



NIH funding opportunities



Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 7 Feb 2022 (#5)

[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

- **Financial Conflict of Interest:** The NIH is committed to preserving the public's trust that the research we supports is conducted without bias and with the highest scientific and ethical standards. The regulation on promoting objectivity in research establishes the standards to provide a reasonable expectation that the design, conduct, and reporting of NIH research will be free from bias resulting from investigators' financial conflicts of interest. NIH requires recipient [institutions](#) and investigators to comply with the requirements of [42 CFR 50, Subpart F, Promoting Objectivity in Research](#) (FCOI Regulation), as implemented in [Final Rule](#) for grants and cooperative agreements.

Principal Investigators (PIs) and Key Personnel (KP) of all current NIH grants, direct and subawards, must complete the NIH training and submit the certificate the Grants Management Office) not later than 31 March 2022. For all new applications, all PI's & KP must complete the certificate before the application can be submitted to NIH. This is in addition to the FCOI declarations that must be signed.

- FHMS contact: cdevries@sun.ac.za
- Stellenbosch Campus contact lizelk@sun.ac.za.

Link to the training: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coi/tutorial2018/story_html5.html

Training on the Stellenbosch University policy on FCOI, which is also a requirement of **42 CFR 50**, will be offered soon and will be communicated through this newsletter and other communication channels.

- **NOT-OD-22-018 Reminder: FORMS-G Grant Application Forms & Instructions Must be Used for Due Dates On or After January 25, 2022 - New Grant Application Instructions Now Available.** This Notice reminds the applicant and recipient community that applicants must use FORMS-G application packages for due dates on or after January 25, 2022 and must use FORMS-F application packages for due dates on or before January 24, 2022 (see [NOT-OD-21-169](#) for details). FORMS-G Grant Application Instructions are now posted on the [How to Apply - Application Guide](#) page.
- **NOT-OD-21-110 Implementation of Changes to the Biographical Sketch and Other Support Format Page.** This notice describes implementation of the updated Other Support and Biosketch format pages and associated instructions, as outlined in [NOT-OD-21-073](#). NIH will require the use of the updated format pages. Failure to follow the appropriate formats on or after January 25, 2022 may cause NIH to withdraw applications from funding. Use of ScienCV Biosketch <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciencv/> is strongly recommended. NIH is fully committed to implementing the SciENcv template for Other Support in early FY 2022. Examples are available from cdevries@sun.ac.za.

- Chance for Collaboration with [AIDS Clinical Trials Group \(ACTG\)](#) on HIV Remission and Cure:** ACTG is an NIAID-supported network conducting research to improve the treatment of HIV and its co-infections and advance approaches to ultimately cure HIV. ACTG, in partnership with NIAID's Division of AIDS, recently announced an opportunity for collaboration and funding of [Small Clinical Trials Advancing HIV Remission and Cure](#). It is anticipated these studies will be small (< 30 participants) and will involve 1-3 clinical research sites experienced at these types of trials. The trials will by nature be intensive and may include specialized assays or procedures, thus making them unsuitable for the ACTG's larger multi-site studies. Concepts selected for development will be managed by the ACTG's newly-created Small Clinical Trials Unit (SCTU) with dedicated clinical trial specialists and statistical support. The studies will be conducted at ACTG sites, and the efforts will be coordinated with the ACTG's Reservoirs, Remission, and Cure Transformative Science Group (Cure TSG). This mechanism is open broadly to investigators with interest in experimental science clinical trials addressing questions important to the HIV cure agenda, and proposing investigators do not need to be affiliated with the ACTG. **Due date:** This RFA has twice-yearly receipt dates on 1 April 2022 and 1 September and letter of intent due 15 February and 15 July. **Duration of Award:** 3 years. ACTG will support all primary endpoint laboratory assays in the currently funded specialty laboratories or through contract laboratories. Secondary, exploratory, and specialized assays can be performed by the applicant but will not be routinely funded by the ACTG. This RFA will not fund assay development. Excess samples will be saved in the ACTG specimen repository and will be available to investigators, both internal and external to the ACTG, for work outside the objectives of the original trial via a standard ACTG request and review process.
- In December, NIH published a revised [Grants Policy Statement \(GPS\)](#) for fiscal year 2022.** The NIH GPS provides policy instruction that serves as the standard terms and conditions of award for NIH grants, as well as guidance for applicants pursuing an NIH grant. Refer to [Summary of Significant Changes to the NIH GPS for December 2021 Version](#)
- [HHS-NIH-NIAID-BAA2022-1](#) 2022 NIAID Omnibus Broad Agency Announcement.** The Notice contains four (4) distinct Research Areas, each with a specified closing date and time.

Research Area 001 - Development of Vaccine Candidates for Biodefense, Antimicrobial Resistant (AMR) Infections and Emerging Infectious Diseases. Due Date and Time: 3pm Eastern Time 18 Apr 2022.

Research Area 002 - Development of Therapeutic Candidates for Biodefense, Antimicrobial Resistant (AMR) Infections and Emerging Infectious Diseases. Due Date and Time: 3pm Eastern Time 18 April 2022.

Research Area 003 - The Antiviral Program for Pandemics (APP): Development of Antivirals for Specific RNA Viral Families of Pandemic Potential. Due Date and Time: 3pm Eastern Time on March 18, 2022.

Research Area 004 - Development of In Vitro Diagnostics for Biodefense, Antimicrobial Resistant Infections (AMR), and Emerging Infectious Diseases. Due Date and Time: 3:pm Eastern Time on April 18, 2022.
- [NOT-GM-22-027](#) National Institute of General Medical Sciences ([NIGMS](#)) Limitations on Clinical Trial Applications Submitted to the NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required).** The purpose of this Notice is to define the types of investigator-initiated clinical trial applications that may be submitted to NIGMS in response to the "Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)" FOA [PA-20-183](#) - Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required). Any clinical trial must fall within an [area of explicit programmatic interest to NIGMS](#); the institute does not intend to fund applications in areas that are most appropriate for the mission of other Institutes and Centers (ICs) at the NIH. Related announcement: [NOT-GM-19-054](#) - Notice of Information: NIGMS Priorities for Sepsis Research
- [NOT-CA-22-031](#)** Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Cancer Prevention, Detection, Diagnosis, and Treatment Technologies for Global Health (U01 Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this announcement is to alert the community that the National Cancer Institute (NCI) plans to publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to invite applications for Cancer Prevention, Detection, Diagnosis, and Treatment Technologies for Global Health (U01 activity code). This FOA supports the development of cancer-relevant technologies suitable for use in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Specifically, the FOA solicits applications for projects to adapt, apply, and validate existing or emerging technologies into a new generation of user-friendly, low-cost technologies for preventing, detecting, diagnosing, and/or treating cancers in people living in LMICs. This funding opportunity is part of a broader NCI-sponsored [Affordable Cancer Technologies \(ACTs\) Program](#). Estimated Award Ceiling: \$475,000 Direct Costs per year for a total of five years.

This Notice encourages investigators with expertise and insight into the areas of global oncology and global health technology research and development to begin developing responsive applications. Applicants should have a working assay or device prototype (not necessarily designed for addressing cancer, but with the potential for cancer applications). The U01 project includes studies to both adapt this technology, as well as demonstrate technical functionality and clinical performance for use of the device or assay in specific LMIC settings, by meeting objective performance milestones, followed by improvements and validations of the technologies in the LMIC settings. Projects proposed in response to this FOA will require multidisciplinary efforts to succeed; therefore, all applicant teams must include expertise in engineering/assay/treatment development, oncology, global healthcare delivery, and business development. Investigators responding to this FOA must consider affordability and cost-effectiveness, as well as usability at the point-of-need, as part of their design criteria. **First Estimated Application Due Date:** 30 July 2022.

- **[NOT-CA-22-044](#) Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).** The National Cancer Institute (NCI) intends to reissue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to solicit applications for dissemination and implementation (D&I) research in health. This FOA is intended to be a re-issuance of [PAR-19-276](#), Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). This Notice is being provided to allow potential applicants sufficient time to develop meaningful collaborations and responsive projects. Application budgets are limited to \$50,000 in direct costs per year. **First Estimated Application Due Date:** 16 June 2022.
- **[NOT-AG-22-009](#) National Institute on Aging (NIA) Caenorhabditis Intervention Testing Program (CITP) Announces A Call for Compounds to Test for Anti-Aging Activity in Caenorhabditis.** The National Institute on Aging (NIA) *Caenorhabditis* Interventions Testing Program (CITP) was established to test compounds purported to extend lifespan and/or delay the onset of disease and disability. The NIA CITP aims to identify pharmacological interventions that increase lifespan and/or healthspan in a robust manner using a genetically diverse set of *Caenorhabditis* strains. The NIA CITP is soliciting proposals for compounds to enter the study in calendar years 2022 - 2023. This is not a funding opportunity announcement, but rather a solicitation of suggestions for compounds to be tested in the CITP. The deadline for receipt of proposals is 1 May 2022.

Parent Announcements

Parent Announcements (PA) for unsolicited are broad funding opportunity announcements allowing applicants to submit investigator-initiated applications. They are open for up to 3 years and use standard due dates.

- **[PA-20-185](#)** NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- **[PA-20-184](#)** Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)
- **[PA-20-183](#)** Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)
- **[PA-20-200](#)** NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- **[PA-20-195](#)** NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- **[PA-20-194](#)** NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Required)
- **[PA-20-196](#)** NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)

Notices of Special Interest

- **[NOT-OD-22-026](#) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplement for Research and Capacity Building Efforts Related to Bioethical Issues (Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional).** The NIH Office of Science Policy (OSP) within the Office of the Director (OD) announces the availability of administrative supplements to support 1) research on bioethical issues to develop or support the development of an evidence base that may inform future policy directions, and/or 2) certain efforts to develop or augment bioethics research capacity. Applicants may propose to supplement parent awards focused on bioethics or to address a component related to bioethics in a biomedical research study. Note that applications must be within the general scope of the parent

award. The NIH seeks to fund research on ethical considerations related to biomedical research and projects that support capacity building in bioethics. Applications should propose 1) research on topics that can provide or support the development of an evidence base that may inform future policy directions, and/or 2) projects that support certain efforts to develop or augment bioethics research capacity. The Office of the Director intends to commit at least \$2,000,000 in FY 2022 to fund approximately 10 awards. Applications for this initiative must be submitted using the following opportunity or its subsequent reissued equivalent: [PA-20-272](#) - Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements (Parent Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional). **Application Due Date:** 17 March 2022, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Application budget** cannot exceed a maximum direct cost of \$100,000. In addition to the direct cost, applicable F&A (indirect) costs can also be requested.

- **[NOT-FD-22-006](#) FDA Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) to add COVID-19 Capacity Building Grants to PAR-18-604 Vet-LIRN Network Capacity-Building Projects (Vet-LIRN).** The purpose of this notice is to inform potential applicants to the Veterinary Laboratory Investigation and Response Network (Vet-LIRN), about a special interest in applications focusing on COVID-19 animal diagnostics. This notice invites Vet-LIRN Network Laboratories to submit grant applications for Projects or Equipment, specifically related to work focusing on COVID-19 diagnostics in animals. Applications can be one year or multiple years. The maximum project period is three (3) years for COVID-19 applications. Examples of approaches that are encouraged include

- Building testing and sequencing capacity
- New detection methods, such as rapid detection techniques
- SARS-CoV-2 variant detection through sequencing

Application Due Dates: 15 April 2022, 11 July 2022; 15 April 2023, 10 July 2023 by 11:59PM Eastern Time.

Submit applications for this initiative using the following FOA: [PAR-18-604](#): Vet-LIRN Network Capacity-Building Projects

- **[NOT-CA-22-045](#) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Addressing Cancer-Related Financial Hardship to Improve Patient Outcomes.** The purpose of this Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) is to promote intervention research through investigator-initiated applications that aim to study ways to mitigate financial hardship for individuals impacted by a cancer diagnosis, including patients receiving cancer treatment, survivors, and caregivers. This notice invites research applications that propose to develop and/or test interventional approaches to prevent and/or mitigate financial hardship in individuals diagnosed with cancer. Intervention targets may include the patient, caregiver, clinician, healthcare team, and/or healthcare delivery system, with multi-level research encouraged. Proof of concept and studies testing the efficacy of interventions are acceptable; however, proposed studies should address the potential for intervention sustainability and scalability. Research studies that integrate expertise from diverse scientific and clinical areas (e.g., health services, health economics, outcomes research, health communications, social work, pharmacy, nursing, and oncology) are of particular interest. Studies that target populations identified to be at risk for health disparities are strongly encouraged. This notice applies to due dates on or after April 1, 2022 and subsequent receipt dates through March 1, 2024.
- **[NOT-EY-22-010](#) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Addressing Accessibility Inequities with COVID Home-Based Testing for Individuals with Visual Impairment.** The National Eye Institute (NEI) is issuing this Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) to support research addressing the urgent need to provide accessible home-based COVID testing to people who are visually impaired. Key issues to be addressed include but are not limited to:
 - determining appropriate testing approaches (surveillance, screening, and/or diagnostic testing) for people who are visually impaired
 - reducing barriers to home -testing and establishing testing strategies suitable for people who are visually impaired
 - developing new technologies to address current limitations
- **[NOT-GM-22-021](#) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Inclusion of Economic Factors and Outcomes in Infectious Disease Modeling Studies.** National Institute of General Medical Sciences ([NIGMS](#)) is issuing this Notice to highlight interest in receiving grant applications focused on infectious disease modeling research that incorporates economic factors. The Institute is particularly interested in mathematical and computational modeling studies of infectious disease spread and evolution, and of the effects of possible intervention strategies,

that include consideration of economic influences and feedback. This Notice applies to due dates on or after March 7, 2022 and subsequent receipt dates through January 08, 2025.

[NOT-HL-22-010](#) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research on barriers to care and risk of HIV-associated comorbidities among vulnerable population groups. The purpose of this Notice is to inform potential applicants to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute ([NHLBI](#)) of an area of special interest in supporting analysis of barriers to care and risk of HIV-associated comorbidities among disproportionately vulnerable and affected population groups of people living with or at risk for HIV infection. NHLBI is interested in receiving applications that incorporate interdisciplinary research collaborations, particularly between established and junior investigators. This notice applies to due dates on or after 7 May 2022 and subsequent receipt dates through 8 May 2025. While applications in response to this NOSI must be submitted under [PA-20-185](#), clinical trials not allowed, NHLBI accepts clinical trials through separate FOAs with specific requirements. Please see <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/grants-and-training/funding-opportunities-and-contacts/clinical-trials-optimization> for details.

Specific areas of research interest include, but are by no means limited to:

- Increased HIV awareness in populations that are disproportionately affected by HIV-related HLBS disorders.
 - Increased uptake of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in populations that are disproportionately affected by HIV-related HLBS disorders.
 - Enhanced opportunities for HIV testing and diagnosis in disproportionately at-risk populations for HIV-related HLBS disorders that are currently being missed.
 - Improved HIV care retention within affected populations, including treatment for HIV-related HLBS comorbidities.
 - Syndemic connections between HIV-related co-morbidities and mental health, experience of violence and other types of traumas, alcohol and substance use, and infectious diseases.
 - Research on syndemic connections between HIV-related co-morbidities and mental health, experience of violence and other types of traumas, alcohol and substance use, and infectious diseases.
- **[NOT-MH-22-090](#) Notice of Special Interest: Neuro-Glia Mechanisms Governing Complex Behaviors.** This Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) encourages projects to experimentally test mechanistic hypotheses on the role of neuro-glia activity coupling in modulating complex behaviors. NIMH only accepts mechanistic studies that meet NIH's definition of a clinical trial through [PA-20-183](#) and [PA-20-184](#). Applications directed to NIMH for intervention development must be submitted through [PAR-21-130](#). For further information on NIMH clinical trial policies, see [NOT-MH-20-105](#) and [NOT-MH-19-006](#). This notice applies to due dates on or after 5 June 2022 and subsequent receipt dates through 8 May 2025.
 - **[NOT-MH-22-095](#) Notice of Special Interest: National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Priorities on Research on Aggression and Violence Against Others.** NIMH is issuing this Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) to outline priorities for research on the etiology, risks for, and prevention of interpersonal aggression and violence against others. Of particular interest are studies of aggression and violence in the context of serious mental illness (SMI). This notice applies to due dates on or after 10 March 2022 and subsequent receipt dates through 8 January 2025.
 - **[NOT-OD-22-065](#) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements for Advancing the Ethical Development and Use of AI/ML in Biomedical and Behavioral Sciences.** The NIH [Office of Data Science Strategy \(ODSS\)](#) announces the availability of funds for Administrative Supplements to active NIH grants that have a significant Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML) and/or ethics component. The funds will support collaborations that bring together expertise in ethics, biomedicine, data collection, and AI/ML to advance the understanding, tools, metrics, and practices for the ethical development and use of AI/ML in biomedical and behavioral sciences. This initiative is aligned with the [NIH Strategic Plan for Data Science](#), which describes actions aimed at modernizing the biomedical research data ecosystem. For the purposes of this Notice, AI/ML is inclusive of machine learning (ML), deep learning (DL), and neural network (NN) techniques employed in distributed, federated, local, or cloud environments. Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss potential requests with their Institute/Center (IC) Program Official before submitting the supplemental request. A broad range of projects that have significant AI/ML or ethics components are eligible, regardless of the scientific area of emphasis. The

parent award must have a substantial focus on AI/ML and/or ethics. Proposed projects must be within the scope of the parent award. Application Due Date: **31 March 2022** by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

- **[NOT-OD-22-067](#) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements to Support Collaborations to Improve the AI/ML-Readiness of NIH-Supported Data.** This Notice announces the availability of supplements to active grants which are intended to support collaborations that bring together expertise in biomedicine, data management, and artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) to make NIH-supported data useful and usable for AI/ML analytics. This initiative is aligned with the [NIH Strategic Plan for Data Science](#), which describes actions aimed at modernizing the biomedical research data ecosystem and making data FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) with high impact for open science. For the purposes of this Notice, AI/ML is inclusive of machine learning (ML), deep learning (DL), and neural networks (NN). This opportunity is intended to support collaborations that bring together expertise in biomedicine, data management, and AI/ML to improve the AI/ML-readiness of data generated from NIH-funded research and shared through repositories, knowledgebases or other data sharing resources. To be eligible, the parent award must be able to receive funds in FY2022 (1 Oct 2021 – 30 Sept 2022) and not be in the final year or in a no-cost extension period at the time of the award. The parent award must end on or after Sept. 30, 2023. One-time supplement budget requests cannot exceed \$200,000 direct costs. Application Due Date **17 March 2022** by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA)

1. Innovative Pilot Mental Health Services Research Not Involving Clinical Trials (R34 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

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

Hyperlink: [PAR-22-082](#)

Type: R34

Application Due Date: 16 June 2022 to 16 February 2025. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage innovative pilot research that will inform and support the delivery of high-quality, continuously improving mental health services to benefit the greatest number of individuals with, or at risk for developing, a mental illness. This announcement invites applications for non-clinical trial pilot projects that address NIMH strategic priorities to strengthen the public health impact of NIMH-supported research as described in [Goal 4 of the NIMH Strategic Plan](#). Proposed research should seek to:

1. Identify mutable factors that impact access, continuity, utilization, quality, value, and outcomes, including disparities in outcomes, or scalability of mental health services, which may serve as targets in future service delivery intervention development;
2. Develop and test new research tools, technologies, measures, or methods and statistical approaches to study these issues;
3. Test the feasibility of integrating and analyzing large data sets to understand factors affecting mental health services outcomes using advanced computational and predictive analytic approaches;
4. Wherever possible, leverage existing infrastructure and partnerships to accomplish these goals.

Companion Funding: [PAR-21-316](#), [R01](#) Research Project

Budget: Direct costs are limited to \$450,000 over the R34 project period, with no more than \$225,000 in direct costs allowed in any one year. The total project period for an application submitted in response to this funding opportunity may not exceed three years.

2. Urgent Award: COVID-19 Mental Health Research (R01 Clinical Trial Required)

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

Hyperlink: [PAR-22-112](#)

Type: R01

Application Due Date: April 25, 2022, August 25, 2022; December 23, 2022. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

Funding Opportunity Announcement: National Institute of Mental Health ([NIMH](#)) is issuing this FOA in response to the declared public health emergency issued by the Secretary, HHS, for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). See "[Determination that a Public Health Emergency Exists Nationwide as the Result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#)" as renewed in "[Renewal of the Determination that a Public Health Emergency Exists Nationwide as the Result of the Continued Consequences of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)". This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) aims to address urgent, time-sensitive mental health research questions related to COVID-19, including broader secondary impacts of the pandemic as well as research on the intersection of mental health, COVID-19, and HIV. Research supported will improve public health in the near term by informing responses to the current pandemic through rapid acceleration of research to address access, reach, delivery, effectiveness, scalability and sustainability of health assessments and interventions to respond to new and worsening mental illness and HIV-related outcomes among those who experience COVID-19 as well as the broader population impacted by the pandemic. All research is anticipated to focus on particularly vulnerable populations based on existing evidence of increased mental health symptoms and illness and preexisting health disparities.

Companion Funding: [PAR-22-113](#), [R01](#) Research Project

Budget: Application budgets are limited to \$750,000 direct costs per year and 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 3 years.

3. Urgent Award: COVID-19 Mental Health Research (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

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

Hyperlink: [PAR-22-113](#)

Type: R01

Application Due Date: April 25, 2022, August 25, 2022; December 23, 2022. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

Funding Opportunity Announcement: NIMH is issuing this FOA in response to the declared public health emergency issued by the Secretary, HHS, for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). See "[Determination that a Public Health Emergency Exists Nationwide as the Result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#)" as renewed in "[Renewal of the Determination that a Public Health Emergency Exists Nationwide as the Result of the Continued Consequences of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)". This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) aims to address urgent, time-sensitive mental health research questions related to COVID-19, including broader secondary impacts of the pandemic as well as research on the intersection of mental health, COVID-19, and HIV. Research supported will improve public health in the near term by informing responses to the current pandemic through 1) understanding mechanisms by which mental illness impacts SARS-CoV-2 morbidity and mortality, 2) exploring how COVID-19 contributes to incident mental illness or HIV-outcomes, 3) identifying modifiable targets uniquely or robustly implicated in the pandemic that are relevant to new and worsening mental illness, and 4) conducting mechanistic trials probing biological or behavioral processes of those targets that may be pursued in future mental health therapeutic development. Research is anticipated to be informed by and directed towards vulnerable populations based on evidence of preexisting and worsened health disparities.

Companion Funding: [PAR-22-112](#), R01 Research Project

Budget: Application budgets are limited to \$750,000 direct costs per year and 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 3 years.

4. HEAL Initiative: Discovery and Functional Evaluation of Human Pain-associated Genes & Cells (U19 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

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

Hyperlink: [RFA-NS-22-018](#)

Type: U19

Application Due Date: March 17, 2022; July 07, 2022; October 11, 2022; March 09, 2023 Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to support research that uses human tissue or cells to generate comprehensive datasets for the discovery and characterization of functional genetic elements, epigenetic signatures, and molecular/cellular pathways that underlie human pain transduction, transmission, and processing. This FOA will support concerted multidisciplinary team science efforts that apply large-scale high-throughput approaches on tissues involved in human pain processing as part of the NIH HEAL Initiative's Program to Reveal and Evaluate Cells-to-gene Information that Specify Intricacies, Origins, and the Nature of Human Pain (PRECISION Human Pain). U19 Centers will operate as a cooperative network to promote collaboration and coordination of research activities. U19 Centers will also coordinate with the U24 HEAL Initiative: Human Pain-associated Genes & Cells Data Coordination and Integration Center that will curate, harmonize, and integrate datasets generated by this U19 research program.

Budget: NIH intends to fund an estimate of 2-3 awards, for fiscal year 2022. Future year amounts and number of awards will depend on annual appropriations. Application budgets are limited to direct costs of \$1.5 million per year. The maximum project period is 5 years

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