in genomic elements cause these effects or how they result in differences in function. Applications submitted to this RFA will systematically identify causal variants and effector transcripts associated with all known T1D risk variants, verify the role of downstream effector transcripts, build network models that explain their role(s) in T1D. These biological insights could lead to the development of reliable biomarkers and effective strategies for screening and disease prevention, rational drug design, and better tailored therapies.

Budget: NIDDK intends to commit \$5 million in FY 2020 to fund 4-5 awards. The number of awards is contingent upon availability of funds and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Application budgets are limited to \$850,000 direct costs per year and budgets need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 4 years.

6. Dysregulation and Proximal Risk for Suicide (Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: [RFA-MH-20-326](#)
[RFA-MH-20-327](#)

Type: R21
R01

Application Due Date: February 13, 2020 Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: A major goal of research on suicide is to improve our understanding of who is at most risk, why people transition from suicidal thoughts to action, and when to intervene ([Prioritized Research Agenda for Suicide Prevention, Short-term Objective 1.C](#)). Risk is a dynamic process and suicide attempts are often preceded by acute stressors. While many studies of suicide risk focus on emotion dysregulation, fewer studies have examined arousal and regulation and how these domains dynamically shape emotional and cognitive functions such as response to reward, frustrative non-reward, cognitive flexibility and control, or decision-making. Very few studies in the NIMH portfolio on suicide risk have focused on proximal risk. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will fund research that will address these gaps by providing an understanding of the mechanisms of how dysregulation interacts with Cognition and Negative and Positive Valence in order to determine time-varying risk, and then to identify modifiable targets for timely interventions during highrisk periods. High risk/high payoff projects that lack preliminary data or utilize existing data may be most appropriate for the R21 mechanism, while applicants with preliminary data may wish to apply using the R01 mechanism, [RFA-MH-20-327](#)

Budget: NIMH intends to commit a total of \$4M in fiscal year 2021 to fund an estimate of 4-10 awards. **R21** - The combined budget for direct costs for the entire project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year. The total project period for an application submitted in response to this FOA may not exceed 2 years. **R01** - Application budgets may not exceed \$500,000 direct costs per year but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The total project period for an application submitted in response to this FOA may not exceed 4 years.

Brief definitions of some NIH grant mechanisms: [comprehensive list of extramural grant and cooperative agreement activity codes](#)

Research Development and Support Division (RDSD),
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University
5th Floor, Teaching Block, Tygerberg Campus.
Enquiries: [Christa](#)
e: cdevries@sun.ac.za | t: +27 21 938 9838

Afdeling Navorsingsontwikkeling/Division for Research Development (DRD)
Stellenbosch University
2038 Wilcocks Building, Ryneveld Street
Enquiries: [Lizel](#)
e: lizelk@sun.ac.za | t: +27 21 808 2105