

Pre-Application Webinar:

PAR-25-061, Biomedical Research Facilities (BRF)
PAR-24-033, Limited Competition: Non-Human Primate Facilities

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Introduction to Our Panelists

ORIP

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ORIP – Office of Research Infrastructure Programs

ORF – Office of Research Facilities

OGM – Office of Grants Management



Construction Program

- **Construction (C06) is a unique funding mechanism at NIH, very few NIH ICOs have C06 funding authority**
 - Requires its own yearly congressional appropriation
 - NIH has received BRF appropriations in the amount of ~\$50-\$80 million/year for the past six 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 (C06) program is highly competitive**
 - BRF success rate over the past six years: ~10%



Overview

- **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**
- **High demand program, ~100 applications/year for last few years for BRF**
- **Currently active funding opportunity announcements**
 - **PAR-25-061 - Biomedical Research Facilities (BRF)**
 - **PAR-24-033 - Limited Competition: Non-Human Primates (NHP) Facilities to Support HIV/AIDS-related Research**



Biomedical Research Facilities PAR-25-061

- Goal and target
- Considerations before applying
 - Research intensive vs. IEE
 - **A0 only (A1 not allowed)**
- Structure of the application
 - PD/PI
 - Budget
- Review and funding criteria
- Timeline
- Some good practices



Goals of the Biomedical Research Facilities PAR-25-061

- **GOAL: Modernize existing or construct new biomedical research facilities**
 - 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 allow the grantees to stay on the cutting edge of science with the flexibility to change research directions after **10 years** of proposed research
 - Facility should enable cutting-edge biomedical research
 - **BRF NOFO** is not intended for routine upgrading of outdated space



Targets of the Biomedical Research Facilities PAR-25-061

- **TARGET: Shared-use facilities:** core labs, animal facilities, biorepositories, imaging centers, HPC centers, clinical research centers, cGMP installations, etc.
 - **All shared BRFs are eligible**
 - **Special Interest: small (<\$3 million) to mid-scale (\$3 million to \$5 million):**
 - Facilities that support research on Women's Health
 - Facilities focusing on emerging New Approach Methods (NAMs) or Complement-Animal Research in Experimentation research
 - Expansion or modernization of existing facilities to increase the breeding capacity of specific pathogen free (SPF) nonhuman primates (NHPs)



Institutional Eligibility

- **Who may apply?**
 - Any US domestic academic/research institute
 - Only ONE application per organization
 - As defined by NIH IPF number
 - Only one active BRF C06 allowed at a time within the last three fiscal years
 - Grantees under PAR-22-088, PAR-23-045, or PAR-23-306 (last three years) are not eligible
- **Research intensive institutions vs. Institutions of Emerging Excellence (IEEs)**
 - 25% of total 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 develop excellence in a research area and leverage their research abilities to address a significant problem, concern, or unmet need 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**



A0 vs. A1?

- **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 a leadership role in the institution and adequate standing to direct the project and bring it to completion
 - NIH funding is NOT required for the PD/PI
- **Other key personnel and users**
 - Required: construction 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: \$2 - \$8 million
- 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
 - 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) 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 financial support for the facility**
- **Verification of title to property or 10+ year lease**



Optional Attachments

- **List (Table 3) of up to 12 relevant active grants**
 - **Select the most relevant active grants for inclusion**
- **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 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



Timeline

- **Application due date:** **January 27, 2025**
- **Scientific merit review:** **May 2025**
- **Advisory council review:** **October 2025**
- **Award date:** **October 2025**



PAR-24-033: Breeding Facilities for SPF NHPs

Limited Competition: Development and Renovation of Facilities for Expanding the Breeding Capacity of Specific Pathogen Free Non-Human Primates to Support HIV/AIDS-related Research



PAR-24-033: Goal, award amount, etc.

GOAL: Support infrastructure construction, expansion, and modernization to meet the urgent need of SPF NHPs for HIV/AIDS-related research:

- **To enable and enhance transformative cutting-edge biomedical and biobehavioral research using SPF NHPs**
- **Must focus on HIV/AIDS research**

Individual award amount: \$2 - \$4 million

NOFO active for two years: FY 2024 and FY 2025



PAR-24-033: Eligibility

- Institution must house **existing SPF colony** that is directly supported by **current NIH awards** as a research service or breeding center, e.g., NPRCs and other NHP resources, with NIH award number(s) clearly identified
- Only **ONE** application per organization
- New submission (A0) only



PAR-24-033: PI/PD requirement

- A Ph.D.-level scientist who possesses knowledge of the NHP breeding, *as well as* NHP-related HIV/AIDS research field using SPF NHPs
- Hold appropriate standing within the institutional administration structure
- Have a demonstrated record of leadership skills



PAR-24-033: Timeline

- **Application due date:** **January 07, 2025**
- **Scientific merit review:** **March 2025**
- **Advisory council review:** **May 2025**
- **Earliest Start date:** **July 2025**



PAR-24-033: Required Attachments

- Biosketches for the PI, Project Manager, and other key Personnel
- Line drawings of the facility
- List of components with size (dimensions) and square footage
- List of requested fixed equipment
- **List of active HIV/AIDS research awards using SPF NHPs** that drive the need for this project
- Budget justification
 - Must include vendor quotes for fixed equipment
- Letter from a high-ranking institutional official indicating financial support for the facility
- Certification of title to property or 10+ year lease
- Project timeline



PAR-24-033: Optional Attachments

- Up to five support letters



PAR-24-033: Spaces for NHPs

Review criteria:

- **Scientific Merit & Organization of Program**
- **Needs of SPF NHPs**
- **Anticipated impact locally, regionally, and nationwide**
- **Management and administration of construction and space**
- **Technical design details – feasibility**



General Good Practices

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





Questions and Answers



Thank you very much for attending our webinar

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