



NIH funding opportunities



Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 01 Oct 2018 (#29)

[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 30 days before the submission date.

Contact: RGMO Pre-Awards cdevries@sun.ac.za

Important Notices

- **Notice Regarding 2018 Bayh-Dole Act Final Rule - Rights to Federally Funded Inventions and Licensing of Government Owned Inventions ([NOT-OD-18-233](#))**. The Bayh-Dole Act permits all funding recipients i.e., universities, nonprofit research institutions, and large and small businesses to retain ownership of the inventions made under federally funded research grants or contract programs, while also giving the government a license to practice the Subject Invention. In return for retaining ownership, funding recipients are required to pursue the invention to practical application, such as by licensing the invention under reasonable terms for the benefit of public health whether the invention is patented or treated as an unpatented biological material or research tool.
- **Update on NIH Extension Policy for Early Stage Investigator Status (ESI) ([NOT-OD-18-235](#))** NIH remains strongly committed to the [Next Generation Researchers Initiative \(NGRI\) policy](#) to fund more early career investigators and to enhance biomedical research workforce diversity. NIH defines an ESI as a Program Director / Principal Investigator (PD/PI) who has completed her/his terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever date is later, within the past 10 years and who has not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH independent research award. NIH considers requests for extension of the ESI period for various reasons.

1. Computational Approaches for Validating Dimensional Constructs of Relevance to Psychopathology (Clinical Trial Optional)

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

Hyperlink: ([RFA-MH-19-242](#))

Type: R01

Application Due Date: January 3, 2019; November 20, 2019; November 20, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) solicits applications for research projects that will use computational approaches to test the validity of dimensional constructs in the NIMH Research Domain Criteria matrix (or similar constructs based on comparable criteria). Some elements of the RDoC matrix have been updated since its first release, but a thorough data-driven validation that broadly explores, compares, and validates the constructs within the matrix has not been performed. This FOA seeks research that addresses the following questions: do the different domains of behavior segregate from each other? How much do they rely on distinct versus overlapping neural circuits? What are the relationships between domains, constructs and subordinate sub-constructs, both in terms of their correlational structure and their underlying neural circuitry? By answering these questions, proposed research projects will test integrative models of functioning and identify dysregulation in psychopathology-related mechanisms that may cut across traditional diagnostic categories and may change over time. This FOA seeks to promote projects where the computational and the experimental components are well integrated. The ultimate goal is to advance translational research that will identify novel classification approaches and/or treatment targets, and lead to more effective and timely interventions for serious mental illnesses.

Budget: NIMH intends to fund about 5 awards, corresponding to a total of \$5,000,000, for fiscal year 2019. Application budgets may not exceed \$1,000,000 direct costs annually, including any consortium F&A, and are expected to reflect actual needs of the proposed project. The total project period for an application submitted in response to this FOA may not exceed five years.

2. Research on Chronic Overlapping Pain Conditions

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

Hyperlink: [\(PA-18-937\)](#)
[\(PA-18-939\)](#)

Type: R01
R21

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

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage epidemiological, clinical and translational research that will increase our understanding of the natural history, prevalence, biological mechanisms, psychological variables, and clinical risk factors responsible for the presence of multiple chronic pain conditions in people with pain. Recent clinical findings suggest that substantial overlap may exist between chronic pain conditions. Individuals diagnosed with one disorder often exhibit characteristics of additional chronic painful conditions or transition to other diagnostic categories. A better understanding is needed of the prevalence of overlapping pain conditions, the underlying etiologies, the progression of these conditions, the evolution of these overlaps, and the therapeutic approaches best suited for treating subjects with these conditions. The main objective of this FOA is the formation of research groups with interests bridging expertise in pain mechanisms with translational and clinical expertise to address important unresolved questions about overlapping pain conditions. Applicants are encouraged to leverage existing and develop new resources pertinent to the study of these conditions. Applicants are encouraged to include researchers with complementary expertise from outside the pain field in their research teams who will enhance the breadth of research and understanding of comorbid chronic pain conditions. R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed.

Budget: R01 - Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 5 years. R21 - The combined budget for direct costs for the two year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year.

3. Neuromodulation/Neurostimulation Device Development for Mental Health Applications (Clinical Trial Optional)

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

Hyperlink: [\(PAR-18-942\)](#)
[\(PAR-18-941\)](#)

Type: R01
R21

Application Due Date: [Standard dates](#) November 26, 2018. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to encourage applications seeking to develop the next generation of brain stimulation devices for treating mental health disorders. Applications are sought that will either 1) develop novel brain stimulation devices or 2) significantly enhance, by means of hardware/software improvements, the effectiveness of brain stimulation devices that are currently U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved or cleared. Novel devices should move beyond existing electrical/magnetic stimulation and develop new stimulation techniques capable of increased spatiotemporal precision as well as multi-focal, closed-loop approaches. Applications seeking to develop new capabilities should focus on significant enhancement of the spatial resolution, depth of delivery, and/or precision of the device. Incremental changes to existing devices (e.g., software updates) are not within the scope of this announcement. Applications should be submitted by multi-disciplinary teams with diverse expertise including systems neuroscience, engineering, clinical, and regulatory affairs. Applications submitted in response to this FOA should promote the development or significant enhancement of novel tools (hardware/software) for brain stimulation in humans. Although the application should focus on the engineering development and bench top testing of the tool, animals and limited human testing necessary to demonstrate initial proof of concept is allowable. Applications to this FOA are not expected to be hypothesis-driven, but should propose design-directed, developmental, or discovery-driven technology research using integrative approaches. Applications that seek to study scientific or clinical hypotheses that simply utilize devices are outside the scope of this FOA. This FOA uses the R21 grant mechanism, encouraging shorter, higher-risk applications, whereas its companion funding opportunity seeks R01 grant applications.

Budget: R01 – 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. R21 - The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year.

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