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For Grants and Contracts

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The NIH Guide announces scientific initiatives and provides policy and administrative information to individuals and organizations who need to be kept informed of opportunities, requirements, and changes in extramural programs administered by the National Institutes of Health.

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NEW RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING

P.T. 04, 22, 34, 44; K.W. 1014004, 1014006

Public Health Service

On October 23, 1989, the President signed Public Law 101-121, a fiscal year 1990 Appropriations Act for a Federal department, which amends Title 31, United States Code, by adding a new Section 1352, entitled "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions."

Section 1352 generally prohibits recipients of Federal grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, or loans from using appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the grant, cooperative agreement, contract, or loan. Section 1352 also requires that each person who requests or receives a Federal grant, cooperative agreement, contract, of $100,000 or more; or a loan, or a Federal commitment to insure or guarantee a loan, of $150,000 or more, must disclose lobbying undertaken with nonappropriated funds.

Section 1352 takes effect with respect to Federal grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, loans, loan insurance commitments, and loan guarantee commitments that are entered into or made more than 60 days after the date of enactment of the Act.

Under the legislation, the Office of Management and Budget is instructed to issue implementing guidance to Federal agencies within 60 days of enactment of the Act.

Further information on this subject will be provided in the NIH GUIDE as implementation policies and procedures are developed.

REVISED SALARY CEILING FOR RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

P.T. 34; K.W. 1014002

National Institutes of Health

The National Institutes of Health announces plans to permit an increase in the amount of salary that may be requested on a Research Career Development Award (K04). Beginning with awards made from FY 1990 funds (competing and non-competing awards made on or after October 1, 1989), requests for base salaries up to $50,000 per year plus applicable fringe benefits will be considered.

Proposed salary levels must be in accordance with institutional salary levels, consistently applied, regardless of the source of support. Justification for the sum requested must include a comparison of the salaries of other individuals at the applicant institution of equivalent rank and experience to that of the awardee.

DATED ANNOUNCEMENTS (RFPs AND RFAs)

CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS FOR NEONATAL SEIZURES

RFP AVAILABLE: NIH-NINDS-90-06

P.T. 04; K.W. 0715060, 0403020, 0785035, 0745020, 0755030, 0745027, 0745070

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NIH, has a requirement to establish research centers for the study of neonatal seizures. The centers are to be established for the purpose of organizing, coordinating and conducting clinical research concerning the etiology, diagnosis, treatment, prognosis and prevention of neonatal seizures.

It is anticipated that two awards will be made for a maximum period of four years each, depending upon the nature and complexity of the research projects proposed.

This is not a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP will be issued on or about December 22, 1989, as a Broad Agency Announcement as defined in FAR Subparts 6.102 (d) (2) and 35.016. A tentative date for receipt of proposals is set for April 6, 1990.

To receive a copy of the RFP, please submit a written request and two self-addressed mailing labels to the following address:

Contracting Officer
Contracts Management Branch, DEA
National Institute of Neurological
Disorders and Stroke, NIH
Federal Building, Room 901
7550 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Attn: BAA/RFP No.NIH-NINDS-90-06

All responsible sources may submit a proposal which will be considered by the NINDS.

DEVELOPMENT OF NONMAMMALIAN MODELS FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

RFA AVAILABLE: RR-90-01

P.T. 34; K.W. 0755020, 0780015, 0780020

Division of Research Resources

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: February 1, 1990
Application Receipt Date: April 4, 1990

BACKGROUND

The Biological Models and Materials Resources Program (BMMRP) of the Division of Research Resources (DRR) announces the availability of a Request for Applications (RFA) for the development of nonmammalian models, in particular, lower organisms (such as fishes, invertebrates, and microorganisms), in vitro (cell and tissue culture) systems, and nonbiological models (such as mathematical and computer simulations) for biomedical research.

Proposals for the study of appropriate invertebrates, lower vertebrates, microorganisms, cell and tissue culture systems, or mathematical and computer approaches should be regarded as having the same potential importance to biomedical research as proposals for work on systems that are phylogenetically more closely related to humans. Information yielded by such systems can increase substantially the knowledge of human disease and function.

RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

The overall objective of this RFA is to stimulate research in the development of appropriate nonmammalian models. The following areas are of particular interest:

- Research on systems that have the potential of becoming high connectivity models. High connectivity models are those models where the body of knowledge about the system is large, and has resulted in extensive cross information, or connection, with other systems. An organism that has the potential of becoming a high connectivity model usually has some information already known about the system. For example, the metabolism and development of an organism may be well understood, but other important aspects have not been explored as fully as possible.

- Research on organisms that are considered high connectivity models. A few taxa such as E. coli, S. cerevisiae, C. elegans, and D. melanogaster, have been broadly studied from many points of view. Applications that explore specific areas to close conspicuous gaps in information about the model will increase the connectivity of that system.

- Development of model organisms with special features that have become useful because the data is readily transferable to humans. An organism may eventually become a better model or even a high connectivity model if substantial information on the genetics or functions of that system are known.

- o Formulation of mathematical models, in particular when closely coupled to biological experimentation. There are opportunities for mathematical modeling in many areas of biomedical research and at all levels of biological organization.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

The support mechanism for this program will be the traditional investigator-initiated research grant. Support for grants is contingent upon receipt of appropriated funds. It is anticipated that four to six meritorious applications will be funded.

Applications should be submitted on Form PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88).

For further information and a copy of the complete RFA, please contact:

Louise E. Ramm, Ph.D.
Acting Director, Biological Models and Materials
Resources Program
Division of Research Resources
Westwood Building, Room 8A07
5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 402-0630

PREVENTION CLINICAL TRIALS UTILIZING INTERMEDIATE ENDPOINTS AND THEIR MODULATION BY CHEMOPREVENTIVE AGENTS

RFA AVAILABLE: 90-CA-02

P.T. 34; K.W. 0715035, 0740018, 0710095, 0760003, 0755015

National Cancer Institute

Application Receipt Date: March 15, 1990

The Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC), National Cancer Institute (NCI), invites applications for cooperative agreements to support clinical trials that are directed toward examining the role of various chemopreventive agents and/or diet in the prevention of cancer. This is a follow-up to earlier RFAs that requested grants, and then later, cooperative agreement proposals in this area.

The major objective of this solicitation is to encourage cancer chemoprevention clinical trials that utilize biochemical and/or biological markers to identify populations at risk and/or to provide intermediate endpoints that may predict later reduction in cancer incidence rates.

These studies may be developed in phases, including a pilot phase, which could later proceed to a full-scale intervention. The main emphasis should be on small, efficient studies aimed at improving future research designs of chemoprevention trials, providing biologic understanding of what is happening in the trials, or providing better, more quantitative and more efficient endpoints for these trials. After successful completion of the pilot phase (i.e. demonstrated modulation of marker endpoints by the intervention), subsequent studies can include Phase III clinical trials involving the designated agent, the utilization of the monitoring test system and a cancer incidence or mortality endpoint.

Investigators may apply at this time for the pilot phase or submit an application for both phases. However, if the application is for the pilot phase only, the proposed study must describe its relevance to a clinical application and utilize a chemopreventive agent, marker test system, and study population that later could be the subject of a full scale, double-blind, randomized, risk-reduction clinical trial.

Applicants funded under this RFA will be supported through the cooperative agreement mechanism. An assistance relationship will exist between NCI and the awardees to accomplish the purpose of the activity. The recipients will have primary responsibility for the development and performance of the activity. However, there will be government involvement with regard to: (1) assistance securing an Investigational New Drug (IND) approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); (2) monitoring of safety and toxicity; (3) coordination and assistance in obtaining the chemopreventive agent; and (4) quality assurance with regard to the clinical chemistry aspects of the study. Awards will not be made until all arrangements for obtaining the IND, agent, and its delivery are completed. Final awards will also consider not only the

cost of the clinical trial but also the cost of the agent and its formulation if necessary.

Applications should include a suitable representation of women and minority populations of individuals such as those aforementioned. If the applicant cannot comply, a reasonable explanation should be provided.

This RFA solicitation represents a single competition, with a specified deadline of March 15, 1990, for receipt of applications. All applications received in response to the RFA will be reviewed by the same NCI Initial Review Group (IRG).

To ensure their review, applications should be received by March 15, 1990. Applications received after that date will not be considered under this RFA.

Inquiries may be directed to:

Marjorie Perloff, M.D.
Chemoprevention Branch
Executive Plaza North, Suite 201
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-4200
Telephone: (301) 496-8563

ONGOING PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM FOR BIOETHICS AND CLINICAL DECISION MAKING RESEARCH

P.T. 34; K.W. 0783010, 1014004, 0785035, 0785130

National Center for Nursing Research

I. BACKGROUND AND GOALS

The mission of the National Center for Nursing Research (NCNR) is to conduct, support, and disseminate information respecting basic and clinical nursing research, research training, and other programs in patient care research. The National Advisory Council for Nursing Research recognizes the importance of research in the area of bioethics in clinical practice and has developed a statement of research in this area which is available from NCNR at the address below.

NCNR also sponsored an interdisciplinary bioethics workshop as a means of exploring the research opportunities in bioethics and clinical practice. Proceedings from the workshop are available from NCNR staff. As a result of both endeavors, NCNR is issuing this program announcement to encourage qualified researchers and multidisciplinary research teams to submit applications for small-scale studies and pilot projects that focus on the bioethical issues and dilemmas central to clinical decision making that relate to clinical practice. Submitted studies must be empirically based, include an interdisciplinary perspective, and examine questions in the clinical settings where the problem exists. Moreover, it is the National Institutes of Health and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration policy that, if women or minorities are not included in a given study, a clear rationale for this exclusion must be provided. It is anticipated that findings from pilot projects, feasibility studies, or small scale studies will provide a basis from which investigators can build larger studies.

II. MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

As a means of laying the groundwork for bioethics and clinical decision making research, NCNR announces the Small Grants (R03) Program for Bioethics. The R03 is a non-renewable award limited to a total of $35,000 in direct costs for the entire project period. The project period may be up to two years. The purpose of the R03 is to provide research support for empirically-based small-scale studies, pilot projects, or feasibility studies in the area of bioethics and clinical decision making research.

III. ELIGIBILITY

Application to the Small Grants Program (R03) is open to both new and experienced investigators engaged in clinical research from non-profit organizations and institutions, state and local governments and their agencies, and profit-making organizations. Submission of an R03 application precludes concurrent submission of another research grant application containing the same research proposal during that particular review cycle.

However, applicants may utilize alternative existing mechanisms such as the R01 or R29 for other bioethical and clinical practice studies.

IV. APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

Applications for the Small Grants Program (R03) should be submitted to the Division of Research Grants on Application Form PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88) for an annual August 23 receipt date. The mailing address is as follows:

Division of Research Grants, NIH
Westwood Building, Room 240
Bethesda, Maryland 20892**

Read GENERAL INFORMATION of the PHS 398, follow the GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS on pages 1-11 of the application kit, and use SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS on pages 12-22, except as indicated below. The entire application should not exceed 20 pages, excluding biographical sketches. Appendices should not be submitted.

Page 12 - Item 2 Check "Yes" and enter Bioethics and Clinical Decision Making.

Page 14 - Item 6 The proposed project period may be up to, but must not exceed, two years.

Page 14 - Item 8a The amount for the total project period is $35,000 in direct costs.

Page 19 - Biographical Sketch - Do not exceed one page per biographical sketch.

Pages 20 through 22 - Follow general instructions.

Page 23 - Appendix - Do not submit an appendix.

V. REVIEW PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

Applications submitted in response to this announcement will be reviewed in competition with other applications by an appropriate initial review group in accord with the usual NIH peer review procedures and criteria. Applications will be evaluated with respect to the following criteria: the significance and scientific merit of the proposed project; level of innovation; the probability that the study will provide a basis for more extended research in the scientific area; the investigator's background and training for carrying out the project; and the adequacy and availability of resources and facilities to carry out the project.

VI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

When an award is made in response to a Small Grant (R03) application, an annual progress report and Financial Status Report must be submitted. Within 90 days after the termination of the award, a Final Progress Report is required. This final reporting requirement is the same as that for other types of research grants and is in accord with 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. VII. CONSULTATION WITH PROGRAM STAFF

Before preparing the R03 in bioethics and clinical decision making research, applicants should consult with the NCNR program staff about their proposed project under this announcement. Applicants should contact:

Dr. Patricia Moritz
Chief, Nursing Systems Branch
National Center for Nursing Research
Building 31, Room 5B09
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-0523

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.361, Nursing Research. Awards are made under the authority of the PHS Act, Sections 301, 483, 484, and 485, as amended by Public Law 99-158 and 97-219. Awards are administered under PHS grant policies and Federal regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 Part 74.

INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE AWARDS AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS IN BIOETHICS AND CLINICAL DECISION MAKING RESEARCH

P.T. 22; K.W. 0783010, 1014004, 0785035, 0785130

National Center for Nursing Research

I. Background and Goals

The mission of the National Center for Nursing Research (NCNR) is to conduct, support, and disseminate information respecting basic and clinical nursing research and research training in patient care. As clinical practice becomes more complex, ethical issues related to patient care and clinical decision making have emerged for patients, families, and health care providers. NCNR and the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research recognize the importance of research training in bioethics and clinical decision making and have developed a statement in this area of research which is available from NCNR. NCNR also sponsored an interdisciplinary bioethics workshop as a means of exploring the research opportunities in bioethics and clinical practice. The need for research training was underscored. Proceedings from the workshop are available from NCNR staff.

NCNR is issuing this program announcement to invite applicants to compete for Individual National Research Service Awards (NRSA), including predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior fellowships, and Career Development Awards (Clinical or Academic Investigator Awards) for research training support related to bioethics in patient care and clinical decision making. NCNR supports research training programs that emphasize an empirical approach to bioethical problems, include an interdisciplinary perspective, and encourage the conduct of studies in the clinical area in which the problems occur. These awards are available to newly developing investigators as well as to senior scientists wishing to refocus their research directions.

II. Eligibility

All policies and requirements which normally govern the grant programs of the Public Health Service apply. Applicants must meet the respective criteria for the Individual National Research Service Award for predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior fellowships or the Clinical Investigator and Academic Investigator Awards. To obtain application kits and guidelines for NRSAs contact:

Office of Grants Inquiries
Division of Research Grants, NIH
Westwood Building, Room 240
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-7441

Specific NCNR criteria for the NRSAs may be obtained by contacting:

National Center for Nursing Research
Division of Extramural Programs
Building 31, Room 5B09
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-0523

III. Application Procedures

NRSA applicants should use form PHS 416-1 (Rev. 7/88). Career Development Award applicants should use PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88). In order to expedite the application form's routing within NIH, indicate that your proposal is in response to this program announcement on line 3 of PHS 416-1 face page; and line 2 of PHS 398 face page. Applications should be submitted to the Division of Research Grants in accordance with the usual annual receipt dates of January 10, May 10, and September 10 for NRSAs and February 1, June 1, and October 1 for Career Development awards. The mailing address is as follows:

Division of Research Grants, NIH
Westwood Building, Room 240
Bethesda, Maryland 20892**

IV. Review Procedures and Criteria

Applications in response to this announcement will be reviewed in competition with other applications and in accord with the usual NIH peer review procedures and criteria. Applications will be reviewed for scientific and technical merit by an initial review group; second level review will be by an appropriate advisory council in the case of the Career Development awards.

Second level review of individual fellowship applications will be conducted by an appropriate Executive Review Group.

Additional information related to NCNR's Academic and Clinical Investigator Awards can be found in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, Vol. 15, No. 21, October 10, 1986. Interested applicants are encouraged to consult with NCNR program staff prior to submission:

Dr. Patricia Moritz
Chief, Nursing Systems Branch
National Center for Nursing Research
Building 31, Room 5B09
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-0523

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No.13.361, Nursing Research. Awards are made under the authority of the PHS Act, Sections 301, 483, 484, 485, and 487 as amended by Public Law 99-158 and 97-219. Awards are administered under PHS grant policies and Federal regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74.

RESEARCH ON SALIVARY GLANDS AND SECRETIONS

P.T. 34; K.W. 0715148, 1002034, 0710070, 0765015, 0790000, 0780015

National Institute of Dental Research

PURPOSE

The Salivary Glands and Secretions Program of the Caries, Restorative Materials, and Salivary Research Branch of the Extramural Program of the National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) supports studies to improve knowledge of the development, structure, function, and diseases of the salivary glands and to determine the influence of salivary constituents on oral health. Toward this end, this program seeks to expand its support of basic and clinical research, research training, and manpower development in the broad area of the salivary system.

BACKGROUND

Salivary gland research over the past two decades has been compartmentalized into two general areas: (1) salivary secretions (extracellular events) and (2) salivary glands (intracellular processes). Our knowledge of salivary secretions has proceeded at a faster pace than that of intracellular processes. Nevertheless, salivary research is at a crossroads due to the emergence of new biologies, most notably recombinant technologies, cell biology, and protein engineering. Indeed, the future of salivary research will require the integration of these new disciplines with the more traditional disciplines. Salivary researchers are at the critical threshold of having a large volume of scientific information that can be applied clinically towards enhancing natural defense mechanisms. For example, studies in the not-too-distant future could be directed toward topical vaccines against oral disease, the development of artificial salivas, or the diagnostic use of sialochemistry by dental practitioners. Before these clinical goals can be achieved, however, additional research is needed regarding the intracellular and extracellular events that modulate saliva secretion and function. Finally, clinical applications will demand consideration of normal vs. the compromised host, normal vs. high-risk populations, and local vs. systemic diseases in order to develop the appropriate diagnostic and treatment modalities.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

The NIDR has been a mainstay of support for research and related training on salivary glands and their secretions and has thus contributed to advances in basic research and furthered progress in understanding diseases or syndromes in which salivary gland function is compromised. Based on recommendations by the Dental Research Programs Advisory Committee at its June 7-8, 1988 meeting, this program desires to expand its support of research, both basic and clinical, and research training and career development in the broad area of this announcement. Accordingly, applications are invited for regular research project grants (including minority research supplements), program project grants, FIRST awards, small grants, career development awards, and postdoctoral fellowships relating but not limited to the following areas:

1. Description of the characteristics of the salivary-associated lymphoid tissue (SALT) with emphasis on: (a) the mechanisms of homing of immune

component cells to and within salivary glands, (b) the cellular elements and factors regulating differentiation and antibody production within specific gland types, (c) the intrinsic and extrinsic factors involved in the ontogeny of salivary immunity, and (d) specific enhancement of host defenses using local antigen delivery methods.

2. Definition of the molecular mechanisms involved in salivary secretion with emphasis on the diversity of signal transduction processes present in different salivary tissues and species.

3. Definition of the mechanisms of salivary-specific gene expression in developing and adult glands with emphasis on: (a) the trans-acting factors that modulate gene transcription, and (b) the exogenous factors that modulate gene expression.

4. Elaboration and definition of the structural basis of salivary molecular function in health and disease and both in solution and at various tissue and environmental interfaces, with emphasis on: (a) the development of appropriate diagnostic reagents to correlate the expression of secreted salivary products with oral health status, and (b) the application of the knowledge of structure/function relationships to enhance natural defense through the development of artificial salivas and modulation of cellular and secretory gene products.

5. Development and characterization of immortalized normal human and rodent salivary gland epithelial cell lines with appropriate phenotypic expression.

It should be reemphasized that the above list of potential areas of investigation is not intended to be either comprehensive or exclusive, nor is it in order of priority. Rather, it is intended to exemplify the wide variety of new and/or continuing program emphases.

MECHANISMS OF SUPPORT

Applications considered appropriate responses to this announcement include the traditional research project grant (R01), the program project grant (P01), the First Independent Research Support and Transition (FIRST) award (R29), the small grant (R03), the postdoctoral individual fellowship (F32) and senior fellowship (F33) awards, and the following career development awards: the Modified Research Career Development Award (K04), the Physician Scientist for Dentist Award (K11), and the Individual Dentist Scientist Award (K15). The specific application forms and kits required in this connection are available in the business or grants and contracts offices of most academic and research institutions or may be obtained from:

Office of Grants Inquiries
Division of Research Grants
Westwood Building, Room 449
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-4500
Telephone: (301) 496-7441

APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

Applications will be accepted on an indefinite basis in accordance with the receipt, Initial Review Group, National Advisory Council, and earliest possible beginning dates specified in the pertinent application kits.

Applications in response to this announcement will be reviewed on a nationwide basis in competition with other applications and in accordance with the usual National Institutes of Health (NIH) peer review procedures. The initial review for scientific and technical merit will be by an appropriate study section. Secondary review will be by an appropriate advisory council. The review criteria will be those customary for the support mechanism selected. Funding decisions will be based upon relative scientific merit, program relevance, and the availability of appropriated funds.

The NIH urges applicants to give added attention (where feasible and appropriate) to the inclusion of women, as well as men, and minorities in the study populations for all clinical research efforts. Investigators are reminded that merely including an arbitrary number of such participants in a given study is insufficient to guarantee generalization of the results. In attempting to include women and minority groups in a particular study, attention must be paid to research design and sample size issues. If women and minorities are not to be included, a clear rationale for their exclusion should be provided.

On the first (face) page, item 2, of the application form PHS 398 (rev. 10/88), the word "Yes" should be checked and the phrase "NIDR P.A.: Research on Salivary Glands and Secretions" should be typed in the space provided. In the case of fellowship applications, the same phrase should be typed on line 3 of the face page of form PHS 416-1 (rev. 7/88). With the exception of small grant applications, which are submitted directly to the NIDR Scientific Review Branch (Westwood Building, Room 519), the original and six copies of the application should be sent or delivered to:

Grant Application Receipt Office
Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 240
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-4500**

For further information concerning this announcement and the available mechanisms of support, applicants are encouraged to contact:

G. G. Roussos, Ph.D.
Chief, Caries, Restorative Materials,
and Salivary Research Branch
National Institute of Dental Research
Westwood Building, Room 505
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-4500
Telephone: (301) 496-7884

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.121, Diseases of the Teeth and Supporting Tissues. Awards will be made under authorization of the Public Health Service Act, Title III, Section 301 (Public Law 78-410, as amended; 42 USC 241) and administered under PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of Executive Order 12372 or Health Systems Agency review.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH SUPPORT SHARED INSTRUMENTATION GRANTS

P.T. 18; K.W. 0735000, 1014006

Division of Research Resources

Application Receipt Date: March 26, 1990

BACKGROUND

The Division of Research Resources (DRR) is continuing its competitive Biomedical Research Support (BRS) Shared Instrumentation Grant (SIG) Program initiated in Fiscal Year 1982. The program was established in recognition of the long-standing need in the biomedical research community to cope with rapid technological advances in instrumentation and the rapid rate of obsolescence of existing equipment. The objective of the program is to make available, to institutions with a high concentration of Public Health Service (PHS)-supported biomedical investigators, research instruments which can only be justified on a shared-use basis and for which meritorious research projects are described.

An eligible institution may submit more than one application for different instrumentation for the March 26, 1990, deadline. However, if multiple applications are submitted for similar instrumentation from one or more eligible components of an institution, then documentation from a high administrative official must be provided, stating that the multiple applications are a coordinated institutional resource plan, not an unintended duplication.

RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

This program is designed to meet the special problems of acquisition and updating of expensive shared-use instruments that are not generally available through other PHS mechanisms, such as the regular research project, program project and center grant programs, the Biomedical Research Technology Grant Program, or the Biomedical Research Support (BRS) Grant Program. Proposals for the development of new instrumentation will not be considered.

ELIGIBILITY

The BRS Shared Instrumentation Grant Program is a subprogram of the BRS Grant Program of DRR. Awards are made under the authority of the BRS program and are made to institutions only, not to individuals. Therefore, eligibility is

limited to institutions that receive a BRS grant award. Awards are contingent on the availability of funds.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

BRS Shared Instrumentation Grants provide support for expensive state-of-the-art instruments utilized in both basic and clinical research. Applications are limited to instruments that cost at least $100,000 per instrument or system. The maximum award is $400,000. Types of instrumentation supported include, but are not limited to nuclear magnetic resonance systems, electron microscopes, mass spectrometers, protein sequencer/amino acid analyzers and cell sorters. Support will not be provided for general purpose equipment or purely instructional equipment. Proposals for "stand alone" computer systems will only be considered if the instrument is solely dedicated to the research needs of a broad community of PHS-supported investigators.

Awards will be made for the direct costs of the acquisition of new, or the updating of existing, research instruments. The institution must meet those costs (not covered in the normal purchase price) required to place the instrumentation in operational order as well as the maintenance, support personnel and service costs associated with maximum utilization of the instrument. There is no upper limit on the cost of the instrument but the maximum award is $400,000. Grants will be awarded for a period of one year and are not renewable. Supplemental applications will not be accepted. The program does not provide indirect costs or support for construction or alterations and renovations. Costs sharing is not required. If the amount of funds requested does not cover the total cost of the instrument, the application should describe the proposed sources(s) of funding for the balance of the cost of the instrument. Documentation of the availability of the remainder of the funding, signed by an appropriate institutional official, must be presented to DRR prior to the issuance of an award. Requests for a multiple instrument purchase totalling over $400,000 must specify and justify which instrument(s) should be supported within the $400,000 ceiling.

Applicants proposing the direct purchase of an instrument which the institution has secured or is planning to secure via a lease-purchase arrangement are strongly encouraged to consult with their institutional sponsored projects office regarding applicable PHS policy prior to executing the lease-purchase agreement. Under no circumstances will a SIG application be accepted for review if the lease-purchase agreement was executed more than one year prior to submission of the SIG application. Further, the instrument must be considered state-of-the-art at the time of submission of the SIG application.

A major user group of three or more investigators should be identified. A minimum of three major users must have PHS peer-reviewed research support at the time of the award. The application must show a clear need for the instrumentation by projects supported by multiple PHS research awards and demonstrate that these projects will require at least 75 percent of the total usage of the instrument. Major users can be individual researchers, or a group of investigators within the same department or from several departments at the applicant institution. PHS extramural awardees from other institutions may also be included.

If the major user group does not require total usage of the instrument, access to the instrument can be made available to other users upon the advice of the internal advisory committee. These users need not be PHS awardees, but priority should be given to PHS-supported scientists engaged in biomedical research.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Each applicant institution must propose a Principal Investigator who can assume administrative/scientific oversight responsibility for the instrumentation requested. An internal advisory committee to assist in this responsibility should also be utilized. The Principal Investigator and the advisory group are responsible for the development of guidelines for shared use of the instrument, for preparation of all reports required by the NIH, for relocation of the instrument within the grantee institution if the major user group is significantly altered and for continued support for the maximum utilization and maintenance of the instrument in the post-award period.

A plan should be proposed for the day-to-day management of the instrument including designation of a qualified individual to supervise the operation of the instrument and to provide technical expertise to the users. Specific plans for sharing arrangements and for monitoring the use of the instrument should be described.

If an award is made, a final progress report will be required that describes the use of the instrument, lists all users, and indicates the value of the instrumentation to the research of the major users and to the institution as a whole. This report is due within 90 days following the end of the project period.

REVIEW PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA

Applications are reviewed by specially convened initial review groups of the Division of Research Grants (DRG) for scientific and technical merit and for program considerations by the National Advisory Research Resources Council (NARRC) of the DRR. Approximately half of the applications will be reviewed at the September 1990, NARRC meeting and the remainder at the NARRC meeting in February 1991. Funding decisions on all applications received for the March 26, 1990, deadline will not be made until the program receives an appropriation for FY 1991. The Council date will not affect funding decisions.

Criteria for review of applications include the following:

- The extent to which an award for the specific instrument would meet the scientific needs and enhance the planned research endeavors of the major users by providing an instrument that is unavailable or to which availability is highly limited.
- The availability and commitment of the appropriate technical expertise within the major user group or the institution for use of the instrumentation.
- The adequacy of the organizational plan and the internal advisory committee for administration of the grant including sharing arrangements for use of the instrument.
- The institution's commitment for continued support of the utilization and maintenance of the instrument.
- The benefit of the proposed instrument to the overall research community it will serve.

METHOD OF APPLYING

Copies of specific instructions in completing an application are being mailed to Program Directors of BRS grants and to sponsored program offices at all institutions currently receiving BRS grants. Interested investigators should obtain the application instructions from the Biomedical Research Support Program Office (301-496-6743) prior to preparing an application.

To identify an application as being in response to this Program Announcement, check the YES box in item 2 of the application face page and type in "Biomedical Research Support Shared Instrumentation Grants."

Applications must be received by March 26, 1990. Applications received after this date will not be accepted for review in this competition. The original and four copies of the application should be sent to:

Application Receipt Office
Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 240
Bethesda, Maryland 20892**

If appendix material is submitted, four collated sets must be included with the application package. Identify each of the four sets with the name of the principal investigator and the project title. This material will not be routinely duplicated and will be used in a limited way by members of the initial review group.

Two copies of the application and one copy of any appendix material should be addressed to:

Biomedical Research Support Program
Division of Research Resources
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 10A06
5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Inquiries should be directed to the Biomedical Research Support Program Office at (301) 496-6743.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number 13.337, Biomedical Research Support. Awards will be made under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Section 301 (Public Law 78-410, as amended; 42 USC 241) and administered under PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to A-95 Clearinghouse of Health Systems Agency Review.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD

P.T. 22, 26; K.W. 0720005

John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences

The John E. Fogarty International Center for the Advanced Study in the Health Sciences (FIC) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announces the availability of postdoctoral fellowships to U.S. and foreign health scientists who wish to conduct collaborative research abroad and in the United States, respectively. The purpose of these fellowships is to enhance the exchange of research experience and information in the biomedical, behavioral, and health sciences.

PROGRAMS FOR U.S. SCIENTISTS

SENIOR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS. These fellowships offer opportunities to U.S. biomedical, behavioral, or public health scientists to conduct research in a foreign institution. The program is for scientists who have established themselves in their chosen career in the United States and whose professional stature is well recognized by their peers and institutional officials.

The purpose of this program is to enhance the exchange of ideas and information about the latest advances in the health sciences, both basic and clinical, and to permit U.S. scientists to participate abroad in ongoing study or research in the health sciences.

Fellowships are awarded for a period of 3 to 12 months and provide stipend, travel, foreign living allowance, and host institutional allowance.

FOREIGN-SUPPORTED FELLOWSHIPS. These fellowships are supported by specific foreign countries. They provide opportunities for scientists to conduct collaborative research in the country that provides funding. The maximum period of support for all programs is 1 year; the minimum period of support varies with each program.

Participating countries are: Finland, France (CNRS and INSERM), Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and Taiwan.

PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN SCIENTISTS

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS. These fellowships offer opportunities to foreign scientists in the formative stage of their research career to extend their research experience in U.S. laboratories. Selections are first made by the Nominating Committee in a participating country or region. Over 50 countries or regions in the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Far East, Australia, Europe, and New Zealand participate in the program.

The purpose of this program is to forge relationships between distinguished scientists in the United States and qualified scientists in other countries in order to solve health-related problems of mutual interest.

Fellowships are awarded for a minimum of 12 months and provide stipend, travel, and institutional allowance.

PROGRAM FOR EXCHANGE VISITS

HEALTH SCIENTIST EXCHANGES. This program, which supports short-term 2-12 weeks) exchange visits between the United States and Hungary, Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Union, fosters collaborative activities in the health sciences that are of mutual benefit to the United States and the participating countries. Priority consideration is given to visits designed to strengthen or expand on-going collaborative relationships or to explore prospects for long-term cooperation.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH EXCHANGES. Awards are made for short-term (2-12 weeks) or long-term (3-6 months) exchanges of scientists between the United States and Austria or Bulgaria. The program is limited to support for collaboration in biomedical research.

Round-trip travel and in-country expenses are provided to participants in the Health Scientists and Biomedical Research Exchange Programs.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Information on eligibility requirements, financial provisions, and award duration is contained in a brochure on each program, available on request.

Application receipt dates for SENIOR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS are January 10, May 10, and September 10. Application kits are available only from the dean or equivalent institutional official. Only these persons can request the application kits from the FIC.

Applications to the HEALTH SCIENTIST AND BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, THE ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT FOUNDATION, AND THE VISITING SCIENTISTS PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL, TAIWAN, are accepted throughout the year. The receipt date for all other foreign-supported fellowships is May 10. These application kits are available from the FIC between December 1 and April 30.

Prospective applicants for the INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM must contact the Nominating Committee in their respective countries for information and application procedures. Application kits are available only through the Nominating Committees. The Nominating Committees submit their applications to the FIC annually by August 1.

The NIH is responsible for the scientific review of all applications except those that are submitted to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the National Science Council, Taiwan.

INQUIRES

For additional information, send a SELF-ADDRESSED LABEL to the FIC. All correspondence should indicate clearly the specific program of interest.

Additional information on the Health Scientists and Biomedical Research Exchange Programs may be obtained from:

International Coordination and Liaison Branch
Fogarty International Center
National Institutes of Health
Building 38A, Room 616
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Information on all other programs is available from:

International Research and Awards Branch
Fogarty International Center
National Institutes of Health
Building 38A, Room 613A
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

NIH SMALL INSTRUMENTATION GRANTS PROGRAM

P.T. 34; K.W. 0735000

National Institutes of Health

Application Receipt Date: February 13, 1990

BACKGROUND

In its appropriation for the NIH for Fiscal Year 1987, the Congress included a total of $16 million to be spent by the respective Bureaus/Institutes/Divisions (BIDs) for the funding of grants to purchase small instruments costing between $5,000 and $60,000. This action was in response to several recent studies of the problem of obsolete biomedical research instrumentation, indicating that the state of biomedical research instrumentation had seriously eroded over the last ten years and that this situation is retarding the progress of biomedical research. The most significant need identified in these studies is for the relatively low-cost pieces of equipment in the price range of approximately $5,000 to $60,000.

Approximately $16 million will be available for small instrumentation grants this year.

ELIGIBILITY AND TERMS OF AWARD

Each institution that received support under the Biomedical Research Support Grant (BRSG) Program in Fiscal Year 1989 and that currently has active NIH research grants is eligible to apply. Only one application may be submitted from each eligible institution or organizational component. Each institution may establish its own procedures for identifying equipment requests to be included in its application.

The small instrumentation award will be restricted to the purchase of equipment costing between $5,000 and $60,000. Awards will be made on or before September 30, 1990. The amount of the award will be based upon a percentage of the institution's Biomedical Research Support Grant award for Fiscal Year 1989 or $5,000, whichever is greater. Specific funding decisions will depend on available BID appropriations as well as the appropriateness of the request. Institutions will be notified of the maximum amount for which they may apply.

METHOD OF APPLYING

Letters of instruction to eligible institutions will be mailed on or about December 1, 1989.

Completed applications must be received by February 13, 1990.

Investigators interested in participating in their institution's application must contact the institution's Biomedical Research Support Grant Program Director. Institutional officials who expect to be involved in preparing an application are requested to review the letter of instructions prior to contacting NIH.

**THE MAILING ADDRESS GIVEN FOR SENDING APPLICATIONS TO THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH GRANTS OR CONTACTING PROGRAM STAFF IN THE WESTWOOD BUILDING IS THE CENTRAL MAILING ADDRESS FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH. APPLICANTS WHO USE EXPRESS MAIL OR A COURIER SERVICE ARE ADVISED TO FOLLOW THE CARRIER'S REQUIREMENTS FOR SHOWING A STREET ADDRESS. THE ADDRESS FOR THE WESTWOOD BUILDING IS:

5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

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