

# NIH/ORIP C06 Pre-Application Webinar

March 13th, 2026, 1:00–2:30PM EDT

## Rules of Engagement

- Please submit questions via the Q&A at any time. We will answer questions in order that they are received.
- All comments submitted in the Q&A, as well as general discussion, will be saved and reviewed by moderators. A Frequently Asked Questions document will be generated for distribution.
- Further comments or questions may be emailed to ORIP Division of Construction and Instruments staff after the session.
- **Slides will be made available after the webinar.**



# NIH/ORIP C06 Pre-Application Webinar

**PAR-26-106 “Development of Collaborative Research Facilities or Research-Resource Facilities (C06 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)”**

**March 13th, 2026, 1:00–2:30PM EDT**

**Yong Chen, PhD**

**Division of Construction and Instruments (DCI)**

**Office of Research Infrastructure Programs (ORIP)**

**Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives (DPCPSI)**

**Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health**

**Department of Health and Human Services**



# Introduction to Our Panelists

## **ORIP**

Yong Chen, PhD  
Monika Aggarwal, PhD  
Jeff Spector, PhD  
Xiang-Ning Li, MD PhD

## **ORF**

Steven Breslin, AIA, PE, LEED AP

## **OGM**

Kenneth Holiness, MISM  
Sabrina Oasan, MPH

**ORIP – Office of Research Infrastructure Programs**

**ORF – Office of Research Facilities**

**OGM – Office of Grants Management**



# Current Co6 NOFO: PAR-26-106

## “Development of Collaborative Research Facilities or Research-Resource Facilities”

**PAR-26-106 supports two existing construction programs:**

- **Biomedical Research Facilities program — BRF**
- **HIV/AIDS Research Facilities program — HRF**

**Award Budget:**

**BRF: \$2M to \$8M**

**HRF: \$2M to \$4M**

<b>Application Due Dates</b>	<b>Review and Award Cycles</b>		
<b>New Submission</b>	<b>Scientific Merit Review</b>	<b>Advisory Council Review</b>	<b>Earliest Start Date</b>
<b>April 06, 2026</b>	<b>June 2026</b>	<b>October 2026</b>	<b>December 2026</b>
<b>January 25, 2027</b>	<b>June 2027</b>	<b>October 2027</b>	<b>December 2027</b>
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# Construction Programs Overview

- **Construction (C06) is a unique funding mechanism at NIH, very few NIH ICOs have C06 funding authority**
  - Requires its own yearly congressional appropriation
  - Appropriations for FY26 and the past three fiscal years
    - BRF: \$80M/year, 25% for Institutions of Emerging Excellence (IEEs)
    - HRF: \$8M/year, comanaged by NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR) and ORIP
- **ORIP in DPCPSI/OD manages NIH construction programs**
  - ORIP develops Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), holds informational webinars, and oversees of applications and awarded grants
- **CSR is responsible for scientific/merit review**



# PAR-26-106 Applications

- Goal and target
- Considerations before applying
  - BRF or HRF
  - BRF: Research intensive vs. IEE
  - **A0 only (A1 not allowed)**
- Structure of the application
  - Title to specify BRF or HRF
    - e.g. BRF: Building Consolidated Core Facilities at ...
    - or HRF: Construction of HIV Research Center at ...
  - PD/PI
  - Budget
- Review and funding criteria
- Timeline
- Some good practices



# Goal of PAR-26-106

- **GOAL: Modernize existing or construct new biomedical research facilities**
  - Facility should enable cutting-edge biomedical research
    - BRF: basic, translational, clinical, behavioral
    - HRF: must align with NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR)'s [research priorities](#)
  - NOFO is not intended for routine upgrading of outdated spaces
  - Facility must be able to operate and be used for biomedical research for 10 years post beneficial occupancy
  - 10 years of Notice of Federal Interest (NFI) will be required



# Target of PAR-26-106

- **TARGET: Shared-use facilities:** collaborative research spaces, core laboratories, biorepositories, imaging centers, HPC centers, clinical research centers, cGMP installations, etc.
  - **BRF:** All shared-use facilities are eligible
  - **HRF:** must focus on priority HIV/AIDS research
  - **Priorities:**
    - Facilities that support human-based research technologies: emerging New Approach Methods (NAMs)
    - Facilities that support chronic diseases, implementation science
  - **Non-priorities:**
    - Facilities that **solely or primarily** focus on supporting **animal research or animal care activities.**



# Institutional Eligibility

- **Who may apply?**
  - Any US domestic academic/research institute
  - For each program, only ONE application per organization
    - as defined by NIH Institution Profile (IPF) number
- **HRF: must focus on priority HIV/AIDS research**
- **BRF: Research Intensive vs. Institution of Emerging Excellence (IEE)**
  - 25% of total BRF funds set aside for IEEs
  - IEEs must self-identify and justify their status as an IEE
  - Failure to self-identify puts you in the research-intensive category



# What constitutes an IEE?

- IEEs play a special role in advancing biomedical research
- Develop excellence in a research area and leverage their research abilities to address a significant problem, concern, or unmet health needs in the US
- Are in locales with deficits in research resources that adversely affect the health of the local and regional communities/population
- 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
- Often have relatively low levels of NIH funding



# Other Considerations for IEEs

- No fixed cut-off on total NIH (or other) funding
- 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



# New Submission Only

- **A0 applications only. Resubmission (A1) applications are NOT allowed**
- **Unsuccessful prior applications must submit as a new application (A0)**
  - **DO NOT include an introduction or discuss previous submission**
  - **Failure to comply may result in application withdrawal from review**
- **My application was unsuccessful two years running, can I resubmit my application from two years ago rather than last year?**
  - **Yes, but only as an A0**



# PD/PI, Key Personnel, and Users

- **Single PD/PI**

- A Ph.D.-level administrator or senior scientist
  - With appropriate scientific background (HRF PI from HIV/AIDS research field)
  - 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 PD/PI

- **Other key personnel and users**

- **Required: Project Manager** with engineering/architect expertise
- **Optional:** facility manager or other subject matter experts
- **No minimum number of facility users**
  - No NIH funding required of users



# Budget

- Individual awards: HRF: \$2-4M; BRF: \$2-8M
- Projects must be completed within 5 years
- Budget can support design, construction, MEP infrastructure, and some fixed, support equipment
  - 10% or less of requested budget for fixed equipment
  - Fixed equipment means that it must be built into or directly connected to the infrastructure of the facility, e.g., fume hoods, autoclaves, biosafety cabinets, walk-in refrigerator.
  - 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 (up to 15% of allowable costs)
- No salary support unrelated to construction
- No overhead



# Structure of the Application and Required Attachments

- **Standard SF424 (R&R) Application Guide requirements apply with the following changes:**
  - No vertebrate animals, human subjects, or select agents
    - Biohazards should be addressed if relevant
- **Required attachments:**
  - Overview (1 page)
  - Scientific (and IEE if applicable) Justification and Facility Development (12 pages)



# Required Attachments (cont.)

- **Biosketches for the PD/PI and Project Manager**
- **Annotated satellite and/or map views of the envisioned construction site**
- **Line drawings of the facility on standard, letter-size paper**
  - No page limit, color permitted
- **List of each room/component's size (dimensions) and square footage (Table 1)**
- **List of requested fixed equipment (Table 2)**
- **Project timeline**
- **Budget justification**
  - Must include vendor quotes for fixed equipment
- **Letter from a high-ranking institutional official indicating administrative/financial support for the facility**
- **Verification of title to property or 10+ year lease**

**Be sure to name the attachments per NOFO instructions**



# Optional Attachments

- **List (Table 3) of up to 12 relevant active grants**
  - Select the most relevant active grants to include
  - HRF application to list active HIV/AIDS research awards
- **Maximum of seven letters of support**

**Be sure to name the attachments per NOFO instructions**



# 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 may carry equal weight.**



# Nine C06 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 in relevance to institutional financial commitment**
- **Geographical distribution**
- **Availability of funds**



# Summary

## PAR-26-106 supports:

- **BRF — Biomedical Research Facilities program**
  - \$2M to \$8M
  - Research intensive vs IEEs (25%)
- **HRF — HIV/AIDS Research Facilities program**
  - \$2M to \$4M

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# General Good Practices

- Thoroughly understand the NOFO
- **Reach out to program if you have questions**

- Email: [oripconstruction@od.nih.gov](mailto:oripconstruction@od.nih.gov)
- Office hour: Wednesdays 2–3 pm ET  
[Teams link at ORIP.nih.gov C06 page](#) →

**Office Hour** new

Wednesdays: 2–3 pm ET

[Join via Teams](#) 

- **Think like a reviewer while preparing your application -> make the reviewers' task easier**

- With a clear writing style
- With good organization of your application
- Make everything explicit
- Ask yourself whether your most important points have come across clearly



# 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?



# Questions: Budget

- If I am awarded a grant, can I charge the amount I spent on the design section (e.g., floor plans) of my application to the grant?
- Will there be options for additional supplementary funding if costs rise due to 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?



# Questions: Administrative

- What should I do if I have questions about or problems in uploading in the ASSIST system?
- How should line drawings be prepared for the application?
- Will this program be funded next year?



# 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 personnel, or the system would generate an error that would prevent submission?**



# Thank you for attending our webinar

Please feel free to reach out at:

- Email: [oripconstruction@od.nih.gov](mailto:oripconstruction@od.nih.gov)
- Office hour: Wednesdays 2–3 pm ET

[Teams link at ORIP.nih.gov C06 page](#)

**Office Hour** new

Wednesdays: 2–3 pm ET

[Join via Teams](#)

