NIH funding opportunities

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 03 Oct 2016 (#34)

[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.*

*Please be advised that you **must contact the Research Grants Management Office (RGMO) Pre-Awards** (Dr Christa Coetsee cdevries@sun.ac.za) **as soon as possible to inform of your intent to apply and then confirm at least 30 days before the submission date**. The NIH grant is submitted institutionally. **All final application documents MUST reach the RGMO seven (7) workdays before NIH application due date.***

Important notices

- **NIH Peer Review Online Briefings for Fellowship and R01 Grant Applicants, and Basic Research Grant Applicants and Reviewers (NOT-OD-16-152)**
- **National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Policy: Investigator-Initiated Clinical Trials (NOT-AI-16-084)**
- **Notice of Pre-Application Webinar and Frequently Asked Questions for RFA-HL-17-014 "Hypertension Outcomes for T4 REsearch within Lower Middle-Income Countries (Hy-TREC) (U01) (NOT-HL-16-453)**

1. Limited Competition: The Chernobyl Tissue Bank - Coordinating Center

Letter of Intent due date: N/A **Hyperlink:** (RFA-CA-16-502) **Type: U24**

Application Due Date: January 20, 2017. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date. ***Applicants should be aware that on-time submission means that an application is submitted error free*** (to both Grants.gov and eRA Commons) on the application due date.

Purpose: This limited competition Funding Opportunity Announcement solicits the renewal application for the Chernobyl Tissue Bank Coordinating Center. The Chernobyl Tissue Bank is a collaborative resource that is supported by the National Cancer Institute and another international partner and includes active participation of countries critically affected by the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident. The objective of the Chernobyl Tissue Bank is to maintain a research resource that supports current and future studies on the biology of thyroid cancer, a major health consequence of the Chernobyl accident. The Chernobyl Tissue Bank Coordinating Center is the critical infrastructure that serves this goal and functions to lead, plan, integrate, and achieve the stated research objectives in collaboration with the participating institutions in the Chernobyl-affected countries.

Budget: NIH intends to fund one award, corresponding to a direct cost of $300,000, for fiscal year 2017. Future years' amount will depend on annual appropriations. The application budget is limited to $300,000 in direct cost per year and should reflect the actual needs of the project. The award project period should not exceed 5 years.

2. BRAIN Initiative: New Technologies and Novel Approaches for Large-Scale Recording and Modulation in the Nervous

Letter of Intent due date: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink:** (RFA-NS-17-003) **Type: U01**

Application Due Date: December 21, 2016, and October 18, 2017. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date. ***Applicants should be aware that on-time submission means that an application is submitted error free*** (to both Grants.gov and eRA Commons) on the application due date.

Purpose: Understanding the dynamic activity of neural circuits is central to the NIH BRAIN Initiative. This FOA seeks applications for proof-of-concept testing and development of new technologies and novel approaches for largescale recording and manipulation of neural activity to enable transformative understanding of dynamic signalling in the nervous system. In particular, we seek exceptionally creative approaches to address major challenges associated with recording and manipulating neural activity, at or near cellular resolution, at multiple spatial and/or temporal scales, in any region and throughout the entire depth of the brain. It is expected that the proposed research may be high-risk, but if successful could profoundly change the course of neuroscience research. Proposed technologies should be compatible with experiments in behaving animals, and should include advancements that enable or reduce major barriers to hypothesis-driven experiments. Technologies may engage diverse types of signalling beyond neuronal electrical activity for large-scale analysis, and may utilize any modality such as optical, electrical, magnetic, acoustic or genetic recording/manipulation. Applications that seek to integrate multiple approaches are encouraged. Where appropriate, applications are expected to integrate appropriate domains of expertise, including biological, chemical and physical sciences, engineering, computational modelling and statistical analysis.

Budget: The NIH anticipates providing $9M per year to fund an estimated 15 to 20 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. Awards are for three years of support.

3. BRAIN Initiative: Optimization of Transformative Technologies for Large Scale Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System

Letter of Intent due date: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink:** (RFA-NS-17-004) **Type: U01**

Application Due Date: December 21, 2016 and October 18, 2017. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date. ***Applicants should be aware that on-time submission means that an application is submitted error free*** (to both Grants.gov and eRA Commons) on the application due date.

Purpose: Although invention and proof-of-concept testing of new technologies are a key component of the BRAIN Initiative, to achieve their potential these technologies must also be optimized through feedback from end-users in the context of the intended experimental use. This seeks applications for the optimization of existing and emerging technologies and approaches that have potential to address major challenges associated with recording and manipulating neural activity, at or near cellular resolution, at multiple spatial and temporal scales, in any region and throughout the entire depth of the brain. This FOA is intended for the iterative refinement of emergent technologies and approaches that have already demonstrated their transformative potential through initial proof-of-concept testing, and are appropriate for accelerated development of hardware and software while scaling manufacturing techniques towards sustainable, broad dissemination and user-friendly incorporation into regular neuroscience practice. Proposed technologies should be compatible with experiments in behaving animals, and should include advancements that enable or reduce major barriers to hypothesis-driven experiments. Technologies may engage diverse types of signalling beyond neuronal electrical activity for large-scale analysis, and may utilize any modality such as optical, electrical, magnetic, acoustic or genetic recording/manipulation. Applications that seek to integrate multiple approaches are encouraged. Applications are expected to integrate appropriate domains of expertise, including where appropriate biological, chemical and physical sciences, engineering, computational modelling and statistical analysis.

Budget: The NIH anticipates providing $9M per year to fund an estimated 15 to 20 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. Awards are for three years of support.

4. International Bioethics Research Training Program

Letter of Intent due date: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink:** (PAR-16-454) **Type: D43**

Application Due Date: May 18, 2017, May 17, 2018. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date. ***Applicants should be aware that on-time submission means that an application is submitted error free*** (to both Grants.gov and eRA Commons) on the application due date.

Purpose: The overall goal of this initiative is to support the development of a sustainable critical mass of bioethics scholars in low and middle income country (LMIC) research intensive institutions with the capabilities to conduct original empirical or conceptual ethics research that addresses challenging issues in health research and research policy in these countries as well as provide research ethics leadership to their institutions, governments and international research organizations. FIC will support LMIC-U.S. collaborative institutional bioethics doctoral and postdoctoral research training programs that incorporate didactic, mentored research and training components to prepare a number of individuals with ethics expertise for positions of scholarship and leadership in health research institutions in the LMIC.

Budget: Applicants may request up to $230,000 direct costs per year. The total project period for an application submitted in response to this funding opportunity may not exceed 5 years.

Brief definitions of some NIH grant mechanisms: *comprehensive list of extramural grant and cooperative agreement activity codes*

D71 - International Research Training Planning Grant: To plan for the preparation of an application for a D43 international research training grant or for a U2R international research training cooperative agreement.

D43 - International Research Training Grants: To support research training programs for US and foreign professionals and students to strengthen global health research and international research collaboration.

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).

R21/R33 - Phased Innovation: The R33 award is to provide a second phase for the support for innovative exploratory and development research activities initiated under the R21 mechanism. Although only R21 awardees are generally eligible to apply for R33 support, specific program initiatives may establish eligibility criteria under which applications could be accepted from applicants demonstrating progress equivalent to that expected under R33.

R25 – NIH Education Projects: used in a wide variety of ways to promote an appreciation for and interest in biomedical research, provide additional training in specific areas, and/or to develop ways to disseminate scientific discovery into public health and community applications.

R34 - Clinical Trial Planning Grant Program: To provide support for the initial development of a clinical trial, including the establishment of the research team; the development of tools for data management and oversight of the research; the development of a trial design and other essential elements of the study, such as the protocol, recruitment strategies, and procedure manuals; and to collect feasibility data.

R35 - Outstanding Investigator Award: To provide long term support to an experienced investigator with an outstanding record of research productivity. This support is intended to encourage investigators to embark on long-term projects of unusual potential.

U01 – NIH Research Project Cooperative Agreement: supports discrete, specified, circumscribed projects to be performed by investigator(s) in an area representing their specific interests and competencies; many types of cooperative agreements, e.g. Clinical Trials Centers; generally no budget upper limit but may be specified.

U24 – Resource-Related Research Projects – Cooperative Agreements: To support research projects contributing to improvement of the capability of resources to serve biomedical research.

U01 – NIH Research Project Cooperative Agreement: supports discrete, specified, circumscribed projects to be performed by investigator(s) in an area representing their specific interests and competencies; many types of cooperative agreements, e.g. Clinical Trials Centers; generally no budget upper limit but may be specified.

U19 - **Research Program-Cooperative Agreements:** supports a research program of multiple projects directed toward a specific major objective, basic theme or program goal, requiring a broadly based, multidisciplinary and often long-term approach. A cooperative agreement research program generally involves the organized efforts of large groups, members of which are conducting research projects designed to elucidate the various aspects of a specific objective.

Glossary of selected acronyms:

FOA Funding Opportunity Announcement

PA Program Announcements *(click on "PA" to search for further funding opportunities)*

RFA Request for Applications *(click on "RFA" to search for further funding opportunities)*

Complete Glossary and acronym list of NIH Terms

NIH National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health

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