For Grants and Contracts

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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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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NOTICES

RELEASE OF INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE AWARDS

P.T. 22; K.W. 1014006

Division of Research Grants

In the past, the information available to the public on Individual National Research Service Awards was limited to the field of training, the title of the project, the sponsoring institution and the name of the awardee. Now, the dollar amount may be disclosed for the Individual Fellowship (F32) awards. The disclosure of this dollar amount does not constitute an unauthorized disclosure from a Privacy Act system of records because this amount is not "information about an individual." The amount is a composite of three separate dollar amounts, and the Fellow's stipend amount is not discernible from this total figure.

REMINDER: REPRODUCIBILITY OF REFERENCE LETTERS

P.T. 22, 34; K.W. 1014006

Division of Research Grants

When submitting reference letters with an application for a Fellowship, Research Career Development Award (RCDA), First Independent Research Support and Transition (FIRST) Award, Clinical Investigator Award, etc., remind your respondents to use a typewriter with a black ribbon or a pen with black ink. Please do not use blue ink or any color other than black. Blue ink does not reproduce well and causes delays in the processing and duplication of the application in preparation for review.

CONFERENCE GRANT RECEIPT DATES

P.T. 42; K.W. 1014006

National Cancer Institute

Prospective applicants interested in seeking support of scientific meetings from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) are advised that beginning October 1, 1989, applications will be accepted on receipt dates (February 1, June 1, and October 1) published by the Division of Research Grants (DRG), National Institutes of Health (NIH), in the information and instructions for form PHS 398 (Revised 10/88) and booklet on "Support of Scientific Meetings", August 1988.

Waiver of the receipt date for exceptional circumstances may be requested as instructed in the above referenced booklet which may be obtained from the Office of Grant Inquiries, DRG at the address below. Specific questions regarding the NCI conference grant program may be referred to the NCI Conference Grant Coordinator (Phone 301-496-7173).

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

DATED ANNOUNCEMENTS (RFPs AND RFAs)

ROLE OF PROTO-ONCOGENES IN MAMMALIAN DEVELOPMENT

RFA AVAILABLE: 89-HD-03

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002058, 0775000, 0413002

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Application Receipt Date: October 11, 1989

The Genetics and Teratology Branch (GTB) of the Center for Research for Mothers and Children (CRMC) of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) invites research grant applications for studies on

the role of proto-oncogenes in mammalian development. This initiative has important implications for both basic science and clinical studies. The information expected from the investigation of the role of proto-oncogenes in mammalian development will further our understanding of the specific molecules that are important in that process. In addition, underlying principles that direct normal patterns of growth, differentiation and morphogenesis and against which aberrations of these processes can be understood will be further defined. In a clinical context, these studies provide the basis for an improved understanding of the possible causes of birth defects and other developmental abnormalities that lead to early embryonic wastage and spontaneous abortion.

In this regard, understanding the role of proto-oncogenes in mammalian development, particularly during early postimplantation, will be especially valuable since it is thought that a large number of reproductive failures in humans occur shortly after implantation. The primary goal of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to support a group of projects that are devoted to the investigation of the role of proto-oncogenes during mammalian development. It is expected that the latest molecular genetics technologies will be employed, including the generation of appropriate reagents and the possible production of either chimeric or transgenic animals.

Applications should be submitted on Form PHS 398 (rev. 10/88), available in business or grants offices at most academic research institutions or from the Division of Research Grants, NIH. The RFA label available in the 10/88 version of Form PHS 398 must be affixed to the bottom of the face page. Failure to use this label could result in delayed processing of your application such that it may not reach the review committee in time for review.

This program will be funded through the traditional individual research project award program of NICHD. Grant applications will be reviewed at a single competition by an initial review group convened by NICHD. It is anticipated that four (4) grants will be awarded under this program, contingent upon the receipt of a sufficient number of meritorious applications and the availability of funds. Requests for copies of the full RFA should be addressed to:

Joel M. Schindler, Ph.D.
Genetics and Teratology Branch
Center for Research for Mothers and Children
National Institute of Child Health
and Human Development
Executive Plaza North, Room 643C
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-5541

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE DRUG DISCOVERY GROUPS FOR THE TREATMENT OF ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS): OPPORTUNISTIC INFECTIONS

RFA AVAILABLE: 89-AI-18

P.T. 34; K.W. 0715008, 0740020, 0755025, 0715125, 1002008, 1003006

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: August 1, 1989 Application Receipt Date: December 8, 1989

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) announces the availability of a Request for Applications (RFA) for funding of the National Cooperative Drug Discovery Groups for the Treatment of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS): Opportunistic Infections (NCDDG-0I). It is the purpose of this RFA (available upon request) to invite applications aimed at the discovery of therapeutic agents to treat infections caused by opportunistic pathogens associated with AIDS. Applications which include research projects or core components from the private sector (e.g., pharmaceutical, chemical, or biotechnological companies) are encouraged.

Opportunistic infections are the major causes of morbidity and mortality in AIDS patients. Due to the complexity of managing these infections, the medical and hospitalization costs of HIV-infected individuals are enormous. Available drugs to treat the opportunistic infections are of limited utility because of toxicity and other adverse reactions. Therefore, the need exists for potent and selective therapeutic agents active against the infections. The purpose of this RFA is to encourage investigators from diverse fields and expertise to collaborate and to explore new avenues utilizing the recent

advances in molecular biology. Units in which these research talents and resources are combined are termed "NATIONAL COOPERATIVE DRUG DISCOVERY GROUPS" (NCDDGs). The NCDDG programs would provide a mechanism for a formalized collaboration between scientists from universities, pharmaceutical companies and government. They are envisioned as having the capacity to generate new approaches and strategies for the treatment of opportunistic infections in AIDS patients and to rapidly translate their concepts into potentially effective treatment. The NCDDG can be focused in one area (synthetic, biochemical, biological) or be a combination of the above approaches (comprehensive) in composition. Results from the research proposed should be used to identify and develop information for long-term planning of potential therapeutic approaches or to recommend new potential treatments worthy of further development in clinical trials.

The NCDDG-OI initiative has evolved as a part of the NCDDG Program on AIDS. The NCDDG-AIDS Program, launched in 1986, has funded 28 groups whose research efforts are directed towards the identification of more selective and effective agents to treat HIV infection. Investigators from 45 public institutions and 21 private companies are currently involved in this program. The studies supported by the NCDDG-AIDS Program have led to the identification of several potential new therapeutic agents. The NCDDG-OI initiative seeks to stimulate investigations leading to the identification and preclinical development of agents active against the various pathogens causing opportunistic infections in AIDS patients. Recent advances in molecular biology, biochemistry and pathogenesis provide avenues for innovative approaches.

The NCDDG-OI Program will provide assistance to talented scientists to interact as a unit to carry out the preclinical research essential for the realization of project objectives. An NCDDG-OI could be composed of scientists from a combination of academic, non-profit research, and commercial organizations. Each NCDDG-OI will be assembled by the Principal Investigator to form a multidisciplinary consortium representing the various skills needed to successfully design, synthesize, and evaluate, at the preclinical level, potential therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of opportunistic infections in AIDS patients. Specifically excluded from the Group's activities are studies related to clinical evaluation of the drug.

Awards will be made as Cooperative Agreements. The Cooperative Agreement funding mechanism differs from the traditional research grant in that the Government component (NIAID) awarding the Cooperative Agreement anticipates substantial involvement during performance. The nature of NIAID staff participation is described in the RFA. However, the Principal Investigator must define its objectives in accord with its own interests and perceptions of approaches to the treatment of AIDS-associated opportunistic infections.

The applicant institution and the Principal Investigator will be responsible for the Group's application. Awards will be made to the applicant institution on behalf of the group as a whole and not to individual research projects with the Group. The applicant institution will provide a Central Operations Office for the Group. The applicant institution will be responsible for the performance of the entire Group and will be accountable for the funds awarded. The participation of the Government through the NIAID extramural staff is aimed at facilitating a concerted effort by the Group by making available to the Group biological materials for testing, appropriate existing data bases, ancillary testing and other resources available under existing contracts and to provide appropriate scientific input. The interaction of academic and non-profit research institutions with commercial organizations and Government is expected to favor efficient invention of agents active against OIs in AIDS patients and will facilitate their subsequent development for clinical trials.

NIAID anticipates making multiple awards for project periods up to five years and has set aside \$3.5 million total costs for the initial year's funding. The amount spent will be dependent on the continuing availability of funds for this purpose and the quality and diversity of approved applications.

For a copy of the RFA, please contact:

Ms. Nancy R. Brown
Developmental Therapeutics Branch
AIDS Program
National Institute of Allergy
and Infectious Diseases
6003 Executive Boulevard, Room 243P
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-8199

ALCOHOL RESEARCH CENTER GRANTS

RFA AVAILABLE: 89-AA-07

P.T. 04, AA; K.W. 0404003, 0404000, 0415001, 0745070

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: December 1, 1989 Application Receipt Date: February 15, 1990

PURPOSE

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) is planning to hold another competition for Alcohol Research Center grants. Applications are solicited to establish a new Center on Treatment Research and for a Center on Adolescent Development and Behavioral Change. Applications submitted in response to this Request for Applications (RFA) will be evaluated with applications submitted by three currently funded Centers seeking renewal support. The number of new grants to be awarded, as well as the level of support, will be determined on a competitive basis by the application review process, program needs, and the availability of funds.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES AND MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

The Alcohol Research Centers Program is designed to complement the regular research grant programs of NIAAA. The program provides long-term support (usually five years) for interdisciplinary research programs with a distinct focus on a particular research theme related to alcoholism and other problems associated with alcohol abuse. The program is intended to help attract the best scientists from biomedical, behavioral, and social science disciplines to work on research problems related to alcohol abuse and alcoholism, and to provide a stable environment for such persons to engage in alcoholism research in a coordinated and integrated fashion. A Center is expected to be a source of excellence in research and, through sustained excellence, become a significant regional or national research resource. In addition, Centers are expected to afford opportunities for training in alcohol research to persons from various disciplines and professions.

REVIEW PROCEDURES

Each Alcohol Research Center application will be reviewed by a group of experts to evaluate the scientific and technical merit of the proposal. Recommendations resulting from this review will be presented to the National Advisory Council on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism which will meet in September 1990 to make a final recommendation to the Director, NIAAA. Grant awards will be made with a start date of December 1, 1990, or later.

METHOD OF APPLYING AND INQUIRIES

Potential applicants are urged to request a copy of the RFA, which contains more information about application procedures, program requirements and review criteria, by writing to:

Dr. Albert A. Pawlowski Associate Director N.I.A.A.A - Division of Basic Research Parklawn Building, Room 14C-20 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, Maryland 20857 Telephone: (301) 443-1273

ONGOING PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL EMPHASIS RESEARCH CAREER AWARD (KO1) FOR SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENTISTS IN BEHAVIORAL GERIATRICS RESEARCH

P.T. 34; K.W. 0710010, 0404000, 0745027, 0745035, 0710030

National Institute on Aging

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) solicits applications for SPECIAL EMPHASIS RESEARCH CAREER AWARDS (SERCA) from eligible institutions for interdisciplinary and research support and career development of qualified social and behavioral scientists seeking careers in behavioral geriatrics research.1/

I. BACKGROUND

Behavioral geriatrics research is an emerging area of behavioral medicine.2/ It is undertaking the development and integration of social/behavioral and biomedical science knowledge relevant to health promotion and the prevention and treatment of disease in the middle and later years. Research in this area is concerned with a wide range of health-related behaviors and attitudes that are influenced by the environment and that interact with biological, psychological, and social aging processes to promote or inhibit health and effective functioning as people grow older. Not only are the health behaviors and attitudes of middle-aged and older people themselves involved, but also those of formal health-care providers and of family and friends. These behaviors and attitudes include medical beliefs about the nature of the aging processes. They also include behaviors believed by older people to promote health and functioning, as well as "illness behaviors" that involve how older individuals monitor their bodily functioning; how they define and interpret symptoms perceived as abnormal; whether they consult with non-professional relatives and friends; whether they take or fail to take remedial action, utilize formal health-care systems, or comply with prescribed regimens; and how they approach death.

II. PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The NIA Special Emphasis Research Career Award (SERCA) in behavioral geriatrics research focuses on identifying common ground between psychosocial and biomedical approaches. The award offers an opportunity for established social and behavioral scientists to acquire supplementary biomedical research knowledge and interdisciplinary research experience in order to pursue or enhance an interdisciplinary research career in aging and the promotion of health. This SERCA is intended to foster the career development of researchers with interests in these and related topics by encouraging qualified individuals to acquire in-depth experience and skills in the basic and clinical scientific disciplines that bear upon this area. The award provides support for up to a five-year program of full-time research training and interdisciplinary research experience in a clinical or biomedical setting.

The award aims at a close and extended working relationship between a social or behavioral scientist (the awardee) and one or more highly qualified biomedical or biobehavioral scientists. The relationship should optimize the opportunity for interdisciplinary communication and collaboration in research on aging and health. For the candidate, the relationship should develop the capacity to apply the knowledge and research methods of his/her discipline to issues in behavioral geriatrics research requiring complementary biological or medical understanding. For the sponsoring institution, the relationship should stimulate awareness among biomedical scientists of the potential for interdisciplinary or cross-disciplinary research in aging.

III. PROVISIONS OF THE AWARD

The NIA-SERCA award is made to eligible institutions for up to 5 years of support of a unique working relationship between awardee and institution involving full-time research and related activities as specified below.

A. Plan of Work

Developmental Phase: During the first year or two the awardee is expected to develop capabilities for conducting interdisciplinary behavioral geriatrics research on aging and health promotion.

The awardee's activities may include participation in formal courses, ongoing research, workshops, symposia, scientific and professional meetings, as well as involvement in care of older patients to the extent that this will strengthen research skills. Included in the plan should be exposure to at least one biomedical specialty (excluding psychiatry), such as general or geriatric medicine, immunology, neurology, neuroendocrinology, pharmacology, nutrition, cardiology. Exposure to epidemiological methods or biostatistical skills is also desirable if lacking from candidate's current background. These activities should be oriented around an area of research in behavioral geriatrics in which, subsequent to the grant period, the awardee contemplates the future development of a research program.

Project Phase: Beginning as early as possible, the awardee is expected to engage with his/her sponsor or another biomedical/biobehavioral collaborator in a research project. This project, which should be designed as a basis for more extended research, can take such forms as (but not limited to): an exploratory or feasibility study, a test of a new technique, or development of a new biobehavioral measure.

The project, preferably interdisciplinary or cross-disciplinary, must focus on a topic with clear implications for the linkages between health-related attitudes or behaviors and health outcomes (or prevention of disease) in older people.

B. Relationship to Institution

Throughout the grant period, the sponsoring institution (which may be the applicant's own institution) is expected to arrange significant working relationships with the awardee through an advisor who will sponsor and oversee the proposed program, and who will make sure that the awardee will receive the proper experience for a future career of interdisciplinary research in behavioral geriatrics.

The advisor must be a biomedical scientist or a social/behavioral scientist with extensive interdisciplinary research experience at the interface of biomedical and social/behavioral sciences. A background in aging, though desirable, is not essential, if the candidate already possesses such expertise.

C. Duration

This award is for continuous support of biomedical research training and interdisciplinary research over a period of up to five consecutive years.

The award is non-renewable. However, development of a separate and subsequent application for research support (e.g., for expansion of the research project) would be desirable either towards the end or following the award.

D. Allowable Award Costs

The NIA-SERCA grant is made annually to the sponsoring institution for the purpose of supporting the awardee's biomedical research career development and the interdisciplinary research project. Costs allowed may include:

Awardee's Salary

Up to a maximum of \$40,000 from SERCA funds for full-time salary support may be requested. In addition, fringe benefits will be provided on that part of the salary paid from SERCA. Institutional supplementation is permitted. One hundred percent effort on this award is expected with a minimum of 75 percent in the conduct of research.

Research Support

In addition to the awardee's salary, up to a maximum of \$10,000 in each of the first three years and up to a maximum of \$20,000 in each of the subsequent years may be requested for research expenses: e.g., instrument development, data collection, analysis costs, technical assistance, consultant costs, domestic travel, patient care expenses, publication costs, and other appropriate expenses which are essential to the proposed program.

Tuition

If essential to the awardee's individual development program, funds for tuition for training courses may be requested.

Sponsor

Up to five percent of the primary advisor's salary will be allowed for the first two years.

IV. CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

A. The Candidate

- 1. The candidate must hold a Ph.D. or equivalent professional degree in a social or behavioral science (e.g., psychology, sociology, anthropology) and show evidence of expertise in his/her home discipline (e.g., by scholarly publications).
- 2. By the beginning date of the award, the candidate must have a minimum of three years post-doctoral research experience. This experience should include evidence of (a) clear intention to pursue research on aging and (b) interest in a scientific area that can be furthered through exposure to complementary biomedical approaches. In addition to bringing in people new to interdisciplinary behavioral geriatrics research, the goal of the award is to

enhance the career development of social and behavioral scientists already involved in interdisciplinary health and behavior research.

- 3. The candidate already agrees to inform the NIA for a period of five years subsequent to completion of the award about his/her research activities, publications, grants or contracts, and academic status; and must agree to attend any scheduled meetings of awardees at NIA.
- 4. The candidate must be a citizen or noncitizen national of the United States or its possessions and territories or must have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence at the time of application.
- 5. Applications from woman and minority candidates are especially solicited.
- B. The Program of Activity
- 1. The candidate's program of activity must be fully described in terms of adequately providing biomedical training and interdisciplinary experience relevant to research in behavioral geriatrics.
- 2. For the research project, the general area must be defined and the research plan described in the grant application, (e.g., identification and justification of the interdisciplinary research problem; indication of possible study population(s), hypotheses, and variables; and strategies for analysis.) It is anticipated that full details will be formulated during the first two years of the grant period.
- C. The Sponsoring Institution
- 1. The sponsoring institution must nominate the candidate on the basis of qualifications, interests, accomplishments, motivation, and potential for an interdisciplinary research career in behavioral geriatrics.
- 2. Evidence of the commitment of the institution to the candidate's research development must be provided.
- 3. The background, qualifications, and commitment of the major biomedical advisor must be described.
- V. APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

Applications should be submitted on Form PHS 398 (rev. 10/88), available at most institutional business offices or from the Division of Research Grants (DRG) NIH.

A. Staff Contact and Supplementary Guidelines

Prospective applicants need to obtain the complete version of this announcement, as well as Supplementary Guidelines, and to discuss their eligibility and proposed activities by contacting:

Behavioral Geriatrics Research (SERCA)
Behavioral & Social Research Program National Institute on Aging Building
31, Room 5C32 Bethesda, Maryland 20892-4500 Telephone: (301) 496-3136

B. Submission of Application

Follow the "Supplementary Guidelines for Preparing Application, NIA-SERCA." Mail the completed application and six copies to:

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

C. Application Receipt and Review Schedule

NIA-SERCA applications will be received three times per year according to the following schedule:

APPLICATION RECEIPT COUNCIL REVIEW START DATE

February 1 Sep/Oct December 1

June 1 Jan/Feb* April 1*

October 1 May* July*

*of the year following application receipt

Amended applications also must be submitted for the same receipt dates.

D. Review of Applications

Review of the applications for scientific and technical merit will be conducted by the Gerontology/Geriatrics Review Committee, NIA. In this review, particular attention will be given to the candidate's prior training, experience, and publication record; clear intention to pursue aging research; career potential in behavioral geriatrics research; research career development plans; proposed research; appropriateness of selected advisor(s) for proposed plans; and environment.

The initial review will result in recommendations for consideration by the National Advisory Council of the National Institute on Aging. Applications recommended for approval by the Advisory Council will be considered for funding on the basis of the overall merit of the proposal as determined by the Gerontology/-Geriatrics Review Committee, relevance of the proposal to the research objectives of the Institute, and availability of funds.

FOOTNOTES:

1/ This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.866, Aging 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 Health Systems Agency review.

2/ See "Health Behaviors and Aging: Behavioral Geriatrics Research, NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, Vol 12, No. 11, November 11, 1983.

**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