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RESEARCH FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Request for developmental research project proposals

The Center for Biologically Inspired Nano-scaffolds for Mitigating Chlamydia trachomatis Pathogenesis at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and University of California at Irvine is pleased to announce a call for Developmental Research Project (DRP) proposals for funding to start approximately on October 1, 2020.

The center is part of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), within the National Institutes of Health, which has established seven Cooperative Research Centers (CRCs) focused on developing vaccines to prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The DRP proposals are intended to foster novel / early ideas within and outside the Center, to develop innovative research and technology as they become available, as well as to enable new collaborations within and across the different centers (although research collaborations with existing centers are not required).

We strongly encourage young investigators (less than 6 years of experience as PI) and mentored postdocs or graduate students to apply to this program. The purpose of the call is to attract new scientists who are not primarily involved in vaccine or chlamydia biology research as well as the recruitment of under-represented individuals such as women, minorities, or handicapped students/researchers.

A PI may submit a request for \$60,000, but it is anticipated that two awards of up to \$30,000 annually (total costs) per project will be awarded for proposals with a duration of one year (a one-year renewal is contingent on meeting the proposed goals and deliverables). Per NIH guidelines, DRP funding may not include subcontracts.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Applications are due: August 21, 2020, 5:00p.m. PST

Applications can be submitted via email to BINMCTP-Center@llnl.gov

Anticipated project start date: October 1, 2020

DRP POINT OF CONTACT

Dawn Whalen

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HOW TO APPLY

- Applications must be submitted by 5pm PST on August 21, 2020. Applicants will receive notification of the receipt of their proposals within 2 business days. To preserve the line spacing, figure location, and the overall appearance of your application, it is recommended that you submit your entire package as a single PDF document. Word files can compromise the quality of the package.
- Applications should follow the general NIH formatting guidelines. (Note that your research plan should also address the NIH requirements concerning rigor and reproducibility.)
- Applications must include the following:
 1. Cover Page
 2. Title, key personnel, abstract (1 page)
 3. Biosketch of Principal Investigator and other support (3 pages maximum)
 4. Budget – salary support for established investigators is generally discouraged and will require specific justification (1 page)
 5. Budget Justification, to include educational opportunity statement for students/postdoctoral fellows (1 page)
 6. Facilities and Resources
 7. Specific Aims (1 page)
 8. Background / Significance, include a statement of the potential impact of the proposed research (see note below)*
 9. Experimental Plan include explicit delineation of milestones and deliverables (see note below)*
 10. For continuing projects only: a summary of milestones and deliverables obtained in year one (1 page)
 11. Human Subjects / Animal Studies description, if applicable, institutional assurances must be in place (1 page, see note below)+
 12. Literature Cited (minimum of 1 page, no reference limit)
 13. Key Biological Reagents

* The background and experimental plan should not exceed four pages. For proposals under \$30,000, the background and experimental sections are limited to one page each.

+ Documents related to the use of human subjects, select agents or controlled substances will be requested by the CRC if the proposal is selected for funding (these documents should not be submitted with the proposal). However, if the proposal includes a clinical trial the PI is required to submit a clinical protocol in addition to the proposal by the application deadline.

Human use and animal protection documentation will be requested as appropriate from projects selected for funding on a “just in time” basis. Individuals are required to comply with the instructions for the Resource Sharing Plans (Select Agents, Data Sharing Plan, Sharing Model Organisms, and Genome Wide Association Studies (GWAS) as provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

It is the responsibility of the application to obtain all relevant clearances from IACUC, IRB, etc. Please initiate IRB/IACUC approvals at the time of application to avoid possible delays in initiating projects as carry forwards at the end of the 1-year award period are not allowed.

CRITERIA FOR REVIEW

- Projects will be evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and subject matter experts.
- Reviewers will not be associated with the CRC
- Using standard NIH scoring criteria for Significance, Investigators, Innovation, Approach, and Environment
- Weighting given to overall impact based on both innovation and significant translation impact:
 1. In the context of potential contribution to the overall goals of the CRC, and
 2. In the field of the proposed research