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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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INTERACTIONS OF APPLICANTS WITH CONSULTANT REVIEWERS

National Institutes of Health
Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration

Consultants assist the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) by participating in the peer review of grant applications and contracts proposals. Throughout their periods of service, consultants are continually reminded of the confidentiality of the peer review process and the potential harm which may result from their providing applicants with information concerning the review. NIH/ADAMHA policy is very explicit in prohibiting consultants from discussing review proceedings with applicants; such discussions are permitted ONLY between the applicant and staff of the NIH and ADAMHA.

Several recent instances have been reported to staff in which applicants have approached consultants either to challenge them concerning their role in the review of applications and the recommendations of the peer review group, or to solicit information and/or guidance from them concerning the reviews. Applicants must understand that such contact on their part is totally inappropriate and that NIH consultants would violate their assurances of confidentiality were they to engage in such discussions with applicants.

It is important to the integrity of the peer review system and to the interests of both applicants and consultants that there be strict adherence to these policies. Again, policy prohibits all such interactions between applicant and consultant. NIH and ADAMHA staff are prepared, and solely empowered, to discuss the review process and the review of applications with applicants.

DATED ANNOUNCEMENTS (RFPs AND RFAs)

CLINICAL DENTAL RESEARCH CORE CENTERS

RFA AVAILABLE: 90-DE-1

National Institute of Dental Research

Application Receipt Date: March 13, 1990

The National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) invites applications for Clinical Dental Research Core Centers (P30) to facilitate clinical research relevant to the pathogenesis, diagnosis, early detection, prevention, control and treatment of oral diseases, disorders, and/or dysfunctions. The intent of the Core Center Program is to provide the resources and facilities necessary to develop and to conduct clinical research at the level of sophistication necessary to expedite the translation of basic scientific knowledge into new and better methods for improving the oral health of the nation. This Request for Applications (RFA) is for a single competition with a receipt date of March 13, 1990.

BACKGROUND

Recent advances in biomedical research are revolutionizing our understanding of cellular and molecular processes underlying the etiology and pathology of oral diseases, dysfunction, and craniofacial malformations. These advances have improved our capacity to treat and prevent these conditions. However, the full benefit of these research advances remains to be explored. Unfortunately, many dental teaching and research institutions lack the technical resources to conduct clinical research at the level of sophistication required. Thus, the intent of the Clinical Research Core Center grant is to expand and improve the clinical research capability and potential of the Nation's dental schools and dental research institutions.

RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

The objective of the Clinical Dental Research Core Center grant is to provide an environment which will strengthen and increase productivity in clinical research and generate new ideas through organized interdisciplinary
collaborative efforts. The central focus is to enable, enhance and extend clinical research being conducted in one or more of the areas of dental research such as: dental caries; nutrition; periodontal diseases; soft tissue diseases (including oral manifestations of AIDS); salivary gland dysfunction; malocclusion; craniofacial anomalies; oral-facial pain and oral sensory/motor function; behavioral research; and restorative materials research.

The Research Core Center grant provides support for core resources and facilities to coordinate the activities of individually-supported clinical project investigators. A minimum of three core units must be proposed and approved for the viability of a proposed core center. These must include an administrative and biostatistics unit, unless a biostatistics unit already exists at the applicant institution. Other cores proposed should relate to the planned research activity of the Center. Examples of core units are:

- **Administrative Core**: To insure that the core participants are provided with support services to meet the changing needs of their research. This core provides funds for the Center director and administrative staff. Costs associated with information transfer and outreach programs may also be requested. This core must bring together an advisory panel of experts from outside the Center who will meet at least once a year to review and provide a written report on the progress of the Center. This report must be included with each year’s Center’s annual progress report to the NIDR. Pilot and feasibility studies are administered through this core and come under the purview of the Center Director.

- **Biostatistics, Data Management and Analysis Core**: To provide the staff and other resources needed to enhance programs of clinical research through the application of epidemiologic, sampling, biostatistics, and related support methodologies to clinical problems. To strengthen biostatistician-clinical investigator interactions in the design and conduct of clinical research.

- **Diagnostics Core**: To provide and develop methods and/or instrumentation to detect early signs, markers of and progression of disease or malformation and to monitor for efficacy of treatments.

- **Laboratory Cores**: To provide resources and scientific expertise to carry out adjunct studies on clinical trial patients. Animal resources may be included where appropriate. Examples of such laboratory cores are: Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Immunology, Pharmacology, Nutrition, etc.

- **Unique Clinical Facilities Core**: To provide resources to test interventions which cannot be carried out in conventional health care settings. An example might be the use of mobile units for clinical studies involving the elderly and handicapped.

Cores may provide support for personnel, including the necessary expertise to direct cores, equipment, supplies, services and facilities. The grant also will provide limited funds (up to 20 percent of total Center costs) for pilot and feasibility studies. The goals of the pilot and feasibility studies are to provide start-up funds for new projects by new staff members, to train young investigators under the direction of clinical scientists and to encourage established investigators to utilize the newer biomedical and behavioral techniques in addressing areas of oral health concerns. The Research Core Center grant does not provide direct funding for ongoing research projects as such; these are to be funded through other sources and support mechanisms (e.g., individual research project grants). All research projects should be highly relevant to the overall goals of the NIDR and of the Clinical Dental Research Core Center grant.

Projects concerning oral health or disease as related to minorities, women and the elderly and to populations in foreign countries which present special research opportunities (via international collaboration) are encouraged.

**ELIGIBILITY**

This competition is open to domestic institutions. The applicant institution should have ongoing clinical research projects or the potential to develop clinical research projects which will utilize the shared resources and facilities (core units) that are supported by the core grant.

The overall research plan must be relevant to the goals of the NIDR and the Clinical Dental Research Core Center. The applicant institution must demonstrate a strong commitment to the Center's success.
FUNDING MECHANISM

The Centers will be supported by Center Core Grants (P30) for a period of five years, commencing as early as September 1, 1990. Applicants may request up to $500,000 in direct costs for the first year. It is anticipated that a minimum of two awards will be made, if a sufficient number of high quality applications are received. No more than one Core Center grant will be made at any one institution.

STAFF CONTACT

Applications should be prepared and submitted in accordance with the objectives and requirements described in the full RFA, available from:

Joseph E. Ciardi, Ph.D.
Program Administrator
Extramural Program
National Institute of Dental Research
Westwood Building, Room 505
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-4500
Telephone: (301) 496-7884

ONGOING PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

NATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE AWARD FELLOWSHIPS IN LABORATORY ANIMAL MEDICINE

P.T. 22; K.W. 0720005, 0201058, 0755030, 0765035, 0745020, 0795003

Division of Research Resources

Application Receipt Dates: January 10, May 10, and September 10

The Animal Resources Program (ARP), Division of Research Resources (DRR), solicits applications for individual National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for training in research related to laboratory animal medicine. Individuals must hold a D.V.M. or Ph.D. degree at the time of the award. The applicant must be interested in working in the field of laboratory animal medicine and the proposed training must focus on some topic that will benefit laboratory animals. Projects usually focus on some aspect of laboratory animal disease, etiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis or control. The fellowship may be part of a research degree program. Receipt dates are January 10, May 10 and September 10. The January 10 receipt date is recommended with potential funding starting during the summer months. A more detailed description of NRSA's for Individual Postdoctoral Fellows can be obtained from:

Division of Research Grants
Office of Grants Inquiries
5333 Westbard Avenue, Room 449
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-7441

Specific information related to Fellowships in Laboratory Medicine can be obtained from:

Director
Laboratory Animal Sciences Program
Animal Resources Program Branch
Division of Research Resources
National Institutes of Health
5333 Westbard Avenue, Room 853
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-5175

NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH ON DRUG ABUSE

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002030, 0404009, 0705055, 0760075, 0414005, 0404000, 0785115

National Institute on Drug Abuse

PURPOSE

The purpose of this announcement is to encourage and stimulate investigator interest in broad areas of neuroscience research relevant to the problem of drug abuse. Many research tools are now available to allow for major advances...
in understanding the neurobiology of drug abuse to determine the effects of drugs on the structure and function of the nervous system. These include new histochemical and autoradiographic procedures, light and electron microscopic analysis, imaging and analytic techniques applicable to living tissue (e.g., PET, MRI), and various neurophysiological and neuropharmacological techniques, especially those monitoring neural processes during ongoing behavior (e.g., single-cell electrophysiology, in vivo microdialysis and voltammetry, evoked potentials, EEG). As a final part of this initiative, The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) expects that an increased understanding of the relationship between brain anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology and drug abuse behaviors will increase the capacity to design appropriate therapeutic pharmaceuticals void of abuse liability and its consequences, and develop drug therapies for correcting neurochemical imbalances created by the abuse of drugs. Additionally, investigations into the neural basis of drug seeking should identify those neurobiological factors that make an individual vulnerable to the abuse of drugs.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The neuroscience program of the NIDA's Division of Preclinical Research encourages investigations into the basic mechanisms underlying the action of abused drugs and substances on the central nervous system as well as research leading to the development of drugs that potentially may be used on the relationship between drug-receptor interactions or neurochemical alterations and consequences of drug usage in terms of behavioral processes is specifically encouraged. Areas of particular interest include the following:

(1) Brain Reward Mechanisms in Drug Abuse
(2) Neuropsychopharmacology of Abused Drugs
(3) Anabolic Steroid Abuse
(4) Drug-Induced Neurotoxicity
(5) Developmental Neurobiology
(6) Drug Effects on Cognitive Processes
(7) Drug Effects on Sensory Processes
(8) Blood-Brain Barrier Studies
(9) Clinical Neuroscience

Support can be obtained in the form of R01 (Research Project Grants), R03 (Small Grants), R13 (Research Conference Grants), and R29 (First Independent Research Support and Transition Awards).

NIMH and various NIH Institutes have specific programs in the neurosciences. Grant applications will be assigned to the appropriate Institute based upon existing programmatic guidelines.

ELIGIBILITY

Applications may be submitted by public or private nonprofit or for-profit organizations such as universities, colleges, hospitals, laboratories, units of State or local governments, and eligible agencies of the Federal government. Women and minority investigators are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND RECEIPT SCHEDULE

State and local government agencies may use form PHS 5161-1 (rev. 11/88). All other applicants should use the research grant application from PHS 398 (rev. 10/88). The title of this announcement "NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH ON DRUG ABUSE" should be typed in item number 2 on the face page of the PHS 398 application form or in item 9 on the PHS 5161-1.

Application kits containing the necessary forms and instructions may be obtained from business offices or offices of sponsored research at most universities, colleges, medical schools, and other major research facilities. If such a source is not available, the following office may be contacted for the necessary application material: Grants Management Branch, NIDA, Parklawn Building, Room 10-25, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

Applications received under this announcement will be assigned to an initial review group (IRG) in accordance with established PHS Referral Guidelines. The IRGs, consisting primarily of non-Federal scientific and technical experts, will review the applications for scientific and technical merit. Notification of the review recommendations will be sent to the applicant after the initial review.

Applications will receive a second-level review by an appropriate National Advisory Council whose review may be based on policy as well as scientific merit considerations. Only applications recommended for approval by the advisory council may be considered for funding.
The signed original and six (6) permanent, legible copies of the completed application (original and two copies, if using PHS 5161-1) should be sent to:

Division of Research Grants  
National Institutes of Health  
Westwood Building, Room 240  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Receipt of Initial Advisory Council Earliest  
Applications Review Review Start Date
February 1 June/July Sept/Oct December 1
June 1 Oct/Nov Jan/Feb April 1
October 1 Feb/March May/June July 1

Applications submitted in response to this Announcement are not subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of Executive Order 12372, as implemented through Department of Health and Human Services regulations at 45 CFR Part 100 and are not subject to Health Systems Agency review.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Criteria for scientific/technical merit review of regular research grant applications will include the following: significance and originality from a scientific and technical standpoint of the goals of the proposed research; adequacy of the methodology proposed to carry out the research; qualifications of the Principal Investigator and other key research personnel; availability of adequate facilities, other resources, and collaborative arrangements necessary for the research, appropriateness of budget estimates for the proposed research activities, and adequacy of provisions for the protection of human subjects and welfare of animals subjects as applicable.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information and consultation on program requirements relevant to neuroscience research inquiries can be obtained from:

Dr. Roger Brown  
Neuroscience Research Branch  
National Institute on Drug Abuse  
Parklawn Building, Room 10A-31  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Maryland 20857  
Telephone: (301) 443-6975

FOOTNOTE: This program is described in the catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.279. Grants will be awarded under the authority of Section 301 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended (42 USC 241) and administered in accordance with the PHS Grants Policy Statement and Federal regulations at 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of Executive Order 12372 or Health Systems Agency review.

ERRATUM

MINORITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RESEARCH APPRENTICE PROGRAM

P.T. 34, FF; K.W. 0710030, 1014006

Division of Research Resources  
Application Receipt Date: December 1, 1989

This Program Announcement was previously published in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts on September 22, 1989, (Vol. 18, No. 33) but contained inadvertent errors in the sections on ELIGIBILITY and APPLICATION. The corrected announcement is repeated below in its entirety.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Division of Research Resources (DRR), National Institutes of Health (NIH), currently plans to continue the Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program in 1990.
The purpose of the program is to provide minority high school students with a meaningful experience in various aspects of health-related research in order to stimulate their interest in careers in science.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible institutions are those that were awarded grants during the latest complete Federal Fiscal Year 1989 from either the Biomedical Research Support Grant (BRSG) Program or the Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) Program. Only one application for the Apprentice Program can be submitted by a component of an institution that is the recipient of both the BRSG and MBRS awards.

Students eligible for support under this program are those who: (1) identify themselves as minority (i.e., Black, Hispanic, American Indian, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander, or Asian); (2) are U.S. citizens or have a permanent visa; and (3) are enrolled in high school during the 1989-90 academic year. (Students who will graduate from high school in 1990 are eligible, as are students who participated in a previous year - provided they are still enrolled at the high school level.)

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

The mechanism of support for this program will be the NIH grant-in-aid (S03). Support will be provided at a level of $1,500 for each apprentice position allocated. No indirect costs will be paid. Direct support to the apprentice must be as salary; stipends are not allowed. Within the $1,500 per student allocation, funds may also be utilized for supplies, extending the research experience through the school year, or if adequate funds exist, for an additional apprentice. However, funds from these grants may only be used for the costs of the apprentice program. The Program Director is responsible for recruitment and selection of the apprentices and assignment of each to an investigator. Recruitment and selection of students should emphasize factors of the students' motivation, ability, scholastic aptitude and accomplishments. In addition, consideration should be given to science teachers' recommendations and, where possible, the degree of parental commitment. Assignments should be made to investigators involved in health-related research who are committed to developing in the high school student both understanding of the research in which they participate and the technical skills needed. Awards will be for one year.

APPLICATION

Eligible institutions should submit an application consisting of no more than:

1. A one-page letter stating the number of student positions requested, plus

2. An original and two signed and completed copies of the Grant Application Form, PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88) face page and checklist only.

Mark the "YES" box in item 2 and indicate the announcement title as "Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program."

Mark items numbered 4, 5, 7, 8b, 10 and 14 as Not applicable (N.A.). Complete item 8a with the total dollar amount of your request, which is the sum of the number of student positions requested times $1,500 per student.

The original and one copy of the signed Program Director's report and each student report should be submitted with the renewal application due December 1 annually in order that the data contained in these reports can be used by DRR to decide about policies and future funding for the Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program. These reports should be submitted by December 1 even if renewal support is not requested.

Furthermore, all reports including the Financial Status Report must be submitted to the NIH by the grantee institution no later than May 31, 1990, unless an extension of the budget period end date has been authorized in writing.

Please Note: Limited funds and increased requests for such student positions may restrict the final allocations by DRR to three or four students per eligible applicant institution. Upon recommendation of the National Advisory Research Resources Council, DRR will give preference in making awards to those institutions that can support a summer program having a "critical mass" of at least five or six students using institutional as well as DRR funds.
The applications should be submitted to:

Biomedical Research Support Program
Division of Research Resources
National Institutes of Health
5333 Westbard Avenue
Westwood Building, Room 10A11
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Inquiries can be made of Dr. Marjorie A. Tingle at the above indicated address or by calling (301) 496-6743.

The firm deadline for receipt of applications is December 1, 1989. Awards will be effective March 1, 1990, contingent upon availability of appropriated funds.

**THE MAILING ADDRESS GIVEN FOR SENDING APPLICATIONS TO THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH OR CONTACTING PROGRAM STAFF IN THE WESTWOOD BUILDING IS THE CENTRAL MAILING ADDRESS FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH. APPLICANTS WHO USE EXPRESS MAIL OR A COURIER SERVICE ARE ADVISED TO FOLLOW THE CARRIER'S REQUIREMENTS FOR SHOWING A STREET ADDRESS. THE ADDRESS FOR THE WESTWOOD BUILDING IS:

5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20816