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requirements, and changes in extra-
mural programs administered by the
National Institutes of Health.

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NOTICES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME RESEARCH LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

P.T. 23; K.W. 0715008

National Institutes of Health

Application Receipt Date: January 22, 1991

This notice is a republication, with minor modifications, of a December 1, 1989 (Vol. 18, No. 43), issuance on this subject. It is being reissued to emphasize its availability.

SUMMARY: Approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on June 15, 1990, under the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announces the availability of educational loan repayment under the National Institutes of Health Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Research Loan Repayment Program (Program). The Program, which is authorized by section 487A of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act (42 U.S.C. 288-1), as amended by section 634 of the Health Omnibus Programs Extension of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-607), provides for the repayment of a sizeable portion of the accumulated educational loan debt of health professionals who agree to conduct, as employees of the NIH, research with respect to AIDS. The Program provides for repayment of up to \$20,000 of the principal and interest of the educational loans of such health professionals for each year of obligated service. The Program is limited to health professionals who have a substantial amount of educational loan debt relative to income, and who were NOT employed by the NIH during the period of November 4, 1987 through November 3, 1988. The purpose of the Program is to increase the number of persons conducting AIDS research at the NIH. The NIH, through this notice, invites health professionals interested in engaging in AIDS research to apply for participation in the NIH AIDS Research Loan Repayment Program.

ADDRESS: Information regarding the Program may be obtained by calling or writing:

Mr. Marc Horowitz, J.D.
Director, NIH AIDS Research Loan Repayment Program
Office of AIDS Research
National Institutes of Health
Claude Denson Pepper Building 31, Room 3B19
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 402-0192

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 4, 1988, the United States Congress enacted Public Law 100-607, the "Health Omnibus Programs Extension of 1988", which, in part, directs the NIH to establish a program of educational loan repayment to attract additional investigators into AIDS research. The Program provides for the repayment of a sizeable portion of the accumulated educational loan debt of health professionals who are employed by the NIH after November 4, 1988, to engage in AIDS research.

The Program pays directly to participants' lenders a maximum of \$20,000 a year toward their qualifying educational debt, during a minimum two (2) year service period. The actual loan repayment is based, in part, on the availability of funding, as well as the participant's qualifying debt. Such payments to lenders are considered income for Program participants. Upon request, and in unusual circumstances, the Program will partially reimburse participants a "reasonable amount", not to exceed 20 percent of the annual amount of the loans being repaid, of the Federal, State or local tax liability incurred as a result of loan repayments. Benefits are in addition to annual basic pay or stipend.

The NIH will repay lenders for the principal, interest, and related expenses (such as the required insurance premiums on the unpaid balances of some loans) of qualified Government (Federal, State, and local) and commercial educational loans obtained by participants for: (1) undergraduate, graduate, and health professional school tuition expenses; (2) other reasonable educational expenses required by the school(s) attended, including fees, books, supplies, educational equipment and materials, and laboratory expenses; and (3) reasonable living expenses, including the cost of room and board, transportation, and commuting costs.

The following loans are NOT repayable under the Program: (1) loans not obtained from a Government entity or commercial lending institution, such as loans from friends and relatives; (2) loans for which contemporaneous documentation is not available; and (3) loans, or those portions of loans, obtained for educational or living expenses that exceed the "reasonable" level as determined by the standard school budget for the year in which the loan was made and are not judged by the NIH to be reasonable based on appropriate contemporaneous documentation. Individuals, with loans in default or loans not current in payment schedule, may still apply for consideration for the Program. However, repayments will only be made for loans with current payment status.

In addition, for educational loans that contain provisions for loan forgiveness in exchange for a future service obligation, the NIH will NOT repay loans and/or penalties that may result from failure to serve as required under the conditions of such loans. This includes, but is not limited to: (1) The Physicians Shortage Area Scholarship Program; (2) The Public Health and National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program; (3) The Armed Forces (Army, Navy, or Air Force) Health Professions Scholarship Programs; and (4) The Indian Health Service Scholarship Program. Any individual who owes an obligation for health professional service to the Federal Government or a State or other entity under an agreement with such Federal, State, or other entity is ineligible for the Program unless such obligation will be completely satisfied prior to the beginning of service, or is deferred during the period of service under the Program.

Finally, payments will NOT be made under the Program for loans that participants have already repaid.

In return for the repayment of their educational loans, participants must agree to: (1) engage PRIMARILY in AIDS research as employees of the NIH for a minimum period of two (2) years; (2) make payments to lenders on their own behalf for periods of Leave Without Pay; and (3) pay monetary damages as required for breach of the 2-year service obligation. Applicants must submit a signed contract, prepared by the NIH, containing this service agreement at the time they apply for consideration under the Program. Substantial monetary penalties will be imposed for breach of contract.

AIDS research includes such activities as studies of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), opportunistic agents, epidemiology, the pathophysiology of AIDS infection, the development of models of AIDS infection, cofactors predisposing to acquiring HIV infection, and the development of prophylactic and therapeutic regimens. More specifically, the following research activities are included: (1) studies of HIV and related retroviruses; (2) studies of the mechanism(s) by which HIV and related retroviruses establish infection and infect host cells; (3) studies of the mechanism(s) by which HIV and related retroviruses cause disease, including studies of the immune deficiency induced by HIV and related retroviruses; (4) studies of the pathophysiology of host response to HIV infection; (5) studies of in vivo or in vitro models of human HIV infection; (6) epidemiological studies of HIV and related retrovirus infection; (7) clinical trials involving prophylaxis or therapy for HIV infection or its sequelae; (8) preclinical studies aimed at the development of therapy for or prevention of HIV infection and the immunodeficiency caused by HIV infection; (9) cofactors predisposing to acquiring HIV infection; (10) basic studies and clinical trials involving vaccines or other immunological or chemotherapeutic interventions for the prevention of HIV infection; and (11) basic studies into the transmission of HIV involving high-risk behaviors and research concerning the interruption of transmission by behavioral change and pharmacologic intervention.

AIDS researchers include scientists who are intellectually engaged in the process of providing scientific direction and guidance in programs of original AIDS research, specifically epidemiologists, statisticians, and others who are involved in the design and conduct of research studies. The duties of such scientists may include the generation and design of studies; the collation and analysis of data; and/or the preparation and publication, as author or co-author, of studies in peer-reviewed journals. AIDS researchers also include physicians who are providing care for HIV-infected individuals who are subjects of HIV-related research.

Because the Program is designed for health professionals who have not yet repaid their educational loan debt, it is anticipated that most participants will still be in the beginning stages of their careers. Consequently, it is expected that most participants will be appointed as Clinical Associates (under the Commissioned Corps or service fellowship programs), or as Staff or Senior Staff Fellows and Visiting Associates. Participants who are more senior may be employed as NIH Special Experts, appointed in the competitive Civil Service or appointed as Commissioned Officers in the Commissioned Corps.

Initial contracts will be executed to cover a two (2) year service period. At the conclusion of this initial contract, participants may re-apply and be considered for a one (1) year continuation contract. Continuation contracts are based upon the same review criteria as the initial two (2) year contract, and may be approved on a year-to-year basis, contingent upon the appropriation and availability of funds.

Consideration for the Program is contingent, in part, upon employment with the NIH. Candidates may not be recommended for loan repayment by their Institute, Center, or Division (ICD) until a firm employment commitment has been made by their ICD Personnel Office. Eligibility for Program participation may be effective with the Entrance on Duty date. ICD Scientific Program Directors recommend applicants, with concurrence of the ICD Directors. Applications are then reviewed by the AIDS Research Loan Repayment Advisory Committee (LRAC), which ranks and approves or disapproves ICD recommended applicants based, in part, on the appropriateness of the research assignment to AIDS research, as well as the scientific merit of the research. The award of funds is contingent upon the availability of funds appropriated for the NIH by the Congress of the United States.

Under the Program, payments will be made directly to lenders on a quarterly basis at the completion of each quarter of the participants' satisfactory service.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Specific eligibility criteria with regard to participation in the NIH AIDS Research Loan Repayment Program include the following:

- (1) Participants must have a Ph.D., M.D., D.O., D.D.S., D.M.D., D.V.M., or equivalent degree.
- (2) Participants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- (3) Participants must have educational debt in excess of 20 percent of their annual basic pay or stipend at entrance on duty, resulting from governmental or commercial loans obtained to support their undergraduate and/or graduate education.
- (4) Individuals employed by the NIH during the period November 4, 1987 through November 3, 1988 are INELIGIBLE.
- (5) Participants may be appointed under a temporary or permanent employment mechanism, so long as their employment has the potential to last a minimum of two (2) years.
- (6) Individuals with existing service obligations to Federal, State, or other entities will NOT be considered for the Program UNLESS and UNTIL the existing service obligation is discharged.
- (7) Applicants will NOT be excluded from consideration under the Program on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, handicap, age, national origin, or political affiliation.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

This Program is not subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

This Program was granted OMB clearance on June 15, 1990, under the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, and has been designated OMB No. 0925-0361.

The Office of AIDS Research, NIH, responsible for the administration of the Program, will establish periodic deadline dates for the receipt of applications. January 22, 1991 is the next deadline date for the review of ICD-endorsed applications.

NOTICE OF MEETING

P.T. 42; K.W. 0715008, 0715032, 0715085

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

A meeting of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) investigators supported in the Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition and in the Division of Kidney and Urologic and Hematologic Diseases of the National Institute of Diabetes and

Digestive and Kidney Diseases is scheduled for November 30, 1990, at the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting is to have investigators report on the status of their HIV research programs. The meeting is open on a space-available basis.

For further information contact:

Dr. Ralph L. Bain
HIV Program Director
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
Federal Building, Room 102
Bethesda, MD 20892

or

Dr. Frank Hamilton
Gastrointestinal Immunology Program Director
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
Westwood Building, Room 3A18
Bethesda, MD 20892

NOTICES OF AVAILABILITY (RFPs AND RFAs)

STUDIES OF CHEMICAL DISPOSITION IN MAMMALS

RFP AVAILABLE: NIH-ES-91-01

P.T. 34; K.W. 1007009, 0710100, 0765020

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), is soliciting proposals from offerors having the capability to conduct studies of chemical disposition in mammals. The objective of this project is to procure detailed chemical disposition data from a number of studies of selected environmental contaminants or model compounds per year. Most of these studies will be required in laboratory rats (Fischer 344); however, some studies may be required in other laboratory animals (rodents, dogs, or primates). Most studies will address the disposition of organic chemicals or environmental contaminants; however, studies of inorganic compounds may also be required. Individual studies may vary in complexity from preliminary investigations of chemical absorption to detailed studies of all phases of chemical disposition metabolism and toxicokinetics. The Government estimates that the project will require approximately 1.9 professional person years and 5.78 technical person years of effort per contract year. Requests must reference RFP No. NIH-ES-91-01 and must be directed to the office listed below. All responsible sources may submit a proposal that shall be considered by the Agency. The RFP will be released on or about November 15, 1990, and proposals due to be received January 15, 1991. The Institute plans to make two awards from this solicitation.

Requests should reference RFP NIH-ES-91-01 and should be forwarded to:

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Contracts and Procurement Management Branch, OM
ATTN: Mr. Donald Gula, Contract Specialist
79 T.W. Alexander Drive, 4401 Research Commons Building
P.O. Box 12874
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Telephone: (919) 541-7893

POPULATION RESEARCH CENTERS

RFA AVAILABLE: HD-91-03

P.T. 04; K.W. 0710030, 0413000, 0413001

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: April 1, 1991
Application Receipt Date: August 1, 1991

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch (DBSB), Center For Population Research (CPR), National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), invites applications for Population Research Centers using the P30 core center grant mechanism. DBSB supports a fixed number of P30 Population Research Centers that are given a commitment of five years of support, renewable at five-year intervals. When a center applies for renewal, NICHD issues a Request for Applications (RFA) inviting competition for the application. There will be two currently funded centers applying for renewal in FY92, and this RFA invites competition for these grants. P30 core center grant applications request support for core services and facilities supporting a large number of existing research grants that involve any aspect of research currently supported by DBSB. A grant for a population research center must be predicated on the existence of a substantial number of research grants that are funded by outside sources and will be active on the projected starting date of the grant, July 1, 1992. The portfolio of research grants must include at least one NIH and two other federally funded grants. These grants must be active users of the core facilities and services proposed in the application and each core must service at least three federally funded projects, one of which must be DBSB, NICHD supported. Applications proposing new centers must not request more than \$400,000 in first year, direct cost support and existing centers must not request more than 120 percent of the Council-approved amount in the last budget year of their current grant. Because population research centers are complex entities, it is strongly recommended that interested applicants contact DBSB for consultation regarding the centers program. An optional letter of intent is due on April 1, 1991.

For further information and a copy of an expanded RFA and detailed "P30 CENTER CORE GRANT GUIDELINES", contact:

V. Jeffery Evans, PhD, JD
Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch
Center For Population Research, NICHD
Executive Plaza North Building, Room 611
6130 Executive Boulevard
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-1174

MECHANISMS OF HYPERTENSION IN BLACK MEN AND WOMEN

RFA AVAILABLE: HL-91-01-H

P.T. 34, FC; K.W. 0715115,0755030, 1002019, 1002004, 1002008, 1002030, 0785025

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

Application Receipt Date: April 8, 1991

The Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), announces the availability of a Request for Applications (RFA) on the above subject. The purpose of this RFA is to stimulate studies to elucidate specific mechanisms underlying the excessive prevalence of hypertension in blacks, and to delineate mechanisms that direct the pathogenesis of hypertension in blacks. This RFA also seeks to encourage investigations that will examine gender-related mechanisms associated with the development of hypertension in blacks. Due to the multiple dimensions of the disease, a variety of disciplines and approaches are encouraged, such as genetic linkage analysis, molecular biology, biochemistry, physiology, neurobiology, pharmacology, cell biology, cardiology, and nephrology.

Investigators should be aware that NIH requires applicants to give added attention, where feasible and appropriate, to the inclusion of women in study populations. Gender differences must be noted and analyzed whenever possible. If women are not included in a given study, a clear reason for their exclusion must be provided. Merely including an arbitrary number of women participants in a given study is insufficient to guarantee generalization of results.

The support mechanism for this program will be the traditional, individual research grant. Although approximately \$1.5 million in total costs for this program is included in the financial plans for fiscal year 1991, award of grants pursuant to this RFA is contingent upon receipt of funds for this purpose. It is anticipated that 4 to 6 grants will be awarded under this program.

Inquiries regarding this program and requests for the complete RFA document should be addressed to:

Stephen C. Mockrin, Ph.D.
Chief
Hypertension and Kidney Diseases Branch
Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
Federal Building, Room 4C10
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-1857
Fax: (301) 496-9882

DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL RESOURCES

RFA AVAILABLE: RR-91-01

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002002, 1014006

National Center for Research Resources

Application Receipt Date: February 12, 1991

INTRODUCTION

The Animal Resources Program (ARP) of the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), National Institutes of Health (NIH), assists institutions in developing and improving animal resources for biomedical research and research training through the award of research and resource grants. This document relates to institutional animal resource improvement projects. These projects will be supported with funds anticipated to be made available to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in Fiscal Year 1991 for this activity.

This is a reissuance of RFA RR-90-02, which was originally published in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts (Volume 19, Number 18, May 4, 1990, and clarified in Volume 19, Number 21, June 8, 1990). A related RFA, "Animal Facility Improvements for Small Research Programs," RR-90-03 was published in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts on August 14, 1990, Vol. 19, No. 31.

RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

Animal resource improvement grants are awarded to assist biomedical research and educational institutions in upgrading their animal facilities and in developing administratively centralized programs of animal care. Another major objective is to enable institutions to comply with the USDA Animal Welfare Act and DHHS policies related to the care and use of laboratory animals. Requests should describe a discrete project. If this project is part of a larger renovation plan, the larger plan can be described in the body of the grant. Requests are limited to alterations and renovations (A&R) to improve laboratory animal facilities and major resource equipment related to the improvement. Both the need for resource improvements and a sound plan to bring the entire animal resource up to required standards must be demonstrated.

SUPPORT AND ELIGIBILITY

NCRR anticipates that \$9.4 million may be available to support animal resource improvement grants in Fiscal Year 1991. It is anticipated that approximately 40 grant awards will be made. The number and specific amounts of these awards will depend on the merit and scope of the applications received and the availability of funds. Awards will be made for a project period of one year. All policies and requirements that govern PHS grant programs will apply.

Any domestic public or private institution, organization, or association with one or more research projects supported by the Public Health Service (PHS) that involve the use of laboratory animals is eligible to apply. For the purposes of this program, an institution is defined as the organizational component covered under a single Biomedical Research Support Grant code. Separate applications may be submitted from different colleges or schools on the same campus of a university within the same fiscal year. However, a single proposal for a campus-wide program with a single, centralized animal care program is encouraged whenever possible. The total request for PHS support and the award are limited to \$700,000. Within this limit, the equipment request may be of any size but the A&R portion cannot exceed \$500,000. Matching funds from non-Federal sources, and equal to the total award, are required. These matching funds must be applied to the specific project described in the application and cannot be met by citing other expenditures.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

There will be a single receipt date of February 12, 1991. Applications received after this deadline will be returned without further processing. Applications must be submitted on Form PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88).

Inquiries about specific instructions for applications and other aspects of the program should be directed to:

Animal Resources Program
National Center for Research Resources
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 857
5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-5175

Application forms (PHS 398) may be obtained from grantee business or sponsored projects offices or from:

Office of Grants Inquiries
Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 449
5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-7441

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.306, Laboratory Animal Sciences and Primate Research. Awards will be made under the authority 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.

ONGOING PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADAMHA SMALL GRANT PROGRAM

PA: PA-91-08

P.T. 34; K.W. 0715129, 0404003, 0404009

Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration

The Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) Small Grant Program provides research support of up to \$50,000 per year for up to 2 years (direct costs). This award is not renewable.

The ADAMHA Small Grant Program accepts applications that fall within the program interests of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). Each Institute makes awards for small grants relevant to its mission.

PURPOSE

The ADAMHA Small Grant Program provides limited relatively rapid financial support for research within the purview of the agency. Funding decisions will be based on scientific merit as determined by peer review, with priority given to applications in any of the following four categories:

1. Newer, less experienced investigators
2. Investigators at institutions without well-developed research tradition and resources
3. More experienced investigators for exploratory studies which represent a significant change in research direction for them
4. More experienced investigators for testing new methods or techniques

Applicants must include an introductory paragraph in the research plan section of the application identifying which priority category (1-4 above) is relevant to them and providing explicit justification for its applicability. If the

application does not fall into any of the priority categories, this should be stated.

Applications may be made for support of research in any scientific area relevant to mental health or to drug or alcohol abuse. While proposals may involve a wide variety of biomedical, biobehavioral, or clinical disciplines, relevance to the missions of the ADAMHA Institutes must be clear. Applications for studies aimed at problems outside these areas will be returned without review.

For projects involving clinical research, ADAMHA requires applicants to give special attention to the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. If women or minorities are not included in the study populations for clinical studies, a specific justification for this exclusion must be provided. Applications without such documentation will not be accepted for review. (See NIH Guide notices of August 24, 1990, Vol. 19, No.31 and September 28, 1990, Vol. 19, No. 35).

ELIGIBILITY AND TERMS OF SUPPORT

Applications for small research grants may be submitted by any public or private, profit or nonprofit institution such as a university, college, hospital, laboratory; units of State or local government; and authorized units of the Federal Government.

APPLICATION AND REVIEW

Small grant applications should be submitted 6 months in advance of the desired starting date. Applications must be submitted for the regular receipt dates for research grant applications: June 1, October 1, February 1. Revised small grant applications must be submitted on the regular receipt dates for revised applications: July 1, November 1, March 1. (An exception to this schedule is AIDS related research. All AIDS applications are on an expedited review schedule and must be received by January 2, May 1, or September 1.) Applications received late will be held for the next review cycle or returned to the applicant.

All applicants must use the most recent revision of the research grant application form PHS 398 (current revision 10/88). The number of this program announcement and its name should be entered in item 2 of the face page of PHS 398 application form (PA-91-08, "ADAMHA Small Grant Program"). The original and 6 copies of the application should be submitted to the following address:

Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 240
Bethesda, MD 20892**

The application should be completed according to the instructions accompanying the PHS 398 forms, with two exceptions:

- 1) The narrative portion of the small grant application which describes the research plan (Section 2, parts A-D) may not exceed 10 pages of text.
- 2) An introductory paragraph to the research plan must identify which of the four priority categories listed in the beginning of this announcement applies and provide an explanation of how that priority category applies. If the application does not fall into any of the priority areas, this should be stated.

REVIEW CRITERIA

- o Adequacy of preparation or ability of principal investigator to do the proposed work
- o Innovativeness or promise of the research idea
- o For pilot studies, the potential of the proposed study as a building block in the development of future research
- o Basis or grounding of the project in the relevant literature
- o Reasonableness of the proposed approach/methodology
- o Availability of adequate resources for the proposed research
- o Adequacy of the provisions for protection of human and/or animal subjects
- o Reasonableness/appropriateness of the requested budget

Reviewers will take into consideration the stage of scientific career development of the principal investigator in applying the above criteria.

After their review of scientific merit and the assignment of a priority score, reviewers will evaluate the justification provided for the priority category listed for this program. An administrative note in the summary statement documenting the review will reflect their evaluation.

AWARD CRITERIA

Criteria for funding of applications include the scientific merit of the proposal, relevance to areas of interest described in the Institute research program announcements, and availability of funds. In addition, Institute staff will consider the Initial Review Group evaluation of the justification for the Small Grant priority category. While this announcement does not specifically exclude applications that do not fall into one of the priority categories, applications that are in these areas will be given priority in funding. Accordingly, other applicants are advised to consider applying for regular research grants even if they are requesting support that is within the small grant program dollar and time limits.

STAFF CONTACTS FOR THE SMALL GRANT PROGRAM

Contacts for the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse

Division of Basic Research

Samir Zakhari, Ph.D.
Chief, Biomedical Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-4223

Walter Hunt, Ph.D.
Chief, Neuroscience and Behavioral Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-4223

Division of Clinical and Prevention Research

John Allen, Ph.D.
Chief, Treatment Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-0796

Jan Howard, Ph.D.
Chief, Prevention Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-1677

Division of Biometry and Epidemiology

Mary C. Dufour, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief, Epidemiology Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-4897

Contacts for the National Institute on Drug Abuse

Division of Preclinical Research

Stephen Szara, M.D.
Chief, Biomedical Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-6300

Richard Hawks, Ph.D.
Chief, Research Technology Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-5280

Roger Brown, Ph.D.
Chief, Neuroscience Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-6975

Division of Clinical Research

John Boren, Ph.D.
Chief, Behavioral Pharmacology Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-1263

Zili Amsel, Sc.D.
Chief, Prevention Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-1514

Jack Blaine, M.D.
Chief, Treatment Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-4060

Sander Genser, M.D.
Acting Chief, Clinical Medicine Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-1801

Division of Applied Research

Barry Brown, Ph.D.
Chief, Community Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-6720

James Lipari
Chief, Workplace Policy Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-0802

Division of Epidemiology and Prevention Research

Mario DeLaRosa, Ph.D.
Epidemiologic Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-2974

Contacts for the National Institute of Mental Health

Division of Applied and Services Research

Thomas L. Lalley
Chief, Services Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-3364

Ronald Manderscheid, Ph.D.
Chief, Statistical Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-3343

Susan D. Solomon, Ph.D.
Chief, Violence and Traumatic Stress Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-3728

Division of Basic Brain and Behavioral Sciences

Rodney Cocking, Ph.D.
Acting Chief, Basic Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-3942

Leonard Mitnick, Ph.D.
Chief, Basic Prevention and Behavioral Medicine Research Branch
Telephone: (301) 443-4337

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RESEARCH ON LOW BACK PAIN

PA: PA-91-09

P.T. 34; K.W. 0715150, 0715136, 0705050

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

PURPOSE

The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) invites grant applications to study a broad range of basic and clinical topics related to low back pain. Support will be through individual research, fellowship training, and career development grants.

BACKGROUND

Low back pain is the most common cause of disability in individuals between 20 and 50 years old. It is also an extremely costly health care problem. An episode of back pain occurs in 50 to 70 percent of adults during their lifetimes. Most episodes of back pain are self-limiting. Thirteen percent of the population experiences back pain lasting more than two weeks and 5 percent have chronic disability. Most of the very high medical and social costs of back pain can be attributed to the cohort of patients that is chronically disabled. The disabled subset (2.6 million permanently disabled) is increasing 14 times faster than the population growth.

To help stimulate and focus enhanced research efforts, the NIAMS, in conjunction with the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, and the North American Spine Society, sponsored a Workshop on Research Perspectives in Low Back Pain in May 1988. A primary objective of the workshop was to develop suggestions for future research directions. A description of the workshop agenda with a list of 63 independent research suggestions was published in Spine (Vol. 14, No. 12, pp 1384-1390, 1989). Recommendations for future directions in four areas were identified: nerve, disc, posterior support structures, and muscle. Investigators interested in responding to this program announcement are invited to write or call Dr. Stephen Gordon to receive a copy of the journal article. A more detailed description of each recommended research topic is available in the workshop proceedings New Perspectives on Low Back Pain, edited by J.W. Frymoyer and S.L. Gordon, Chicago, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, February 1989.

OBJECTIVES

This solicitation is intended to stimulate research that provides an improved understanding of the etiology, epidemiology, prevention, and treatment of low back pain. Both basic research and work that integrates the clinical syndromes with new basic research knowledge are encouraged. In many

instances, collaborative and multidisciplinary research efforts may be required to achieve significant advances. Research training and career development opportunities would be valuable for young investigators seeking to enter this field or to enhance their skills to conduct research related to low back pain.

SCOPE

There is a great need for increased research efforts in a broad range of scientific topics related to the pathogenesis, prevention, and treatment of low back pain. The scope of the areas requiring further research was clearly described at the Workshop on Low Back Pain and in the resulting publications. No priority has been established among the research suggestions presented in the article. Applications are encouraged in any scientifically meritorious research areas related to low back pain. Research applications are encouraged from all basic science disciplines pertinent to this area, as well as the medical specialties providing primary health care for patients with low back pain including: orthopaedic and neurologic surgeons, internists, rheumatologists, physiatrists, and chiropractic and osteopathic practitioners.

The NIH requires applicants for grants to give added attention (where feasible and appropriate) to the inclusion of minority groups and/or women in the study populations for research. For proposed population-based studies that include neither women nor minorities, a clear rationale for not including them must be provided.

APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

Applications in response to this announcement will be reviewed in accordance with the usual Public Health Service peer review procedures for research, career, and training grant applications. Review criteria include: the significance and originality of the research goals and approaches; feasibility of the research and adequacy of the experimental design; training, research competence, and dedication of the investigator(s); adequacy of available facilities; provision for the humane care of animals; and appropriateness of the requested budget relative to the work proposed. Funding decisions will be based on the evaluations by the Initial Review Groups and appropriate national advisory councils. Applications should be submitted using form PHS-398 (Rev. 10/88) or form PHS 416-1 and related instructional information available in the business or grants office at most academic or research institutions, or from the Division of Research Grants, National Institutes of Health.

Applications will be accepted in accordance with the dates for receipt of new applications on a continuing basis:

February 1, June 1, October 1, for research grant applications.

January 10, May 10, September 10, for National Research Service Award applications

The Phrase "RESPONSE TO NIAMS/NINDS PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT: RESEARCH ON LOW BACK PAIN PA-91-09" should be typed on line 2 of the face page of the application. The original and six copies of the application should be sent or delivered to:

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

For further information, investigators are encouraged to contact the following individuals:

Stephen L. Gordon, Ph.D.
Musculoskeletal Diseases Program Director
National Institute of Arthritis and
Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
Westwood Building, Room 407
Bethesda, MD 20892-4500
Telephone: (301) 496-7326

Dr. George N. Eaves
Deputy Director
Division of Stroke and Trauma
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
Federal Building, Room 8A-13
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-4226

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.846, Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Research, No. 93.853, Clinical Research Related to Neurological Disorders, and No. 93.854, Biological Basis Research in the Neurosciences, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Awards will be made under the authority 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 GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1991

PA: PA-91-10

P.T. 34; K.W. 0710030, 1014002

National Center for Research Resources

Application Receipt Date: December 31, 1990

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Biomedical Research Support Grant (BRSO) Program is designed to provide funds to eligible institutions to strengthen their programs by allowing flexibility to meet emerging opportunities in research; to explore new and unorthodox ideas; and to use these research funds in ways and for purposes that, in the judgment of the grantee institution, would contribute most effectively to the furtherance of their research program.

ELIGIBILITY

Awards are made to non-profit institutions, not directly to individual investigators. Health professional schools, other academic institutions, hospitals, state and municipal health agencies, and research organizations may apply if, during FY 1990 (October 1, 1989 through September 30, 1990), the institution was awarded a minimum of three allowable PHS biomedical or health-related behavioral research grants and/or cooperative agreements, totaling \$200,000 (including direct and indirect costs). Individuals, Federal institutions, foreign institutions, and profit-making institutions are not eligible.

NOTE: "Other academic institutions" include, as a single eligible component, all other schools, departments, colleges, and free-standing institutes of the institution other than the health professional schools of a university.

AWARD CONDITIONS

Awards are contingent upon the availability of funds. With eligibility determined annually, the BRSO award is for one year beginning April 1. The BRSO award provides funds only for direct costs, and is based upon a formula that is applied to the total costs awarded to an institution in the preceding fiscal year for allowable PHS research grants. No indirect costs will be awarded. Final progress and financial status reports, as well as a final invention statement, will be required by June 30, 1992.

METHOD OF APPLYING

Form PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88) is to be used to apply for BRSO support. Form PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88) is available in grantee business offices or may be requested from the Office of Grants Inquiries, Division of Research Grants, Room 449 Westwood Building, 5333 Westbard Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

On or about November 26, a listing of eligible Fiscal Year 1990 grants, together with program application guidelines, will be mailed to institutions that, according to NIH records, are eligible to apply for a BRSO. If an institution believes that it is eligible and has not received application materials, please submit a letter of request to the address noted below.

Completed applications must be mailed to the following address in sufficient time to be received by the firm deadline date of December 31, 1990:

Office of Grants and Contracts Management National Center for Research Resources National Institutes of Health Room 849, Westwood Building 5333 Westbard Avenue Bethesda, MD 20892

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, No. 93.337, Biomedical Research Support. Grants will be awarded under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Section 301 (a)(3); Public Law 86-798, (42 USC 241) and administered under PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 45 CFR Part 74 and the Biomedical Research Support Grant Information Statement and Administrative Guidelines. This program is not subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of the Executive Order 12372 or Health Systems Agency review.

ERRATA

BEHAVIORAL AND NEURAL APPROACHES TO COGNITION IN MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL DISORDERS

PA: PA-91-03

P.T. 34; K.W. 0404000, 0414005, 1002030, 0715095, 0715129

National Institute of Mental Health

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) announces the retitling of PA-91-03 to Behavioral and Neural Approaches to Cognition in Mental Health and Mental Disorders, from Cognition and Mental Health: Behavioral and Neural Approaches. This program announcement was published in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts on October 19, 1990, Vol. 19, No. 38.

Additional information concerning this announcement may be obtained by contacting:

For neural mechanisms of cognition:

Richard Nakamura, Ph.D.
Cognition and Behavioral Neuroscience Research Branch
Room 11-105
Voice: (301) 443-3948
Fax: (301) 443-4822
E-mail: nrr@nihcu.bitnet

or

For behavioral principles of cognition:

Rodney Cocking, Ph.D.
Basic Behavioral and Cognitive Science Research Branch
Room 11C-10
Voice: (301) 443-3942
Fax: (301) 443-4822

The address for both of the above is:

Division of Basic Brain and Behavioral Sciences
National Institute of Mental Health
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

**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