NIH GUIDE

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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NOTICES OF AVAILABILITY (RFPs AND RFAs)

CHEMICALLY INDUCED DNA MODIFICATIONS

RFP AVAILABLE: NIH-ES-90-03

P.T. 34; K.W. 0760053, 1002028, 1215018

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

The purpose of this contract is to examine the effects of chemicals on specific regions of the genome. Specifically, the contractor shall examine chemical adduction and its repair to specific genes (not to bulk DNA), and to relate these effects to mutagenesis or carcinogenesis. The offeror also may propose to develop new or existing assays to examine DNA modifications at specific regions of the genome. The contractor shall study a total of 8 compounds both in vitro and in vivo over the duration of the contract. The project shall be conducted in accordance with the following standards: NTP Health and Safety Minimum Requirements for Contract Laboratories Performing Work for the Systemic Toxicology Branch; NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules, Federal Register, May 7, 1986, Vol. 51, No. 88, pp. 16958-16985; and NCI Safety Standards for Research Involving Chemical Carcinogenesis, DHHS Pub. # NIH (76-900). The Government estimates that approximately 2.4 professional person years and 1 technical person year will be required on an annual basis. A term form, level-of-effort type contract is contemplated with an estimated period of performance of 5 years. All responsible sources may submit a proposal which shall be considered by the Agency. Expected release date of the RFP is May 24, 1990, with proposals due July 23, 1990.

Requests should reference RFP NIH-ES-90-03 and should be forwarded to:

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Contracts and Procurement Management Branch, OM
ATTN: Marilyn B. Whaley, Contract Specialist
79 T.W. Alexander Drive, 4401 Building
P. O. Box 12874
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

COMMUNITY CLINICAL ONCOLOGY PROGRAM

RFA AVAILABLE: CA-90-13

P.T. 34; K.W. 0403004, 0715035, 0755015, 0795003

National Cancer Institute

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: June 15, 1990
Application Receipt Date: August 24, 1990

The Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC), National Cancer Institute (NCI), invites applications from domestic institutions for cooperative agreements to the Community Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP). New community and research base applicants and currently funded programs are invited to respond to this Request For Applications (RFA).

This reissuance of the CCOP RFA seeks to build on the strength and demonstrated success of the CCOP over the past seven years by: 1) continuing the program as a vehicle for supporting community participation in treatment and cancer control clinical trials through research bases (clinical cooperative groups and cancer centers supported by NCI, and public health departments); 2) expanding and strengthening the cancer control research effort; 3) utilizing the CCOP network for conducting NCI-assisted cancer control research; and 4) evaluating on a continuing basis CCOP performance and its impact in the community.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Over 80 percent of patients with cancer are treated in the community. The CCOP was initiated in 1983 to bring the benefits of clinical research to cancer patients in their own communities by providing support for physicians to enter patients onto treatment research protocols. The CCOPs clearly were very effective in accruing patients to treatment clinical trials. The second RFA, issued in 1986, expanded the focus to include cancer control research.

The development of cancer control research in the CCOP network has been increasing steadily since funding began in 1987. Protocols are developed by the research bases and reviewed by DCPC's Cancer Control Protocol Review Committee (CCPRC). Protocols cover the full spectrum of cancer control research, including chemoprevention, marker studies, smoking cessation studies, screening and early detection, and pain control and other supportive care interventions aimed at reducing cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality.

RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

The CCOP initiative is designed to:

- Bring the advantages of state-of-the-art treatment and cancer control research to individuals in their own communities by having practicing physicians and their patient/subjects participate in NCI-approved treatment and cancer control clinical trials;
- Provide a basis for involving a wider segment of the community in cancer control research;
- Increase the involvement of primary health care providers and other specialists with the CCOP investigators in treatment and cancer control research;
- Facilitate wider community participation, including minorities, women, and other underserved populations, in treatment and cancer control research approved by NCI; and
- Reduce cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality by accelerating the transfer of newly developed cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, patient management, rehabilitation, and continuing care technology to widespread community application.

There will be two types of grantees: community programs and research bases. Community applicants may be a hospital, a clinic, a group of practicing physicians, a health maintenance organization (HMO) or a consortium of these. Community programs (CCOPs) will be required to enter patients onto NCI-approved treatment and cancer control clinical trials through the research base(s) with which each CCOP is affiliated.

Research base applicants must be either an NCI-funded clinical trials cooperative group or cancer center or a public health department. Research bases will be required to provide clinical research treatment and/or cancer control protocols, monitor the quality of protocol conduct, and follow CCOP accrual.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

CCOP and research base awards will be made as Cooperative Agreements. The cooperative agreement is an assistance mechanism involving cooperation by NCI staff as described in the RFA. It is anticipated that up to $4.4 million in total costs per year for 5 years will be committed to specifically fund applications which are submitted in response to this RFA. Of the total, approximately $3.9 million will be committed to research bases and approximately $450,000 to CCOPs. It is anticipated that up to 17 research base awards and up to 5 CCOP awards will be made. Awards will be for three, four, or five years as described in the RFA.

STAFF CONTACT

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National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892

COURSES RELATED TO GENOMIC ANALYSIS

RFA AVAILABLE: HG-90-01

P.T. 44; K.W. 1215018, 0755045, 0720005, 0710030, 1002058, 1004017, 1014004

National Center for Human Genome Research

Application Receipt Date: August 24, 1990

The National Center for Human Genome Research invites applications for support of short, advanced-level courses emphasizing new laboratory techniques in genome analysis, informatics as it relates to the human genome, principles of genomic analysis for scientists trained in fields other than biology or scholars trained in the humanities, social sciences, or law and principles and methods of studying the social, ethical and legal issues relevant to the human genome program. These courses are meant to enhance the skills of individuals interested in pursuing laboratory or scholarly research relevant to the goals of the Human Genome Program.

BACKGROUND

For the genome project and the field of genomic research to develop rapidly enough to meet these goals in a timely and cost-effective manner, it will be necessary to disseminate technological advances and new information as rapidly as possible and to recruit scientists from many disciplines, both biological and non-biological, into this research area. The development of many fields, such as molecular biology and genetics, has been enormously abetted by the availability of short, intensive, advanced level courses. Properly designed courses in areas of relevance to genomics could be of similar utility to the development of the genome project itself and to the application of the information produced by the project.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The goal of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to stimulate the development of courses in subjects relevant to the Human Genome Program and appropriate to the broader scientific community. The following list of potential subjects for such courses is not intended to be limiting but to provide examples. The goal of each course should be to improve the level of the cross-disciplinary training of practicing scientists and other professionals to enable them to participate more effectively in the Human Genome Program and to utilize the information and technology produced by the Human Genome Program in other areas.

- Important techniques, including new technological developments relevant to genomic analysis. Examples of techniques that could be included are automated DNA sequencing, use of large fragment cloning vectors such as yeast artificial chromosomes, experimental mouse genetics, linkage analysis, or in situ fluorescence cytogenetics. Courses of this type should be addressed to practicing biologists who wish to learn new skills;

- Various aspects of informatics as they relate to the Human Genome Program. Examples include data management, database design, algorithm development for map and/or sequence assembly. Such courses should be addressed to biologists who wish to become conversant with informatics;

- Principles of genetics as related to current issues of genomic analysis. Such courses would be directed at scientists trained in other disciplines, such as mathematics, information science, computer science, physics, chemistry or engineering, interested in applying their skills to the scientific problems raised by the Human Genome Program;

- Principles of genetics and genomic analysis for scholars trained in appropriate areas of the humanities, social sciences and law who are interested in examining the social, ethical and legal ramifications of the acquisition of detailed information about the human genome;

- Principles and approaches for the analysis of ethical, legal and policy issues related to human genome research, including historical and social perspectives. Such courses should be designed for biologists and health professionals who are interested in contributing their expertise to a multidisciplinary approach to these issues.

Courses should be designed to address the needs and interests of advanced graduate students, post-doctoral trainees, established scientists and other professionals who want to learn particular new skills or become more knowledgeable about genomic research in order to pursue research problems relevant to the Human Genome Program. Efforts should be made to select for participation students who are currently under-represented in the field of genomic research such as women and under-represented minorities. Courses will typically be one to two weeks in length and offered annually, although other terms will be acceptable. Applicants may initially request support for two years. Course offerors are expected to be academic or research institutions experienced in training and faculty are expected to consist of established investigators or scholars actively working in the area of instruction.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

Support for this program will be through the Continuing Education Training Grant mechanism (T15). Policies that govern research grant programs of the NIH apply to this program. It is anticipated that up to six awards will be made.

APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

Only domestic institutions are eligible to apply for support under this announcement. These applications will be reviewed within the National Center for Human Genome Research for both initial review and final review.

Review criteria include the following:

- Overall scientific and didactic merit;
- Potential value of the course for furthering the training goals of the Human Genome Program, including, when appropriate, the potential effectiveness in attracting scientists and scholars into working on problems important for the success of the genome project;
- Quality of the course content and adequacy of the syllabus;
- Training, experience and research competence of the faculty;
- Criteria for selecting participants;
- Plans for publicizing the availability of courses to the appropriate community of scholars and scientists;
- Adequacy of available facilities including the library;
- Appropriateness of the requested budget for the proposed course.

METHOD OF APPLYING

Applications should be submitted on Form PHS 398 (rev. 10/88). The RFA label available in the revised application kit must be affixed to the bottom of the face page. The original and six copies of the application should be submitted to:

Grant Application Receipt Office
Division of Research Grants
Westwood Building, Room 240
Bethesda, MD 20892**

Applications received in August will be reviewed for scientific merit in October/November 1990, and will be considered by a National Advisory Council or Board for the NCHGR in January 1991. The earliest an award can be made is April 1, 1991.

Inquiries: Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the program official below to discuss this RFA.

Bettie J. Graham, Ph.D.
Building 38A, Room 613
National Center for Human Genome Research/NIH
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-7531

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