



# NIH funding opportunities



Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 31 July 2017 (#27)

[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](http://www.grants.nih.gov).

Please be advised that you **must contact the Research Grants Management Office (RGMO) Pre-Awards** (Dr Christa de Vries [cdevries@sun.ac.za](mailto:cdevries@sun.ac.za)) to inform of your intent to apply.

## **Timelines:**

**Confirm your intent to apply as soon as possible, but not later than 30 days before the submission date.**

**All final documents MUST reach the RGMO seven (7) workdays before NIH application due date.**

**The application will be submitted four (4) workdays before the application due date.**

## Important Notices

- Findings Of Research Misconduct ([NOT-OD-17-096](#))
- Notice of Intent to Reissue the Funding Opportunity Announcement for BRAIN Initiative: Proof of Concept Development of Early Stage Next Generation Human Brain Imaging (R01) ([NOT-EB-17-005](#))

### 1. Synthetic Biology for Engineering Applications

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

**Hyperlink:** ([PAR-17-334](#))

**Type:** R01

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

**This Funding Opportunity Announcement** invites applications to conduct research to advance the understanding and application of synthetic biology for human health. It will support 1) the development of innovative tools and technologies in synthetic biology and 2) their application in biomedical research and human health. An integrative research plan based on collaborations of synthetic biologists with computational scientists, cell biologists, engineers, and/or physician scientists is strongly recommended. Early stage investigators in Synthetic Biology are especially encouraged to apply.

**Budget:** The number of awards is contingent upon availability of funds and the submission of meritorious applications. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum award project period is 5 years.

### 2. Discovery of cell-based Chemical Probes for Novel Brain Targets

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

**Hyperlink:** ([PAR-17-335](#))

**Type:** R21

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

This Funding Opportunity Announcement intends to support investigators who have interest and capability to join efforts for the discovery of cell-based chemical probes for novel brain targets. It is expected that applicants will have in hand the starting compounds ("validated hits") for chemical optimization and bioassays for testing new analog compounds. Through this FOA, NIH wishes to stimulate research in: 1) discovery and development of novel, small molecules for their potential use in understanding biological processes relevant to the missions of NIMH, NIA, and/or NIDCD; and 2) discovery and/or validation of novel, biological targets that will inform studies of brain disease mechanisms. Emphasis will be placed on projects that provide new insight into important disease-related biological targets and biological processes. The main emphasis of projects submitted under this FOA should be in the discovery of cell-based chemical probes. Applicants interested in developing in vivo chemical probes may wish to apply using the companion R01 mechanism (PAR-17-336).

**Budget:** The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Direct costs are limited to \$275,000 over a two-year period, with no more than \$200,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year. The maximum project period is 2 years.

### 3. Discovery of in vivo Chemical Probes for Novel Brain Targets

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

**Hyperlink:** [\(PAR-17-336\)](#)

**Type:** R01

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

**This Funding Opportunity Announcement** intends to support investigators who have interest and capability to join efforts for the discovery of in vivo chemical probes for novel brain targets. It is expected that applicants will have in hand the starting compounds (“validated hits”) for chemical optimization and bioassays for testing new analog compounds. Through this FOA, NIH wishes to stimulate research in 1) discovery and development of novel, small molecules for their potential use in understanding biological processes relevant to the missions of NIMH, NEI, NIAAA, NIDA, NIA and/or NIDCD and 2) discovery and/or validation of novel, biological targets that will inform studies of brain disease mechanisms. Emphasis will be placed on projects that provide new insight into important disease-related biological targets and biological processes.

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The total project period may not exceed 3 years.

### 4. Assay development and screening for discovery of chemical probes or therapeutic agents

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

**Hyperlink:** [\(PAR-17-438\)](#)

**Type:** R01

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

**This Funding Opportunity Announcement** NIH wishes to stimulate research in discovery and development of novel, small molecules for their potential use in studying disease treatment relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes; and to generate new insight into the biology of relevant diseases and processes that have yet to be validated as important drug targets. Stages of discovery research covered by this FOA include: 1) assay development; 2) primary screen implementation to identify initial screening hits (high throughput target-focused screens, or moderate throughput screens); 3) hit validation using a series of assays and initial medicinal chemistry inspection to prioritize the hit set.

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The total project period may not exceed 4 years.

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

**R01 – NIH Research Project Grant Program:** most common NIH program; to support a discrete, specified, circumscribed research project; generally 3-5 years; budget may be specified, but generally <\$500,000 p.a. (direct costs).

**R21 – NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant:** encourages new, exploratory and developmental research projects (could be used for pilot or feasibility studies); up to 2 years; budget total generally <\$275,000 (direct costs).

**R03 – NIH Small Grant Program:** limited funding for short period to support e.g. pilot / feasibility study, collection of preliminary data, secondary analysis of existing data, small-contained research projects, development of new research technology, etc.; normally for “new investigators”; not renewable; up to 2 years; budget generally <\$50,000 (direct costs).