

Translating Research from Basic Discovery to Improved Patient Care

N C R R F A C T S H E E T

Shared Instrumentation Grants

www.ncrr.nih.gov/sig
December 2008

The Shared Instrumentation Grant (SIG) program provides a cost-effective funding mechanism (S10) for groups of National Institutes of Health (NIH)-supported investigators to obtain or update commercially available equipment that costs more than \$100,000. The maximum award is \$500,000. Instruments in this price range are typically too expensive to be obtained through research project grants.

Instrumentation purchased with a SIG award must be shared by at least three NIH-supported scientists. This arrangement optimizes the use of federal funds. To promote sharing by a number of investigators and to foster collaborations, SIG-supported instruments are typically located in central core facilities that provide technical expertise and user education.

The SIG program is administered by NCCR's Division of Biomedical Technology. Types of instruments supported by SIG funding include nuclear magnetic resonance systems, electron and confocal microscopes, mass spectrometers, protein and DNA sequencers, biosensors, X-ray diffractometers and cell sorters, among others.

Eligibility

Applications are accepted from domestic public and nonprofit institutions only. These include health professional schools, graduate institutions, hospitals, health departments and research organizations. To be eligible, the application must identify three or more NIH-funded investigators (Principal Investigators of active P01, R01, U01, R35, R37, DP1 and DP2 research grants) who will be users of the instrument. However, the Principal Investigator of a SIG does not have to be NIH funded.

Because the SIG program interfaces with other NCCR and NIH grant programs, applicants are strongly

encouraged to telephone NCCR SIG program staff at 301-435-0772 or submit an e-mail inquiry to sig@mail.nih.gov before applying for a grant.

Guidelines

Features of the SIG program, including research objectives, eligibility criteria, application and review procedures, award criteria and contact information, are published annually as a Funding Opportunity (Program Announcement, PAR) in the *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts* (<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>).

SIG applications are submitted to NIH electronically through Grants.gov (www.grants.gov) using the SF 424 Research and Related forms. There is only one receipt date each year, usually in March. The specific date is identified in the PAR. Additional information about the SIG program is available at www.ncrr.nih.gov/sig.

Review Criteria

Instrument-specific study sections review SIG applications and base their evaluations on the following criteria: demonstrated need for a new or updated instrument; enhancement of NIH-funded research projects; appropriate technical expertise; adequacy of the plan to administer the grant and ensure equitable use; institutional commitment; and benefit to the biomedical research community.

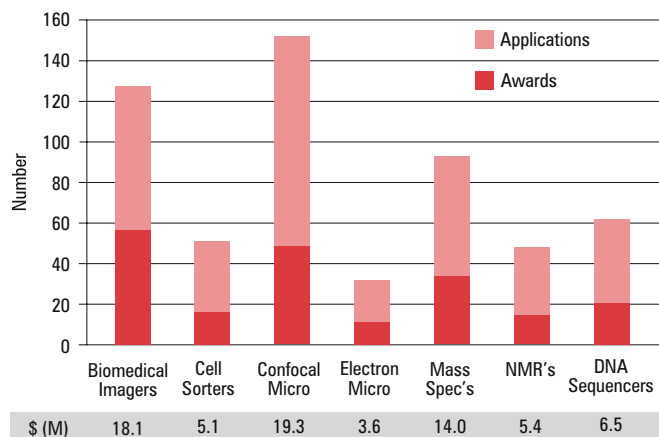
Funding

Awards are made for one year for the direct cost of the instrument only. No indirect costs are provided. Matching funds are not required.

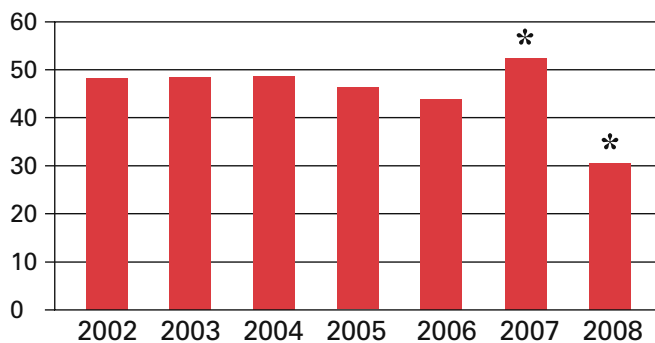
Institutions must meet the costs required to set up, maintain and operate the instrument. Personnel costs also are the responsibility of the institution.

From FY1997 to FY2008, the SIG program has provided 1,607 awards to biomedical research institutions in 49 states and the District of Columbia, totaling \$502,149,489.

Applications/Awards 2007–2008



Awards in Millions \$



*Includes supplemental funding

Contact for more information:

Director, Shared Instrumentation Grant Program

Division of Biomedical Technology
National Center for Research Resources
National Institutes of Health
6701 Democracy Boulevard, Room 958
Bethesda, MD 20892-4874
Telephone: 301-435-0772
Fax: 301-480-3659
E-mail: sig@mail.nih.gov



NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

National Center for Research Resources
Office of Communications
6701 Democracy Boulevard, 9th Floor
Bethesda, MD 20892-4874

Telephone: 301-435-0888
Fax: 301-480-3558
E-mail: info@ncrr.nih.gov
Web Site: www.ncrr.nih.gov