and CONTRACTS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

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Supplements, printed on yellow paper, are published by the respective awarding units concerning new projects, solicitations of sources, and requests for proposals.

The GUIDE is published at irregular intervals to provide policy and administrative information to individuals and organizations who need to be kept informed of requirements and changes in grants and contracts activities administered by the National Institutes of Health.

RECEIPT AND REVIEW DATES FOR COMPETING APPLICATIONS

ANNOUNCEMENT

The receipt and review schedule for competing grant applications in the extramural programs of the National Institutes of Health was announced in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, Vol. 4, No. 7, August 8, 1975, and Vol. 4, No. 11, November 24, 1975. The identical schedule, except for the omission of regular receipt dates for National Research Service Award applications, is again provided for your information.

REVISED REVIEW SCHEDULE - EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1976			
Receipt Date	Study Section Meeting	Council Meeting	Earliest Probable Start Date
Feb. 1 ¹ / Mar. 1 ² /	June	September (3rd and 4th weeks) October (1st and 2nd weeks)	December 1
June $1^{1/2}$ July $1^{2/2}$	October - November (4th week of October - 1st to 3rd weeks of November)	January (4th week) February (1st week)	April 1
Oct. 11/ Nov. 12/	February - March (4th week of February - 1st to 3rd weeks of March)	May (3rd and 4th weeks)	July 1

^{1/} Receipt dates for renewals (all competing renewals) and new applications for Research Career Development Awards, program projects, and centers.

RECEIPT DATES FOR NRSA APPLICATIONS

The next receipt dates for NIH and ADAMHA National Research Service Award applications (institutional and individual) have not been established pending legislative extension of program authorization and receipt of the required National Academy of Sciences' report concerning specified areas of research in which training may be supported.

Future application receipt dates and areas of research for which support may be applied will be announced at the earliest possible time in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts and comparable ADAMHA announcements.

^{2/} Receipt dates for new and supplemental research project grant applications.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY



The Cancer Centers and Treatment Program of the Division of Cancer Research Resources and Centers, National Cancer Institute, is distributing updated guidelines for the development and submission of Cancer Center Support (CORE) Grants and Exploratory Studies Grants. These revised guidelines present important information about program requirements and availabilities and should be referred to by institutions or investigators who intend to submit a competing application for either type of grant. Revised guidelines for research program grants will be forthcoming in the near future and will be announced when they are available. Copies of the guidelines for CORE and Exploratory Studies Grants can now be obtained from:

Associate Director for the Centers and Treatment Program Division of Cancer Research Resources and Centers National Cancer Institute, NIH Westwood Building Bethesda, Maryland 20016

CLINICAL CANCER EDUCATION GRANTS

ANNOUNCEMENT

This revises and supersedes the announcement in Vol. 3, No. 16, p. 5, October 18, 1974.

The National Cancer Institute announced, in 1974, a new grant program designed to improve the teaching of cancer to physicians and dentists at the undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education levels. Support is offered to institutions wishing to initiate interdisciplinary cancer education programs, to coordinate and expand ongoing cancer education activities, and to implement graduate and/or continuing education projects in one or several specialties pertinent to the clinical aspects of cancer. Eligible institutions include schools of medicine (including osteopathic medicine), dentistry, and public health; cancer hospitals; hospitals which are the major affiliates of medical schools; and specialty hospitals with ongoing multi-level education programs. Stipends for trainees will not be included in the grants.

Applications should be submitted on PHS grant application form NIH 398 which may be obtained from the Division of Research Grants, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20014. Applicants should type "Clinical Cancer Education" in the top margin of the application's face page. Applications must be received by July 1, 1976, and thereafter by November 1 and March 1 of each year in order to be reviewed at the succeeding NCI Advisory Board meeting (i.e., January, May, and September respectively).

Inquiries should be directed to Chief, Education Branch, DCRRC, Room 10A18, Westwood Building, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland 20014; telephone (301) 496-7762.

REQUEST FOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS: RFA A N N O U N C E M E N T

TITLE: EXPLORATORY GRANTS TO DEVELOP A VARIETY OF APPROACHES TO MULTI-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH ON MATERNAL-INFANT-CHILD HEALTH PROBLEMS

INTRODUCTION The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), through the Center for Research for Mothers and Children (CRMC), invites applications for grants to carry out exploratory projects which will result in the development of programs of multidisciplinary research on health problems affecting pregnant women, fetuses, infants, and children through adolescence. It is expected that a limited number of these exploratory grants will be awarded for one year with funds not to exceed \$25,000 total direct costs. Applicants who request more than twelve months to complete their research effort must include strong justification for the request. Applications are sought particularly from institutions with modest research programs where the multidisciplinary program approach to research in these areas has not previously been considered, but which have potential for the development of programs in the areas identified under RESEARCH SCOPE. It is anticipated that, as a result of this activity, the grantee institution may apply for a MAJOR RESEARCH PROGRAM grant in competition with other applicants. A Request for Applications describing the MAJOR RESEARCH PROGRAMS will be published in a subsequent issue of the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts.

BACKGROUND A major goal of the Center for Research for Mothers and Children is the prevention of diseases and disorders during pregnancy, infancy, and childhood. The complexity of the health problems which need to be addressed requires a variety of integrated, multidisciplinary approaches involving the behavioral and natural sciences in clinical and laboratory settings. Among several problems of major concern, a primary one is that of low birth weight infants; such infants are major contributors to the unnecessarily high infant mortality rate in the United States. Each year nearly a quarter million infants are born too soon, or too small for their gestational age; about 45 thousand of these babies die, but an even larger number sustain lifelong disabilities, including mental retardation. One in every four low birth weight infants is born to a teen-age mother. If we could ensure that all newborns were free of defects and mature enough to cope during the first month of life, much of this Nation's infant mortality and morbidity could be eliminated.

An associated concern of the CRMC is achieving an understanding of acute and chronic disabilities associated with the processes of human development, in order to find means of preventing these disabilities. There is increasing evidence that many of these problems have antecedents in uterine life. Also, social and behavioral contributions to problems of maternal and child health continue to be poorly understood.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPLORATORY GRANT APPLICATIONS Through the imaginative use of workshops, seminars, and consultations with knowledge-able scientists and managers, the investigator will be expected to propose a project for the conduct of multidisciplinary research which focuses on one or more health problems of the maternal-fetal complex, infants, and children that are identified under RESEARCH SCOPE. The investigator should include his or her concepts and rationale for approaches to involve faculty research efforts in various disciplines in a collaborative effort to resolve maternal-infant-child health problems; methodology to facilitate the interface of diverse clinical and laboratory disciplines; and approaches to management of multidisciplinary research programs. The principal investigator will be expected to submit, within six months after termination of the award, a clearly written description of a research program, based on a multidisciplinary approach, that was developed during the project period of the grant.

Additional factors to be considered in evaluating each application are:

- The pertinence of ongoing research activities at the institution to CRMC goals.
- The research competence and resources available at the institution from which the application is received and the commitment of a substantial effort of scientists and administrators to become involved in the development effort.
- The research experience and leadership capability of the Principal Investigator.
- Evidence of the institution's commitment to biomedical and/or behavioral research, e.g. portion of institution's budget allocated for such research, institution's support of released time for faculty research.

RESEARCH SCOPE the following:

A. Infants at Risk for Mortality and Morbidity

Areas for research could include diseases and disorders of pregnancy, normal and abnormal mechanisms determining the time and character of the onset of labor, and nutritional, social, and behavioral problems contributing to low birth weight and other high risk conditions in infants; problems of mortality and morbidity confronting the low birth weight infant before, during, and after birth; and developmental conditions contributing to the sudden infant death syndrome.

B. Birth Defects

Genetic, embryologic, pharmacologic, developmental, and social factors and mechanisms which contribute to birth defects and to disabling conditions in childhood and later life.

C. Disorders of Growth and Development

Studies of the impact of nutritional imbalances and excesses on child health and development, including immunologic competence,

obesity, and the relationship of nutrition to disease in adult life; problems of excessive or retarded growth or of deviant growth rates; problems of the development of human communicative processes with special emphasis on dyslexia and related language dysfunctions and learning disorders; problems of adolescents including normal and abnormal sexual development and adaptation to adult status; impact of the chronic illness of one family member upon the other members of the family; and social and behavioral problems associated with each of the above.

D. Accidents and Poisonings

Studies of the biomedical, behavioral, and social causes and prevention of accidents and poisoning, which are presently the leading causes of death in children after the first year of life.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- 1. <u>Eligibility</u> Nonprofit organizations and institutions, State and local governments and their agencies, and authorized Federal institutions.
- 2. The Application The application should be responsive to review criteria outlined in SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.
- 3. <u>Submission</u> Use the standard research grant application form NIH-398. In <u>both</u> the covering letter <u>and</u> at the top of the space provided for an abstract on page 2 of the application, clearly identify the application as being in response to this announcement by using its title and date of publication.
- 4. Receipt Date Applications received on or before June 1, 1976, will be processed for final review by the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development (NACHHD) Council at its September 1976 meeting. Applications received after June 1, 1976, will be reviewed in order of receipt by the Council at subsequent regularly scheduled meetings.

REVIEW Upon receipt, applications will be reviewed by the Division of Research Grants and NICHD staff for responsiveness to this announcement. Applications judged responsive will be reviewed by the Maternal and Child Health Research Committee and the NACHHD Council. Those applications judged not responsive will be returned to the applicant organization in care of the Principal Investigator.

<u>FUNDING</u> Although this program is included and provided for in the financial plans for fiscal year 1976, award of grants is contingent upon ultimate allocation of appropriated funds for this purpose.

NOTE For further information, potential applicants may contact Mr. Jehu Hunter, (301) 496-1877, Center for Research for Mothers and Children, NICHD.