Pre-application Webinar:

PAR-22-088, Biomedical Research Facilities (BRF)
PAR-21-363, Limited Competition: Development and Renovation of Housing, Breeding, and Research Spaces for Existing NIH-supported NHP Colonies (NHP)

Division of Construction and Instruments

OD/DPCPSI/ORIP

February 18, 2022

Introduction to our Panelists

- **James Anderson, MD, PhD**

- **Franziska Grieder, DVM, PhD**

- **Karen Duca, PhD, MBA**

- **Guanghu (Jeff) Wang, PhD, MBA**

- **Ashley Barnes, PhD**

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Construction Program

- Construction is a unique mechanism at NIH, managed by OD/DPCPSI
  - Requires its own yearly congressional appropriation
  - NIH has received BRF appropriations in the amount of $50 million for the past three fiscal years

- Program supports facilities that drive transformative, cutting-edge biomedical research
  - Projects should have significant institutional impact, bringing the research to a new level

- Construction is a highly competitive program
  - BRF success rate over the past three years: 7-9%

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Overview

- **ORIP in DPCPSI/OD manages NIH construction awards**
  - FOA development, informational webinars, oversight of applications and awarded grants
- **CSR is responsible for application review**
- **High demand program, >100 applications last year**
- **Currently active funding opportunities**
  - PAR-22-088
  - PAR-21-363 (limited competition)
- **Agenda for today**
  - Short presentations on the two PARs
  - Questions and answers

Introduction to the Programs and Presenters

- ## PAR-22-088 (BRF)
  - ### Presented by Karen Duca, PhD, MBA

- ## PAR-21-363 (NHP)
  - ### Presented by Guanghu (Jeff) Wang, PhD, MBA

- ## Questions and Answers
  - ### Presented by Ashley Barnes, PhD

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What we'll discuss under PAR-22-088

- Goal and target
- Considerations before (re)applying
  - Research intensive vs. IEE
  - A0 vs. A1
- Structure of the application
  - PI/PD
  - Budget
- Review and funding criteria
- Timeline
- Some good practices

Goals of BRF

- **GOAL: Modernize existing or construct new biomedical research facilities**
  - Facility must be able to operate for 20 years post beneficial occupancy

- **TARGET: Shared-use facilities, *e.g.,* core labs, animal facilities, biorepositories, imaging centers, HPC centers, clinical research centers, cGMP installations, etc.**

  - No preferred type of facility, all shared BRFs are eligible

  - Facility should enable cutting-edge biomedical research

  - BRF is not intended for routine upgrading of outdated spaces
    - New capacities and next-level science are expected

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Institutional Eligibility

- Who may apply?
  - Any US domestic academic/research institute
  - Only ONE application per organization
    - Defined as a "legal entity" by DUNS number or Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
  - NEW: Only one active BRF C06 allowed at a time
    - PAR-19-128, PAR-20-086, or PAR-21-139 (last three years)
- Research intensive institutions vs. institutions of emerging excellence (IEEs)
  - 25% of total funds set aside for IEEs
  - NEW: IEEs must self-identify and justify their status as an IEE
    - Failure to self-identify puts you in the research intensive category

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What constitutes an IEE?

- Leverage their research abilities to address a problem, concern, or unmet need in the US

- Are in locales with deficits in research resources that adversely affect the health of the local population

- Are in locales with a significant number of underprivileged or underrepresented populations

- Work to remedy health disparities, serving as centers for dissemination of health information, workforce development, and research advancement
  - Deficits in physical infrastructure hamper these efforts

- Have relatively low levels of NIH funding

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Other Considerations for IEEs

- No fixed cut-off on total NIH (or other) funding
  - Some research intensive (Carnegie R1) organizations may qualify
- Location in an IDeA state is not sufficient for IEE status
- IEE status justification should include the domain of excellence targeted by the IEE
- IEEs may define their missions differently than research intensives
  - Advanced biomedical research required
  - Institutional and regional/national impact required
  - Education and workforce training permitted, but cannot be the exclusive focus of the facility

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A0 vs. A1?

- <mark>NEW:</mark> Unsuccessful prior applications may be resubmitted
  - Within 37 months of unsuccessful submission
  - Substantially similar application
    - Minor changes to the design in response to critique or small changes to the scientific scope
  - Major changes to the proposed facility – A0

- A1 resubmissions requires a one-page response to reviewer critique
  - Place in Other Attachments

- My application was unsuccessful two years running, can I resubmit my application from two years ago rather than last year?
  - Yes, but any resubmission allows discussion of all prior applications
  - A0 does not permit ANY discussion of previous submissions

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Structure of the Application

- Standard SF424 (R&R) Application Guide requirements apply with the following changes:

  - Overview in lieu of Specific Aims (1 page)

  - If A1, response to reviewer critique (1 page) SEE: NOT-OD-22-078

    - Place as a single file entitled "Introduction" under Other Attachments

  - No Research Strategy

    - Scientific (and IEE) Justification and Facility Development (12 pages)

  - No vertebrate animals, human subjects, or select agents

    - Biohazards should be addressed if relevant

PI/PD, Key Personnel, and Users

- ## Single PI/PD
  - An administrator or senior scientist with a leadership role in the institution and adequate standing to direct the project and bring it to completion
  - NIH funding is NOT required of the PI/PD

- ## Other key personnel and users
  - Construction project manager with engineering/architect expertise (required)
  - Facilities manager or other subject matter experts required for design and execution of the project (optional)
  - No minimum number of facility users
    - No NIH funding required of users

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Budget

- Individual awards: $3 - $8 million

- Projects must be completed within 5 years

- Budget can support design, construction, MEP infrastructure, and some fixed, support equipment
  - Fixed equipment means that it must be built into or directly connected to the infrastructure of the facility, *e.g.,* fume hoods, autoclaves
  - Fixed does not mean large, immobile, or heavy equipment
  - No scientific equipment (data generating) allowed
  - Reach out to program to make sure that your equipment request is supported

- Contingency fee allowed (15%)

- No salary support unrelated to construction

- No overhead

Required Attachments

- <u>Biosketches</u> for the PI and Project Manager
- Line drawings of the facility on standard, letter-size paper
  - No page limit, color permitted
- List of requested fixed equipment
- Budget justification
  - Must include vendor quotes for fixed equipment
- Letter from a high-ranking institutional official indicating financial support for the facility
- Verification of title to property or 20+ year lease
- Project timeline
- Introduction (if resubmitting)

Optional Attachments

- Table of up to 12 relevant active grants
  - Typo in Table 3 instructions (NOT-OD-22-072)
  - FY 2020 should read FY 2021
    - Select the 12 most relevant active grants for inclusion

- Maximum of seven (NEW) support letters

CO6 Review Criteria

- Scientific merit and organization of the total program and its component parts

- Administrative and leadership capabilities of the applicant's officers and staff

- Anticipated effect of the project on other relevant research programs and facilities in the area/nation

- Need for the project or additional space

- Project design

All review criteria are important and carry equal weight.

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Nine CO6 Funding Considerations

- **Impact score**

- NIH and program priorities

- Scientific merit of the research activities

- Scientific/professional standing of the applicant and team

- Availability of other facilities/personnel to support activities and/or adequate biocontainment (where applicable)

- Need for the facility and its effect on similar facilities in the locale

- Project cost and design

- Geographical distribution

- **Availability of funds**

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Timeline

- Application due date: **March 25, 2022 (new)**

- Scientific merit review: June 2022

- Advisory council review: August 2022

- Award date: September 2022

General Good Practices

- Thoroughly understand the FOA by careful reading

- **<u>Reach out to program to verify that your equipment request is supported</u>**

- Make the reviewers' task easier
  - With a clear writing style
  - With good organization of your application

- Think like a reviewer while preparing your application
  - Make everything explicit
  - Ask yourself whether your most important points have come across clearly

Limited Competition: Development and Renovation of Housing, Breeding, and Research Spaces for Existing NIH-supported NHP Colonies (Non-human Primate)

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PAR21-363: Spaces for NHPs

Similar aspects as the BRF C06:

- Structure of the application
  - PI/PD
  - Budget: $3 - $8 million
- Timeline (except due date stays March 15, 2022)
- Funding considerations

Focus on the unique part of the NHP FOA

- Goal
- Eligibility and project scope
- Topics of special interest
- Review criteria

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PAR21-363: Spaces for NHPs

GOAL:

Support infrastructure construction, expansion, and modernization to meet the urgent need of NHPs:

- To enable and enhance transformative cutting-edge biomedical and biobehavioral research using NHPs.
- For the U.S. to be able to respond to emerging infectious disease threats, continue to identify treatment approaches, and develop new medical products to improve health across medical fields

Project scope:
- Facilities for NHP housing, breeding, and research
- Species of NHP not restricted, but must be justified by existing or projected needs

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PAR21-363: Spaces for NHPs

Eligibilities:

- Limited competition: Institution must house existing NHP colony that is directly supported by current NIH awards as a research service or breeding center, e.g., NPRCs and other NHP resources
- Only ONE application per organization (Defined as a "legal entity" by DUNS number or Unique Entity Identifier (UEI))
- New submission (A0) only

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PAR21-363: Spaces for NHPs

Topics of special interest:

- Specific pathogen free (SPF) colonies of Indian-origin rhesus macaques

- Existing breeding colonies of NHPs to maintain genetic diversity

- Infrastructure to support larger colonies that promote social interactions and animal welfare

Required Attachments

- <u>Biosketches</u> for the PI and Project Manager
- Line drawings of the facility
- List of requested fixed equipment
- List the size (dimensions) and square footage of each component
- <mark>List of active NHP-related research awards that drive the need for this project</mark>
- Budget justification
  - Must include vendor quotes for fixed equipment
- Letter from a high-ranking institutional official indicating financial support for the facility
- Verification of title to property or 20+ year lease
- Project timeline

Optional Attachments

- **Optional up to five support letters**

PAR21-363: Spaces for NHPs

Review criteria:

- <u>Scientific Merit & Organization,</u> including justification of choice of NHP species

- <u>Needs of NHPs</u>

- Anticipated <u>Impact</u> locally and nationwide

- <u>Management and administration</u> of construction and space

- Technical <u>design</u> details – feasibility

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General Good Practices

- Thoroughly understand the FOA

- Write with clear style, good organization, and consistency

- Think like a reviewer while preparing your application
  - Make everything explicit
  - Ask yourself whether your most important points
    have come across clearly

- Reach out to program if you have questions

- Please don't wait until the very last minute to upload

Questions and Answers

Questions: Facilities

- Is a project to remodel two core facilities located in two separate buildings acceptable?

- Is it allowable to request funding for shell-space fit out of a specialized research laboratory that is part of a larger fit out project already underway?

- Is any particular type of facility considered high program priority?

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Questions: Budget

- If I am awarded a grant, am I allowed to charge the amount I spent on design for my application to the grant?

- Will there be options for additional supplementary funding if costs rise due to covid supply chain issues or inflation?

- Will my chances of getting funded be better if my budget is smaller?

- Is cost sharing required?

- Does voluntary cost sharing help my application?

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Questions: Administrative

- Will an Introduction to the Application be allowed for resubmissions and, if so, how many pages and where should it be incorporated in the proposal?

- If I am an A1 applicant, will reviewers have the prior summary statement available?

- What should I do if I have questions about or problems in uploading in the ASSIST system?

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Questions: Administrative

- Could you please clarify whether Table 3 should only include the five columns listed, or whether it should also include the infrastructure needs of the research program they are a part of?

- Am I correct in understanding that for this C06 application, any non-scientific team members (with roles such as Other Professional or Consultant) will also have to have obtained a Commons ID in order to be listed as senior/key, or the system would generate an error that would prevent submission?

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Questions: Administrative

- How should line drawings be prepared for the application?

- Will this program be re-issued next year?

Thank you very much for attending our webinar

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