advances the NIH mission by supporting infrastructure for innovation. This support is focused on research resources, including animal models for human disease, cutting-edge scientific instrumentation, construction and modernization of research facilities, and research training opportunities for veterinary scientists. Through continued engagement with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices and the biomedical research community, ORIP programs and expands existing programs and develops new initiatives to support NIH research at the forefront of scientific progress.

**ORIP’s Mission Statement**

ORIP advances the NIH mission by supporting infrastructure for innovation. This support is focused on research resources, including animal models for human disease, cutting-edge scientific instrumentation, construction and modernization of research facilities, and research training opportunities for veterinary scientists. Through continued engagement with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices and the biomedical research community, ORIP programs and expands existing programs and develops new initiatives to support NIH research at the forefront of scientific progress.

**Division of Construction and Instruments**

The Division of Construction and Instruments (DCI) Sponsored Instrumentation Program provides access to innovative technologies to groups of NIH-funded investigators working in all areas of biomedical research within NIH missions. The program supports the acquisition of commercially available instruments that are useful in biomedical basic biomedical research, translational biomedical research, and clinical research. Examples of funded instruments include: X-ray diffraction systems, nuclear magnetic resonance and mass spectrometers, optical microscopes, biomedical imaging systems, computer and data storage clusters, and high-throughput systems.

DCI also provides support to modernize biomedical research facilities through the acquisition and installation of equipment and alterations and renovations of conventional and specialized biomedical research facilities. Such projects must be undertaken at an institutional animal research facility, core facility, or other institution space that provides access and services to many researchers so that the local research community draws long-term benefits from the updated operations and facilities.

**Small Business Program**

Advancing biomedical research requires commercially available methods and technologies to improve animal models for human disease and enhance the care and use of these crucial animal resources. The primary goal of ORIP’s small business programs is to attract innovative Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) projects of special interest to ORIP, expand existing programs and develop new initiatives to support the NIH mission, and improve animal models for human disease and cutting-edge biomedical instrumentation.

ORIP awards grants to support research resources, such as animal models for human diseases and cutting-edge biomedical instrumentation.

**ORIP’s Strategic Plan 2021–2025**

**Infrastructure for Innovation**

ORIP plans, organizes, and conducts workshops, both independently and in collaboration with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices to identify and pursue scientific opportunities.

**ORIP supports research training opportunities for veterinary scientists to capitalize on their distinct perspectives and expertise based on a deep understanding of comparative medicine and insight into animal models for human diseases.**

**Contact Us**

Office of Research Infrastructure Programs
One Democracy Plaza, Suite 401
6701 Democracy Boulevard
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-4877

Phone: 301-435-0744
Fax: 301-480-3819

Division of Comparative Medicine

The Division of Comparative Medicine (DCM) facilitates partnerships and partnerships with research at the forefront of scientific progress, as well as providing ongoing scientific research support and emerging opportunities, as well as supporting public health challenges. The focus of DCM is to ensure that DCM continues to provide support for veterinary researchers and researchers who participate in research.

DCM also invests in training programs to help veterinary students and veterinarians participate in a variety of hypothesis-based research experiences in laboratory animal medicine, comparative medicine, and pathology. The program is designed to encourage talented veterinary scientists to pursue careers in biomedical research and to advance translational research by increasing the engagement of veterinary scientists. Other awards are available to fund increases diversity in the biomedical research workforce or facilitate the entry of individuals into active research careers after an interruption for family responsibilities or other qualifying circumstances.

**About ORIP**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) established the Office of Research Infrastructure Programs (ORIP) in December 2011 when the appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2012 was passed by Congress and signed into law. ORIP released its first strategic plan at the beginning of 2014 and has been revised and updated since then. The mission of ORIP is to advance the NIH mission by supporting infrastructure for innovation. This support is focused on research resources, including animal models for human disease, cutting-edge scientific instrumentation, construction and modernization of research facilities, and research training opportunities for veterinary scientists. Through continued engagement with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices and the biomedical research community, ORIP programs and expands existing programs and develops new initiatives to support NIH research at the forefront of scientific progress.
Animal models and related resources play an essential role in biomedical discovery by facilitating the development of better approaches to diagnose, prevent, and treat human diseases. Scientists rely on a broad array of animal models that mimic the various pathogenic events leading to disease; they also depend on related resources that facilitate the rigorous and reproducible application of animal models to critical questions about human health. To advance the study of a wide range of human diseases, ORIP will—

**Strategy 1.1:** Foster development of and provide support for animal models and research-related resources that meet emerging public health needs, prevent disease, promote health, and drive foundational science.

**Strategy 1.2:** Enhance access to a broad range of animal models with robust veterinary care and well-defined genomic and phenotypic data.

**Theme 1**

**Animal Models to Advance the Study of Human Disease**

The availability of new technologies is one key driver of scientific research. Scientific discoveries, in turn, drive the need for novel tools to enable the next generation of innovative research. This interplay of technological advances and scientific discoveries makes access to modern instruments and equipment a critical component of research progress. To accelerate research discoveries by maintaining the viability of NIH’s institutional infrastructure programs and by meeting the changing needs of the research community, ORIP will—

**Strategy 2.1:** Support acquisition of modern scientific instrumentation.

**Strategy 2.2:** Modernize the research infrastructure of laboratories and animal research facilities.

**Theme 2**

**Innovative Instruments and Equipment to Accelerate Research Discoveries**

Biomolecular training programs must prepare trainees for the full range of skills needed in the research workforce and increase the diversity of that workforce. Expertise in the use of animal models and related resources continues to be essential to the advancement of basic and translational science. In particular, veterinary scientists have special expertise that is vital to the use of animal models in research. To accelerate the specialized research training of investigators and research support staff who are responsible for the oversight and use of animal resources, ORIP will—

**Strategy 3.1:** Promote innovative approaches to training and developing the careers of veterinarians working in biomedical research.

**Strategy 3.2:** Support career development that promotes diversity in health-related research.

**Strategy 3.3:** Promote career development of researchers and support staff in the use and oversight of disease model and research resources.

**Theme 3**

**Specialized Research Training in Animal Models and Related Resources**

ORIP supports a wide range of resources—including animal models and related biomaterials, instrumentation and equipment, and training and career advancement—that are critical for conducting cutting-edge basic, clinical, and translational research. Many investigators who could benefit from ORIP programs, however, are unfamiliar with these resources. Other investigators might know about ORIP programs but need more information about how to access them. To accelerate efforts across the biomedical research enterprise, ORIP will—

**Strategy 4.1:** Foster collaborative research opportunities between ORIP-supported facilities and NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices and other federal agencies.

**Strategy 4.2:** Expand outreach to the biomedical research community to raise awareness and dissemination of ORIP-supported resources and programs.

**Theme 4**

**Awareness of ORIP Resources and Programs**