Strategic Resources

YEAR 2020 - VOLUME VI AUTORIZADO POR LA COMISIÓN ESTATAL DE ELECCIONES



UPR external funding success is of utmost importance to strengthen the connection between its investigators/faculty and funding entities who have the potential to sponsor their research and academic endeavors. This publication has been developed in order to summarize funding opportunities and promote the participation of faculty and collaborative research groups in their intent to apply for external funds. Such efforts are aligned with the UPR Strategic Plan 2017-2022: A New Era of Innovation and Transformation for Student Success; Certification 50 (2016-2017) of the Governing Board, December 19, 2016. Strategic Area: Research and Creative Work. Goal 2: Increase Applications for and awards of external funds for research and creative work.

SELECTED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

This is a selection of identified funding opportunities for the period ending 06/04/2020 and is in no way all-inclusive of funding opportunities available. Further information has been shared with External Resource Coordinators and Research Coordinators at each UPR campus by e-mail or MS Teams.

1. Joint DMS/NIGMS Initiative to Support Research at the Interface of the Biological and Mathematical Sciences, National Science Foundation

Application Deadline: September 18, 2020

The Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS)in the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS) at the National Science Foundation (NSF)and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)plan to support fundamental research in mathematics and statistics necessary to answer questions in the biological and biomedical sciences. Both agencies recognize the need to promote research at the interface between mathematical and life sciences. This program is designed to encourage new collaborations, as well as to support innovative activities by existing teams. The joint DMS/NIGMS initiative offers two submission tracks: Track 1 - for projects with a total budget of up to \$600,000 and an award duration of 3 years, and Track 2 - for projects with a total budget of up to \$1,200,000 and award duration of 3-4 years.

This program is designed to support research in mathematics and statistics addressing important questions in the biological and biomedical sciences. Research projects that apply routine mathematical or statistical techniques to solve biological or biomedical problems are not appropriate for this competition, and they may be submitted to NIH through other mechanisms (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm). Similarly, mathematical, or statistical research projects that are not tied to any specific biological or biomedical problem should be submitted to the appropriate programs at NSF. Proposals designed to create new software tools based solely on existing models and methods will not be accepted in this competition. Additionally, proposals to create models to characterize and analyze a particular biosystem without novel advances in mathematics or statistics are very low priority for the program, and therefore, submission of such proposals are highly discouraged.

Successful proposals are expected to address clearly stated biological/biomedical questions, make a compelling case for and develop innovative mathematical/computational/statistical methods or integrate disparate mathematical/computational/statistical fields, and articulate a well-defined plan for the mathematics or statistics to drive biological/biomedical discovery within the funded period. A direct relationship between a biological/biomedical application and the mathematical/computational/statistical work is required. Research collaborations that include scientists from both the life and mathematical science communities are expected. Proposals from single investigators must provide convincing evidence that the principal investigator has the necessary expertise in both mathematics/statistics and life sciences. While projects from existing collaborations are allowed, we strongly encourage exploratory, high-risk and high-reward Track 1 proposals from new teams of researchers.

All proposals in response to this solicitation must be responsive to one or more of the research areas of NIGMS (https://www.nigms.nih.gov/research-areas). Proposals not conforming to these areas will be returned without review. Proposals that

are of biological/biomedical nature but not within the scope of NIGMS (such as proposals that focus on a specific disease or physiological system) should be submitted to NIH under the parent FOA (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-19-056.html).

Link to additional information: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf20575

2. Public Engagement with Historical Records, National Archives and Records Administration

Application Deadline: October 8, 2020

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission seeks projects that encourage public engagement with historical records, including the development of new tools that enable people to engage online. The NHPRC is looking for projects that create models and technologies that other institutions can freely adopt. In general, collaborations between archivists, documentary editors, historians, educators, and/or community-based individuals are more likely to create a competitive proposal. Projects that focus on innovative methods to introduce primary source materials and how to use them in multiple locations also are more likely to create a competitive proposal. Projects might create and develop programs to engage people in the study and use of historical records for institutional, educational or personal reasons. For example, an applicant can:

- Enlist volunteer "citizen archivists" in projects to accelerate access to historical records, especially those online. This may include, but is not limited to, efforts to identify, tag, transcribe, annotate, or otherwise enhance digitized historical records.
- Develop educational programs for K-12 students, undergraduate classes, or community members that encourage them to engage with historical records already in repositories or that are collected as part of the project.
- Collect primary source material from people through public gatherings and sponsor discussions or websites about the results.
- Use historical records in workshops for artistic endeavors. This could include K-12 students, undergraduate classes, or community members. Examples include projects that encourage researching and writing life stories for performance; using record facsimiles in painting, sculpture, or audiovisual collages; or using text as lyrics for music or as music.
- Develop technologies that encourage the sharing of information about historical records.

For a comprehensive list of the Commission's limitations on funding, please see "What we do and do not fund" (http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/apply/eligibility.html). Applications that consist entirely of ineligible activities will not be considered.

Award Information

A grant normally is for one to three years. The Commission expects to make up to five grants of between \$50,000 and \$150,000. The total amount allocated for this program is up to \$400,000. Grants begin no earlier than July 1, 2021. The Commission requires that grant recipients acknowledge NHPRC grant assistance in all publications and other products that result from its support. Eligibility Eligible applicants:

- Nonprofit organizations or institutions
- Colleges, universities, and other academic institutions
- State or local government agencies
- Federally-recognized or -acknowledged or state-recognized Native American tribes or groups

Projects must include at least one of the eligible activities described for this program. Applications must include all required elements (SF424, Narrative, NHPRC Budget form, and Supplemental Materials). Applications that do not meet either of these criteria will not be considered. In order to ensure eligibility, applicants should first review the rules and regulations governing NHPRC grants under the Administering an NHPRC Grant section.

Cost Sharing

The total costs of a project are shared between the NHPRC and the applicant organization. Cost sharing is required. The applicant's financial contribution may include both direct and indirect expenses, in-kind contributions, non-Federal third-party contributions, and any income earned directly by the project. NHPRC grant recipients are not permitted to use grant funds for indirect costs (as indicated in 2 CFR 2600.101). Indirect costs must be listed under the applicant's cost sharing contribution if they are included in the budget. The Commission provides no more than 50 per cent of total project costs in the Public Engagement with Historical Records category.

Link to additional information: http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/engagement.html

3. Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP), Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Application Deadline: June 29, 2020

The purpose of the Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP) is to provide scholarships to support recruiting, engaging, retaining, mentoring, and training committed multicultural scholars, resulting in either baccalaureate degrees within the FANH disciplines or Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) degrees. The scholarships are intended to encourage outstanding students from groups that are historically underrepresented and underserved to pursue and complete baccalaureate degrees in FANH Sciences, or achieve a D.V.M., that would lead to a diverse and highly skilled work force.

Underrepresented/underserved groups are those whose representation among FANH professionals is disproportionately less than their proportion in the general population as indicated in standard statistical references, or as documented on a case-by-case basis by national survey data (e.g. the U.S. Department of Education's Digest of Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Agricultural Education Information Systems, etc.).

Through scholarships, MSP aims to increase the participation of any group historically underrepresented in USDA mission areas and prepare them for the professional and scientific workforce in the FANH sciences. NIFA is soliciting applications for student education that will:

- 1. Prepare graduates to meet the demand for highly qualified personnel entering the workforce related to the FANH sciences;
- 2. Support more undergraduates in transitioning to graduate education in USDA mission sciences;
- 3. Contribute to the reduction of the disparity among underrepresented and underserved populations entering graduate schools to better reflect the demographics of the U.S. and enable higher education to remain globally competitive;
- 4. Promote student success within FANH disciplines at the undergraduate/D.V.M. level; and,
- 5. Focus on social support structure, and professional mentoring to ensure entry into FANH science areas and completion of graduate education or high level of competitiveness for the workforce.

In addition to coursework and related experiences that prepare students for graduation, grantee institutions will be expected to identify and develop opportunities through partnerships with food and agricultural research programs at other academic institutions, and cooperate with public and private entities, to ensure MSP scholars are exposed to a wide spectrum of careers in the FANH sciences.

Discipline	
Code	Description
G	General Food, agricultural and human sciences (includes multidisciplinary
	projects)
M	Agribusiness (includes Management, Marketing, and Agricultural
	Economics)
Е	Agricultural/Biological Engineering
S	Agricultural Social Sciences (includes Agricultural Education,
	Agricultural Communications, and Rural Sociology)
A	Animal Sciences
Q	Aquaculture
С	Conservation and Renewable Natural Resources (includes Forestry)
J	Entomology – Animal
Т	Entomology – Plant
L	Environmental Sciences/Management
F	Food Science/Technology and Manufacturing
N	Human Nutrition
H	Human Sciences/Family and Consumer Sciences (excludes Human
	Nutrition)
I	International Education/Research (enhancement of U.S. programs)
P	Plant Sciences and Horticulture
В	Related Biological Sciences (includes General/Basic Biotechnology,
	Biochemistry, and Microbiology)
D	Soil Sciences
V	Veterinary Medicine/Science
W	Water Science
O	Other (Describe only if not listed above)

Link to additional information: https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/higher-education-multicultural-scholars-program-msp

4. Targeted Topic Training, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Application Deadline: July 20, 2020

Under the authority of Section 21(c) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act), the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) established its discretionary grant program in 1978. In 1997, OSHA renamed the program in honor of the late Susan Harwood, former director of the OSHA Office of Risk Assessment. The grant program offers opportunities for nonprofit organizations to compete annually for funding so they may develop and conduct training and educational programs for small business employers and workers on the recognition, avoidance, and prevention of occupational safety and health hazards in their workplaces, and to inform workers of their rights and employers of their responsibilities under the OSH Act.

The Susan Harwood Grant Program awards funds to qualifying organizations who have demonstrated capabilities to achieve the program's performance expectations outlined in this FOA. This includes experience in employing subject matter experts, delivering and administering adult training programs, recruiting students, and managing grants. Following the grant awards, OSHA monitors each organization's progress in achieving their performance goals and training targets. OSHA accomplishes this by conducting orientation meetings, training material reviews, training observations, program and financial monitoring visits, and quarterly and year-end report reviews.

For FY 2020, OSHA announces the availability of approximately \$11.5 million to fund new Susan Harwood Training Program grants. Susan Harwood Training grants are subject to the availability of federal funding and appropriations. OSHA expects to award multiple grants to eligible nonprofit organizations under this competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). Program funding is for a 12-month period beginning no later than September 30, 2020, and ending on September 30, 2021. The maximum award for a Targeted Topic Training grant is \$160,000.

Applicants must propose to develop training on **one** of the following targeted topics:

- Agricultural safety and health training addresses hazards and preventive measures for farm and dairy workers, such as lockout/tagout, struck-by/caught between, falls, grain handling, grain bin entry, entrapment, combustible dust, and fires (may not include rescue).
- 2. Chemical hazards/hazard communication training addresses the identification of hazards, chemical exposure prevention, labeling, Safety Data Sheets, or another related topic.
- 3. Confined space training addresses confined space entry and hazards in construction, maritime, or general industry.
- 4. COVID-19 training addresses worker protection as it pertains to COVID-19 including personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 5. Excavation/trenching training addresses proper excavation and trenching procedures including prevention of cave-in, collapse, entrapment, and related hazards.
- 6. Falls prevention/protection includes falls related to ladders and scaffolds training addresses preventing falls from heights occurring in construction, maritime, or general industry.
- 7. Fire safety training addresses fire hazards in the workplace, means of egress and preparation for a fire emergency.
- 8. Healthcare training addresses exposure to workers who provide health services to individuals and may include safe patient handling, workplace violence, exposure to chemicals, gases, infectious diseases, bloodborne pathogens, and the proper use of personal protective equipment.
- 9. Lockout/tagout training addresses procedures to protect workers from unexpected energizing or startup of machinery and equipment, including release of hazardous energy during servicing and maintenance.
- 10. Machine guarding/amputation prevention training addresses operation of stationary equipment, press brakes, saws, shears, slicer, etc., guarding points of operations, and related hazards.
- 11. Noise/hearing conservation training addresses identification, control, and protection for workers exposed to hazardous noise in construction, maritime, or general industry.
- 12. Oil and gas production training addresses hazards related to hydraulic fracturing, confined space, falls, explosions, fires, struck-by/caught-in/caught-between, and other hazardous exposures.
- 13. Personal protective equipment (PPE) training addresses the identification of hazards requiring PPE including selection and proper use of PPE to protect workers from exposure and injury in the workplace.
- 14. Residential construction hazards training addresses general safety and health hazards such as falls, electrical, hand/power tools, struck-by/caught-in/caught-between, drywall dust/respiratory protection, PPE, hazard communication, and ladders, or scaffolds.
- 15. Warehousing training addresses the operation of powered industrial trucks/forklifts, chemical hazards/hazard communication, safe material and package handling, electrical safety, means of egress, lockout/tagout, slips, trips, and falls, floor guards, wall openings and holes, prevention of musculoskeletal disorders (MSD), respiratory protection, electrical safety, and hazard communication.

5. FY20 Advanced Manufacturing Office (AMO) Multi-Topic FOA, Department of Energy

Application Deadline: August 26, 2020

AMO supports innovative, advanced-manufacturing applied research and development (R&D) projects that focus on specific, high-impact manufacturing technology and process challenges. AMO invests in foundational, energy-related, advanced-manufacturing processes (where energy costs are a determinant of competitive manufacturing) and broadly applicable platform technologies (the enabling base upon which other systems and applications can be developed). The competitively selected projects from this FOA will focus on developing next-generation manufacturing material, information, and process technologies that improve energy efficiency in energy-intensive and energy-dependent processes, and facilitate the transition of emerging, cost-competitive energy technologies to domestic production.

AMO's vision and mission, as well as the strategic goals, targets, and metrics for key technology focus areas, are described in the Draft AMO Multi-Year Program Plan (MYPP) available at: https://www.energy.gov/eere/amo/downloads/advanced-manufacturing-office-amo-multi-year-program-plan-fiscal-years-2017. AMO's strategic goals supported by this FOA are to:

- Improve the productivity and energy efficiency of U.S. manufacturing
- Reduce lifecycle energy and resource impacts of manufactured goods
- Leverage diverse domestic energy resources in U.S. manufacturing, while strengthening environmental stewardship
- Transition DOE supported innovative technologies and practices into U.S. manufacturing capabilities
- Strengthen and advance the U.S. manufacturing workforce

This FOA integrates identified research opportunities across AMO into a single funding opportunity. AMO intends to fund high-impact, early- to mid-stage applied research through this FOA.

Topics are organized in 3 main topic areas, as described below, with subtopics in each area.

Topic 1: Efficiency Improvements in Advanced Manufacturing Processes

- **Subtopic 1.1:** Innovative Iron and Steelmaking Processes
- **Subtopic 1.2:** Enhanced Efficiency of Drying Processes
- Subtopic 1.3: Machine Learning to Increase Efficiencies in the Manufacturing of Large-Scale, High-Rate Aerostructures
- Subtopic 1.4: Integrated Additive Manufacturing Processes for Advanced Wind Blade Production
- Subtopic 1.5: Reducing Cost of Production of Ceramic Matrix Composites Used in High Temperature Applications

Topic 2: Efficiency Improvements in Chemical Manufacturing

- Subtopic 2.1: Advanced Chemical Manufacturing R&D
- Subtopic 2.2: Dynamic Catalyst Science with Data Analytics

Topic 3: Connected, Flexible, and Efficient Manufacturing Facilities, Products, and Energy Systems

- **Subtopic 3.1:** Integrating Carbon Capture and Utilization into Industrial Processes
- **Subtopic 3.2:** Flexible CHP Demonstration in a District Energy System Integrated with a Renewably-Fueled Municipal Generating Station

For questions and answers pertaining to this FOA, please reference the DE-FOA-0002252 AMO 2020 FAQ Log at https://eere-exchange.energy.gov. EERE Exchange is designed to enforce the deadlines specified in this FOA. The "Apply" and "Submit" buttons will automatically disable at the defined submission deadlines. Should applicants experience problems with EERE Exchange, the following information may be helpful. Applicants that experience issues with submission PRIOR to the FOA deadline: In the event that an applicant experiences technical difficulties with a submission, the applicant should contact the EERE Exchange helpdesk for assistance (EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov). The EERE Exchange helpdesk and/or the EERE Exchange system administrators will assist applicants in resolving issues.

Applicants that experience issues with submissions that result in late submissions: In the event that an applicant experiences technical difficulties so severe that they are unable to submit their application by the deadline, the applicant should contact the EERE Exchange helpdesk for assistance (EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov). The EERE Exchange helpdesk and/or the EERE Exchange system administrators will assist the applicant in resolving all issues (including finalizing submission on behalf of and with the applicant's concurrence). Please note, network traffic is at its heaviest during the final hours and minutes prior to submittal deadline. Applicants who experience this during the final hours or minutes and are unsuccessful in uploading documents will not be able to use this process.

Link to Additional Information: https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/ and search for opportunity DE-FOA-0002252

6. Estimating Children's Soil and Dust Ingestion Rates for Exposure Science, Environmental Protection Agency

Application Deadline: August 5, 2020

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, is asking the scientific community to propose transdisciplinary research to develop or apply innovative approaches/methods to improve the estimates, better characterize the variability, and reduce the uncertainty concerning chemical exposures via soil and dust ingestion for children aged 6 months through 6 years.

Chemicals found in our everyday environment may pose health risks to humans via various exposure pathways. For children, soil and dust ingestion is a major route of exposure for environmental toxicants such as lead, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), arsenic, asbestos, and other chemicals deposited after air emission or windblown from mine waste and other contaminated sites. Accurate, comprehensive multimedia metrics for soil and dust ingestion are critical for exposure assessments included in effective risk assessment, reduction, mitigation, and prevention measures. However, the extent to which chemicals present in soil and dust are ingested is an understudied area in exposure science and an essential research gap that must be filled for holistic multimedia, multipathway approaches that yield accurate assessments and recommendations for risk management decisions.

To improve the ability to assess chemical exposure via soil and dust ingestion, four key pieces of information should be considered: the chemical content of location-specific soil and dust; quantities of soil and dust ingested; frequency of soil and dust ingestion episodes; and prevalence of soil and dust ingestion among a specific age group. For the age group of 6 months through 6 years, it will be important to consider all possible ingestion routes (intentional https://www.epa.gov/children/epas-policy-evaluating-risk-children]. unintentional, or habitual, including pica-like behavior, but not geophagy²) and rates in association with the individual, environmental, social and/or cultural factors that may make them more susceptible and vulnerable3. What toxicants children are exposed to during early lifestages may be crucial determinants of their lifetime health. EPA considers the risks to children consistently and explicitly as part of risk assessments generated during its decision-making process, including the setting of standards to protect public health and the environment (https://www.epa.gov/children/epas-policy-evaluating-risk-children).

Link to Additional Information: https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/estimating-childrens-soil-and-dust-ingestion-rates-exposure-science

7. Rural Health and Safety Education, Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Application Deadline: July 1, 2020

The RHSE program proposals are expected to be community-based, outreach education programs, such as those conducted through Human Science extension outreach, that provides individuals and families with: Information as to the value of good health at any age; Information to increase individual or family's motivation to take more responsibility for their own health; Information regarding rural environmental health issues that directly impact on human health; Information about and access to health promotion and educational activities; and Training for volunteers and health services providers concerning health promotion and health care services for individuals and families in cooperation with state, local and community partners.

Effective, evidence-based, non-formal education programs and strategies promote and enhance rural health, thereby strengthening economic vitality and, in the long run, mitigating the effects of rural challenges, such as persistent poverty. Incorporation of social, behavioral, and health sciences in a prevention context is important for addressing many of the health challenges facing rural communities. Effectively planned initiatives responsive to unique contextual needs as well as shared environmental conditions can provide timely and valuable health information to rural residents. Human science educators, in collaboration with relevant partners and stakeholders, can implement quality programs and approaches that empower rural residents to lead healthy lives and promote healthy communities from a systemic perspective. The RHSE competitive grant program provides funding for such initiatives.

In FY 2020 and FY 2021, NIFA is soliciting applications for RHSE in the area of Individual and Family Health Education.

¹ Note that this only refers to observing a child who intentionally ingests that soil or dust (i.e. pica behavior). Investigators are prohibited under this announcement from experimental designs that require a child, pregnant women, or nursing women to ingest soil or dust.

² Soil pica is the recurrent ingestion of unusually high amounts (i.e., grams per day) of soil. Geophagy is the intentional ingestion of soil, particularly clays, for medicinal or cultural purposes.

The RHSE program proposals in the individual and family health education area are expected to be health education projects that provide individuals and families living in rural areas with:

- Information as to the value of good health at any age;
- Information to increase individual or families' motivation to take more responsibility for their own health, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Information about and access to health promotion activities;
- Information to support the utilization of telehealth, telemedicine, and distance learning strategies for opioid education and training in minority rural communities.
- Training for volunteers and health services providers concerning health promotion and health care services for individuals and families in cooperation with state, local and community partners.

Proposals submitted to the RHSE program in FY 2020 and FY 2021 may focus on the prevention and/or reduction of opioid misuse and abuse per Congressional guidance for this program. Proposals may also focus on helping prevent spread of SARS-CoV-2 and in mitigating infection and transmission of SARS-CoV-2

 $\underline{Link\ to\ Additional\ Information:\ \underline{https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/rural-health-and-safety-education-competitive-grants-program-rhse}$

8. Spencer Foundation Invites Proposals for Education Research Grants

Intent to Apply (required): June 18, 2020

Application Deadline: July 14, 2020

Founded in 1971, the <u>Spencer Foundation</u> is the only national foundation focused exclusively on supporting education research. To that end, the foundation is accepting applications for its Research Grants on Education program, which provides support to education research projects with the potential to contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived. Through the program, the foundation supports work that fosters creative and open-minded scholarship, engages in deep inquiry, and examines robust questions related to education. Proposals with multiple disciplinary and methodological perspectives, both domestically and internationally, and from scholars at various stages in their career will be supported.

Proposals may address a wide range of topics and disciplines that creatively investigate questions central to education, including education, anthropology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, law, economics, history, and neuroscience. Researchers may incorporate data from multiple and varied sources, span a sufficient length of time as to achieve a depth of understanding, and/or work closely with practitioners or community members over the life of the project. Projects that thoughtfully consider the trajectories, implications, and potential impacts of their findings, including how the knowledge may be shared and utilized across the field, in practice, in policy making, or with the broader public, are encouraged. (The program is "field-initiated," in that proposals are not requested in response to a particular research topic, discipline, design, or method.) Research may utilize a wide array of research methods, including quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, ethnographies, design-based research, participatory methods, and historical research.

The Large Research Grants on Education Program supports education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, with budgets ranging from \$125,000 to \$500,000 for projects ranging from one to five years. We anticipate awarding grants with budgets across each of the following funding tiers -- \$125,000 to 250,000; \$250,001 to \$375,000; and \$375,001 to \$500,000. We accept Intent to Apply forms twice a year.

This program is "field-initiated" in that proposal submissions are not in response to a specific request for a particular research topic, discipline, design, method, or location. Our goal for this program is to support rigorous, intellectually ambitious and technically sound research that is relevant to the most pressing questions and compelling opportunities in education. Intent to Apply is due June 18. Upon review, selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal by July 14, 2020.

To be eligible, principal investigators and co-PIs must have an earned doctorate in an academic discipline or professional field or have obtained appropriate experience in an education research-related profession. Applicants must be affiliated with a college, university, school district, nonprofit research facility, or nonprofit cultural institution.

Link to Additional Information: https://www.spencer.org/grant_types/large-research-grant

9. DoD Research and Education Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCU/MI) Equipment/Instrumentation, Department of Defense

Application Deadline: July 1, 2020

The Department of Defense (DoD) is soliciting applications for the acquisition of equipment/instrumentation under the Fiscal Year 2021 Research and Education Program for HBCU/MI. The Research and Education Program is designed to enhance the research capabilities of HBCUs and MIs and to strengthen their STEM education programs. The purpose of funding under this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to (1) support the acquisition of equipment/instrumentation to augment existing capabilities or to develop new capabilities in research areas of interest to DoD, and (2) attract students to pursue studies leading to STEM careers. Although funding provided under this FOA cannot be used for student support, in order to further DoD's objective of attracting students to pursue studies leading to STEM careers, applicants must address the impact of the requested equipment/instrumentation on student participation in research.

The general aims of the Research and Education Program for HBCUs/MIs are to (a) enhance research and education programs and capabilities in scientific and engineering disciplines critical to the national security functions of DoD; (b) enhance the capacity of HBCUs/MIs to participate in DoD research programs and activities; and (c) increase the number of graduates, including underrepresented minorities, in fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This program is executed under policy and guidance issued by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)) and is administered by ARO, ONR, and AFOSR, hereafter called "the Agencies."

This solicitation invites applications (also referred to as "proposals") for acquisition of equipment/instrumentation to be used in research areas of interest to the Agencies and to further the education of students in areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) that correlate with the Agencies' research interests. Information about these areas of interest is available at the following websites:

Army Research Office: https://www.arl.army.mil/business/broad-agency-announcements/ Select "Broad Agency Announcements" in the "Business" section. See the most recent ARO Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for Fundamental Research, W911NF-17-S-0002. This BAA may also be found on Grants.gov (https://www.grants.gov) by entering the BAA number in the "Search Grants" keyword box.

Office of Naval Research: https://www.onr.navy.mil/ Select "Work With Us," then "Funding Opportunities," and then "BAAs, FOAs and Special Program Announcements" to see the FY20 Long Range Broad Agency Announcement for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology, BAA N00014-20-S-B001. This BAA may also be found on Grants.gov (https://www.grants.gov) by entering the BAA number in the "Search Grants" keyword box.

Air Force Office of Scientific Research: See Research Interests of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research available at: https://www.grants.gov. Under "Search Grants" tab, insert keyword: FA9550-19-S-0003.

Link to Additional Information: www.grants.gov and search for opportunity W911NF-20-S-0010

10. LEO Foundation Invites Applications for Dermatological Research

Application Deadline: June 21, 2020

Established in 1984, the LEO Foundation provides philanthropic grants to some of the world's leading scientists in skin research. To that end, the foundation welcomes applications for its Open Competition grants. Through the program, grants are awarded in support of research projects with potential to improve the understanding of the underlying medicinal, biological, chemical, or pharmacological mechanisms of dermatological diseases and their symptoms, and address clinical issues among people who are at risk of developing, or have developed, a skin disease, including how it impacts their quality of life and the societal costs involved. LEO Foundation 'Open competition grants' are given to support the best dermatology research projects worldwide. Thus, we welcome applications from research projects that:

- Improve the understanding of the underlying medicinal, biological, chemical, or pharmacological mechanisms of dermatological diseases and their symptoms
- Address clinical issues among people who are at risk of developing, or have developed, a skin disease, including how it impacts their quality of life and the societal costs involved

The LEO Foundation's Board of Trustees has established a formal evaluation process with a panel of national and international external experts to assist the Board in ensuring that our grants are given to the best projects and the most qualified applicants. The

LEO Foundation requests that results from the research funded by the Foundation are shared with the public, patients and healthcare professionals – for example through publication in peer-reviewed journals, oral presentations, or public awareness campaigns.

Current categorizations for Primary and Secondary Research Area:

- 1. Autoimmune skin diseases and connective tissue diseases
- 2. Eczemas and urticaria
- 3. Psoriasis and related diseases
- 4. Skin infections and infestations
- 5. Genetic skin diseases
- 6. Diseases of skin appendages (or specific cutaneous structures)
- 7. Rare diseases
- 8. Other skin diseases
- 9. Basic dermatological research

The main applicant should hold at least a PhD degree (or equivalent academic qualifications). See the LEO Foundation website for complete program guidelines, application instructions, and information about previous grantees.

Link to Additional Information: https://leo-foundation.org/en/research-grants-awards/apply-for-a-grant/

11. Small-Scale Solid Oxide Fuel Cell Systems and Hybrid Electrolyzer Technology Development, Department of Energy

Letter of Intent: June 26, 2020 Application Deadline: July 27, 2020

This FOA will solicit applications for multiple areas of interest and will correspond to research outlined in the Department's August 2019 Report on the Status of the Solid Oxide Fuel Cell Program" (https://www.energy.gov/fe/report-congress-status-solid-oxide-fuel-cell-program), to Congress and could include, but are not limited to the following:

- Small-scale (nominally 5-25 kWe) distributed generation SOFC systems.
- Hydrogen production from Solid State Electrolyzer Cell (SOEC) systems and reversible SOFC systems including improving and validating the materials and systems required for the improving the cost, performance and reliability of systems using natural gas or coal-derived syngas as fuel.
- Cleaning of coal-derived syngas for use as SOFC fuel and testing of single and multiple cells on syngas.

Area of Interests	Number of Award(s)
1: Small-Scale Distributed Power Generation SOFC Systems	Up to 3
2: Hybrid systems using solid oxide systems for hydrogen and electricity production including the validation and development of materials and systems required for the improving the cost, performance and reliability	Up to 6
3: Cleaning of coal-derived syngas for use as SOFC fuel and testing of single	Up to 1
and multiple cells on syngas	

The anticipated award size for projects under each Area of Interests in this announcement are:

Area of Interests	DOE Share	Cost Share	Total
1: Small-Scale Distributed Power	Up to \$2.66M/award for a total of \$8M	at least 20% (see	\$9.6M
Generation SOFC Systems		Section III)	
2: Hybrid systems using solid oxide systems for hydrogen and electricity production including the validation and development of materials and systems required for the improving the cost, performance and reliability	Up to \$3M/award for a total of \$18M	at least 20% (see Section III)	\$21.6
3: Cleaning of coal-derived syngas for use as SOFC fuel and testing of single and multiple cells on syngas	Up to \$4M/award for a total of \$4M	at least 20% (see Section III)	\$4.8M

Advanced Energy Systems (AES) Program. Department of Energy's (DOE) Fossil Energy AES Research program serves as a bridge between basic research and the development of innovative technologies critical to the successful development of ultra-clean, reliable, high efficiency fossil energy conversion systems. The SOFC program seeks to enable the efficient generation of low-cost electricity for natural gas-fueled SOFC distributed generation systems in the near term and for coal or natural gas-fueled utility-scale systems with carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) in the long term.

Objectives. Application under the FOA are sought to develop advanced technologies that can maturate the present state of SOFC and SOEC technologies to a point of commercial readiness for power generation and hydrogen production.

 $Link \ to \ Additional \ Information: \underline{https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/PublicSearch/Public \ Opportunities.aspx} \ and search \ for \ opportunity \ DE-FOA-0002300$

12. Capacity Building Developmental and Capacity Building Pilot, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Application Deadline: July 20, 2020

Under the authority of Section 21(c) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act), the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) established its discretionary grant program in 1978. In 1997, OSHA renamed the program in honor of the late Susan Harwood, former director of the OSHA Office of Risk Assessment. The grant program offers opportunities for nonprofit organizations to compete annually for funding so they may develop and conduct training and educational programs for small business employers and workers on the recognition, avoidance, and prevention of occupational safety and health hazards in their workplaces, and to inform workers of their rights and employers of their responsibilities under the OSH Act.

The Susan Harwood Grant Program awards funds to qualifying organizations who have demonstrated capabilities to achieve the program's performance expectations outlined in this FOA. This includes experience in employing subject matter experts, delivering and administering adult training programs, recruiting students, and managing grants. Following the grant awards, OSHA monitors each organization's progress in achieving their performance goals and training targets. OSHA accomplishes this by conducting orientation meetings, training material reviews, training observations, program and financial monitoring visits, and quarterly and year-end report reviews.

For FY 2020, OSHA announces the availability of approximately \$4.5 million to fund Susan Harwood Training Program Capacity Building grants. Susan Harwood Training Program grants are subject to the availability of federal funding and appropriations. OSHA expects to award multiple grants to eligible nonprofit organizations under this competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). This FOA does not itself obligate any federal funds. The obligation of funds occurs when grant recipients acknowledge receipt and acceptance of award documents.

Program funding is for a 12-month period beginning no later than September 30, 2020, and ending on September 30, 2021. Two types of capacity building grant opportunities are available. The maximum award for a Capacity Building Developmental grant is \$180,000 and for a Capacity Building Pilot grant is \$80,000.

CAPACITY BUILDING DEVELOPMENTAL grants support and assist organizations that through past activities have established a capability to provide occupational safety and health training, education, materials development, and/or technical assistance. Based on a needs assessment, applicants will conduct a significant number of trainings that address occupational safety and health hazards. Additionally, applicants are encouraged to develop educational materials and to provide technical assistance. Each applicant must develop a comprehensive four-year capacity building plan for becoming a resource for safety and health training.

CAPACITY BUILDING PILOT grants assist organizations that demonstrate a potential for meeting the objectives of the Capacity Building Developmental program, but need to assess their organizational capabilities, priorities, and needs. The Capacity Building Pilot allows an organization to complete pilot activities and to solidify the organization's capacity building plans, by allowing time to formulate and test program objectives before applying for a full-scale Capacity Building Developmental training program. Recipients of a Capacity Building Pilot grant will initiate limited program operations during the 12-month pilot period. The program operations should be small-scale trial projects. Upon successful completion of the Capacity Building Pilot grant, the organization may apply for a Capacity Building Developmental grant in the next fiscal year the grant opportunity is available. Capacity Building Pilot grants are not eligible for follow-on grants.

Link to Additional Information: https://www.osha.gov/harwoodgrants/awards

13. FY2020 Title X Services Grants: Providing Publicly-Funded Family Planning Services in Areas of High Need, Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

Application Deadline: July 28, 2020

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of Population Affairs announces the availability of funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 grant awards under the authority of Title X of the Public Health Service Act. The Office of Population Affairs (OPA) promotes health across the reproductive lifespan through innovative, evidence-based adolescent health and family planning programs, services, strategic partnerships, evaluation, and research. OPA administers the Title X program, the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, and the Embryo Adoption Awareness program. OPA advises the Secretary of HHS and Assistant Secretary for Health on a wide range of topics, including adolescent health, family planning, sterilization, and other population issues. Through its mission and related work, OPA supports the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) in its mission to advance health equity and improve the health of all people.

An applicant may propose a family planning service project that either is comprised of a single provider or a group of partnering providers who deliver coordinated and comprehensive family planning services. An applicant that will not provide all services directly must document the process and criteria it will use for selecting subrecipients, as well as a plan to monitor their performance. The applicant will take into consideration the extent to which the subrecipient(s) indicates it can provide the required services and best serve individuals in need throughout the proposed service area (or part thereof). If an applicant plans to only provide a limited range of family planning methods, they must select subrecipients who offer additional family planning methods or act as a subrecipient for another applicant. In order to fulfill the requirements in the Title X statute, the project, made up of the applicant, and any subrecipients, must provide a broad range of family planning methods to clients throughout the proposed service area. A broad range of family planning services should include several categories of methods, such as: abstinence counseling, hormonal methods (oral contraceptives, rings and patches, injection, hormonal implants, intrauterine devices or systems), barrier methods (diaphragms, condoms), fertility awareness-based methods, and permanent sterilization. A "broad range" would not necessarily need to include all categories, but should include hormonal methods since these are requested most frequently by clients and among the methods shown to be most effective in preventing pregnancy. The application shall ensure that if family planning services are provided by contract or other similar arrangements with actual providers of services, those services will be provided in accordance with a plan which establishes rates and method of payment for medical care. These payments must be made under agreements with a schedule of rates and payment procedures maintained by the applicant. The applicant must be prepared to substantiate that these rates are reasonable and necessary (42 C.F.R. § 59.5(b)(9)).

Link to Additional Information: https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/preaward/previewPublicAnnouncement.do?id=76344

14. Foundation for Child Development Issues RFP for 2021 Young Scholars Program

Application Deadline: July 28, 2020

The <u>Foundation for Child Development</u> works to connect research to changes that continuously improve policy and practice that benefit young children. To that end, FCD currently is accepting LOIs for its 2021 Young Scholars Program (YSP). The YSP program funds implementation research that is policy and practice-relevant and examines the preparation, competency, compensation, well-being, and ongoing professional learning of the early care and education (ECE) workforce. Award amounts are up to \$225,000 for primary research and up to \$180,000 for secondary data analysis.

All proposed research must attempt to answer primary questions that are relevant to the ECE workforce and support scientific inquiry into the implementation of specific early care and education programs, policies, or practices. Implementation research provides the opportunity to engage in meaningful exploration of what works (or not), for whom, and under what conditions. All supported research must have a clear connection to policies and practices that have the potential to result in a positive impact on the ECE workforce and on young children in YSP's priority populations. The foundation encourages applications from scholars who are from underrepresented groups that have historically experienced economic instability and social exclusion, including but not limited to researchers of color, first-generation college graduates, and low-income communities; and scholars who represent a variety of disciplines and methodological approaches.

To be eligible, researchers must have received their doctoral degrees (e.g., PhD, EdD, PsyD, JD, etc.) between January 1, 2011, and June 30, 2019. Physician applicants must have received their MD degrees between January 1, 2008, and June 30, 2019. The affiliated private nonprofit organization must have a minimum operating budget of \$2.5 million and a minimum three-year track record in conducting multiyear research projects (at least three over the last three years). Letters of Intent are due June 30. Upon review, selected applicants will be invited to submit a full application by October 26, 2020.

 $Link\ to\ Additional\ Information: \underline{https://www.fcd-us.org/about-us/young-scholars-program/nline about-us/young-scholars-program/nline about-us/young-scholar-program/nline about-us/young-scholar-program/nline about-us/y$

15. Enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Educational Diversity (ESTEEMED) Research Education Experiences (R25), Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadline: July 28, 2020

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on: Courses for Skills Development Research Experiences.

With ESTEEMED, National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) focuses on early preparation for undergraduate students in bioengineering or STEM fields relevant to bioengineering, such as engineering or the physical/computational sciences, which play key roles in biomedical technologies and innovation. Participants should be from diverse backgrounds and interested in ultimately pursuing a Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. degree and a research career integrating engineering and the physical sciences with medicine and biology. The program activities will begin in the summer before the freshman year and continue through the summer following the sophomore year. At that time, participants will be expected to enter an honors program that prepares high-achieving STEM students for doctoral programs in biomedical research fields. Therefore, only institutions with a federally or institutionally funded honors program that is open to students in the junior and senior years and that promotes STEM and entrance into a Ph.D. program are eligible to apply.

NIBIB's Interest in Diversity

The mission of the NIBIB is to improve human health by leading the development and accelerating the application of biomedical technologies. NIBIB is committed to fostering diversity in its training programs so that innovations in technology for healthcare benefit from the human capital of the entire nation. To this end, the institute develops and supports programs, across the career continuum, that enhance the recruitment, retention, training, and career development of individuals from diverse backgrounds, including underrepresented minorities, people with disabilities, and people from disadvantaged backgrounds. NIBIB's proactive approach to promoting a diverse and sustainable biomedical workforce is to develop programs targeting roadblocks at critical transition points in the biomedical research pipeline that hinder the participation of individuals from diverse backgrounds. The ESTEEMED program seeks to facilitate the training of freshmen and sophomores from diverse backgrounds majoring in STEM fields critical to the mission of NIBIB.

Need for the Program. Racial and ethnic minorities and persons with disabilities (PWD) are critically underrepresented in the science and engineering fields. The 2019 NSF report "Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering" (https://ncses.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf19304/) indicates that racial or ethnic minorities form ~26% of the United States resident population aged 18-64. However, despite the gains in recent years, underrepresented minority students received 22% of all science and engineering bachelor's degrees and only 9% of all science and engineering doctorate degrees. The underrepresentation is even more pronounced in engineering disciplines: less than 15% of bachelor's degrees and 11% of doctorates were awarded to underrepresented groups. This demonstrates an acute need for an intervention to encourage more students from underrepresented groups to continue on to doctorate degrees and successful research careers in science and engineering fields.

The program supported by this FOA must contain at least three elements:

- 1. Summer Bridge Program. The Summer Bridge Program is a bootcamp, that occurs before the start of the freshman year, to prepare participants for their first year of college, introducing them to the ESTEEMED program and providing a review of basic topics and skills necessary for success. It must take place during the summer before the freshman year, last at least five weeks, emphasize basic sciences, computation, and science communication, and provide survival skills to help participants transition from high school to college. In the summer between their freshman and sophomore years, rising sophomores are encouraged to mentor incoming freshman participants in the Summer Bridge Program.
- 2. Academic Year Activities. In addition to continuing to emphasize basic sciences, computation, and science communication during the freshman and sophomore academic years, the Academic Year Activities should help participants maximize their academic performance and prepare them for summer research experiences and eventual entry into an honors program. Academic year activities should include, but are not limited to, courses, journal clubs, individual development plans for each participant, seminars/workshops, professional development programs, internal and external speakers to introduce the students to different career paths, and participation in national scientific meetings. Activities such as workshops on scientific presentation and writing that promote scientific communication skills are highly encouraged. There should be an increasing sophistication in these activities as participants proceed from the freshman to the sophomore year.

3. Summer Research Experience. At the end of their sophomore year, each participant is expected to take part in a hands-on summer research experience that involves a defined research project and includes a final oral presentation and written report of their work. This could take place in an on-campus laboratory or be an off-campus research experience for high achieving undergraduate students, such as the National Science Foundation (NSF)-sponsored Research Experience for Undergraduates Summer Programs (REU), the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI)-sponsored Janelia Undergraduate Scholars Program, or a research-focused industry internship. The Summer Research Experience is expected to last at least eight weeks or the majority of the summer. Participants are encouraged to engage in an on- or off-campus summer research experience also after the freshman year. However, program funds will only be provided for the Summer Research Experience after the sophomore year.

Link to Additional Information: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-223.html

16. Humanities Initiatives, National Endowment for the Humanities

Application Deadline: July 16, 2020

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Education Programs is accepting applications for the five Humanities Initiatives programs: Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities, **Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities**, Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges. The purpose of these programs is to strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at institutions of higher education by developing new humanities programs, resources including those in digital format, or courses, or by enhancing existing ones.

The purpose of these programs is to strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at institutions of higher education by developing new humanities programs, resources (including those in digital format), or courses, or by enhancing existing ones. Projects must be organized around a core topic or set of themes drawn from such areas of study in the humanities as history, philosophy, religion, literature, and composition and writing skills. NEH welcomes applications for projects that are modest in scope, duration, and budget, as well as applications for expansive, long-term projects. If applicable, projects may, but need not be, related to the cultural identity of the applicant institution. For example, it would be allowable for a Hispanic-Serving Institution to submit a proposal on ancient Greek drama.

The following is a partial list of activities the program may support:

- curricular planning and/or community and relationship building that support the institutional mission;
- bridge programs for freshmen, first-generation, at-risk, nontraditional, and/or secondary-school students;
- creation or revision of courses that focus on close reading, analytical writing, and/or effective speaking, including composition courses designed to help students write better;
- new or enhanced humanities programs, including new humanities majors, minors, certificates, or concentrations, honors programs, first-year seminars, culturally-relevant or place-based curricula, and capstone courses;
- creation of humanities-based curricular pathways towards graduation and/or transfer to four-year institutions, if applicable;
- opportunities for faculty members to study together, in order to improve their capacity to teach the humanities;
- creation or enhancement of humanities resources for the purpose of teaching, including oral histories, literature or film, teaching modules, or guidelines on how to use humanities resources in the classroom;
- development of curriculum-focused digital humanities projects, including podcasts, mapping tools, or digital resources for distance learning that can be used on- or off-line;
- partnerships and collaborative projects in the humanities (for example, dual-enrollment agreements in humanities-based courses for college or high-school students); and
- collaboration with regional museums, libraries, or historical societies to share resources for teaching and learning; or partnering with a school or school system to strengthen K-12 pathways to higher education.

Link to Additional Information: https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-initiatives-hispanic-serving-institutions

17. Avenir Award Program for Research on Substance Use Disorders and HIV/AIDS, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadlines: August 13, 2020, August 13, 2021, August 15, 2022

Avenir means future in French, and this award looks towards the future by supporting early stage investigators (ESI) proposing highly innovative studies at the nexus of Substance Use Disorders and HIV/AIDS. Applications responding to this FOA should clearly describe the nexus with SUD. This award is designed to support creative individuals who wish to pursue innovative research

approaches that support NIH HIV/AIDS Research Priorities https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-018.html and have the potential to benefit substance using populations with or at risk for HIV/AIDS. The Avenir Award Program for research on the intersection of SUD and HIV/AIDS will support research approaches, both basic and clinical, focused on improving therapies for HIV, preventing HIV transmission, reducing the impact of comorbid conditions, and ultimately, eradicating HIV. Examples of studies of relevance to drug abuse include: studies using populations with significant numbers of people who use drugs (PWUD) or samples from drug using populations; studies using in vitro systems and/or animal models that test the effects of addictive substances on HIV pathogenesis, disease progression, or treatment; and studies to develop interventions or treatments that are tailored to people who use drugs. The award will support investigators in early stage of their careers who may lack the preliminary data required for an R01 grant, nonetheless propose high priority, high impact research, and show promise of being tomorrow's leaders in the field.

NIDA has supported highly innovative investigators, often in advanced career stages, proposing potentially transformative research through a companion award, the 'Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS and Drug Use Research (DP1).' The Avenir award is designed to complement the NIDA Avant-Garde award by focusing on early stage investigators. Avenir applicants may propose research in any area of high priority HIV/AIDS research that has the potential to open new areas of HIV/AIDS research and/or lead to new avenues for treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS among substance users.

Link to Additional Information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-224.html

18. NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS and Substance Use Disorder Research (DP1, Clinical Trial Optional), Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadlines: August 13, 2020, August 13, 2021, August 15, 2022

The term "avant-garde" is used to describe highly innovative approaches and ideas that have the potential to be transformative. Consistently, the NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS Research is designed to support exceptional creative scientists who propose cutting edge – and possibly transformative – approaches to major challenges in biomedical and behavioral research on HIV/AIDS in the context of substance use disorders. Applications responding to this FOA must propose projects that align with the high priority AIDS research as described in NOT-OD-20-018 https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-018.html. Areas of interest include innovative basic, clinical or translational research that may lead to improved preventive interventions or therapies; creative, new strategies to prevent disease transmission; novel approaches to improve HIV and HIV-related comorbid disease outcomes; novel strategies to improve health outcomes of PWUD living with HIV; and creative approaches to eradicating HIV. The award is intended to support high-impact research that will open new areas of HIV/AIDS research and/or lead to new avenues for treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS among PWUD. Applications responding to this FOA must clearly define the nexus with SUD. Examples of studies of relevance include studies using populations with SUD or samples from drug using populations; studies using in vitro systems and/or animal models that test the effects of addictive substances on HIV pathogenesis, disease progression, persistence or treatment responses; and studies to develop interventions or treatments that are tailored to substance using populations. Proposed research should reflect ideas and approaches that are substantially different from those already being studied by the investigator or others in the field. This announcement defines biomedical and behavioral research broadly—the emphasis is on creativity and potential impact rather than a particular discipline or research area. The award is meant to support individuals who intend to pursue research directions that are not readily supported by other NIH research grant mechanisms. The purpose of this program is to support visionary concepts and approaches to research on HIV/AIDS, but not to support expanding of an already supported research project.

Special Considerations

National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse Recommended Guidelines for the Administration of Drugs to Human Subjects: The National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse (NACDA) recognizes the importance of research involving the administration of drugs with abuse potential, and dependence or addiction liability, to human subjects. Potential applicants are encouraged to obtain and review these recommendations of Council before submitting an application that will administer compounds to human subjects. The guidelines are available on NIDA's Web site at http://www.nida.nih.gov/about/organization/nacda/CouncilStatement.html.

Points to Consider Regarding Tobacco Industry Funding of NIDA Applicants: The National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse (NACDA) encourages NIDA and its grantees to consider the points it has set forth with regard to existing or prospective sponsored research agreements with tobacco companies or their related entities and the impact of acceptance of tobacco industry funding on NIDA's credibility and reputation within the scientific community. Please see (http://www2.drugabuse.gov/about/organization/nacda/points-to-consider.html) for details.

Data Harmonization for Substance Abuse and Addiction via the PhenX Toolkit: NIDA strongly encourages investigators involved in human-subject studies to employ a common set of tools and resources that will promote the collection of comparable data across studies and to do so by incorporating the measures from the Core and Specialty collections, which are available in the Substance

Abuse and Addiction Collection of the PhenX Toolkit (<u>www.phenxtoolkit.org</u>). Please see NOT-DA-12-008 (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DA-12-008.html) for further details.

Link to Additional Information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-221.html

19. Fatherhood - Family-focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential (Fatherhood FIRE), Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Application Deadline: July 1, 2020

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA) announces its plan to solicit applications for the competitive award of grants that support "activities to promote responsible fatherhood" under each of the three broad categories of promoting or sustaining marriage, responsible parenting, and economic stability activities authorized under Section 403(a)(2) of the Social Security Act. The Fatherhood Family-focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential Grants (Fatherhood FIRE) will be targeted exclusively to projects designed for adult fathers, defined as fathers that are age 18 and older. Eligible fathers (or father figures) must have children who are age 24 or younger. Fathers will include those in the general population (or "community fathers"), as well as fathers who are currently incarcerated and are returning, or have returned, to their families and communities following incarceration. Applicants will be strongly encouraged to submit a proposal to implement one specific program model designed for one specific service population – e.g., rural community fathers, reentering fathers, or urban community fathers—but not multiple models for multiple populations. ACF is interested in funding a diverse range of projects, from high impact projects, to moderate scope projects, to smaller scope projects. Applicants must provide evidence of organizational capacity to implement their proposed project.

PROGRAM PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Projects funded under this FOA will identify strategies to recruit and provide services for adult fathers (ages 18 and older) who have children ages 24 and younger. Funds must be used to support and provide RF activities in all three authorized categories (i.e., Promote or Sustain Healthy Marriage, Responsible Parenting, and Economic Stability) to all eligible adult fathers, particularly those who are low-income. Applicants are not required to implement all of the listed activities under the three authorized categories, but must select one or more activities under each category. Over the past 15 years, previous RF programs have incorporated a combination of services designed to assist adult fathers in their roles and responsibilities as fathers, and ultimately, improve father-child relationships and child well-being.

ACF seeks to fund programs that proposals will also include activities and services intended to promote fathers as Family-focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential (FIRE) in the lives of their children, families, communities, and society.

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY (Large Scope, Moderate Scope, and Smaller Scope Services)

ACF is particularly interested in projects that unambiguously demonstrate commensurate capacity (based upon funding level) to effectively carry out projects of various scopes to address the needs of targeted participants and communities. The following sets forth the organizational capacity scopes and commensurate funding levels:

- Large scope services: funding requests from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,00;
- Moderate scope services: funding requests from \$750,000 to \$999,999; and
- Smaller scope services: funding requests from \$500,000 to \$749,000

Link to Additional Information: https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/HHS-2020-ACF-OFA-ZJ-1846

20. Relationships, Education, Advancement, and Development for Youth for Life (READY4Life), Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Application Deadline: July 1, 2020

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA) announces that it will be soliciting applications for the competitive award of grants that support "healthy marriage promotion" activities, including relationship education, parenting, and job and career advancement activities as authorized under 42 U.S.C. § 603(a)(2). The Relationships, Education, Advancement, and Development for Youth for Life (READY4Life) grants will be targeted exclusively to youth, for projects designed to support healthy relationships and marriage, including the value of marriage in future family formation and skills-based healthy relationship and marriage education. Additionally, grants will support activities including parenting (for young fathers and mothers, as applicable), financial management, job and career advancement, and other activities.

Projects must be targeted to youth, specified as individuals in high school (grades 9-12), or that are high-school aged or in late adolescence and early adulthood (ages 14 to 24). Applicants must submit proposals designed for youth as specified. Applicants will be strongly encouraged to design programs targeted to one specific program model for one specific service population – e.g., youth in general high school settings, youth aging out of foster care, or youth who are parents—but not multiple models for multiple populations. Grants awarded will support family formation and strengthening activities through one or more of three healthy marriage promotion activities specified under the authorizing legislation: (1) marriage and relationship education/skills (MRES); (2) education in high schools; and (3) public advertising campaigns. ACF is interested in funding a diverse range of projects, from high impact projects, to moderate scope projects, to smaller scope projects. Applicants must provide evidence of organizational capacity to implement their proposed project.

Under this FOA, ACF identifies these elements of Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education (HMRE) programming—Relationships, Education, Advancement, and Development—as key ingredients to prepare Youth for Life (READY4Life). Grants will support projects that provide a broad array of healthy marriage promotion services designed to support healthy relationships and marriage, including the value of marriage in future family formation and skills-based healthy relationship and marriage education to youth in high school (grades 9-12), high-school-aged youth (ages 14-17), and/or youth in late adolescence to early adulthood (ages 18-24). In order to achieve specified outcomes included in this FOA, applicants are strongly encouraged to provide comprehensive services that help youth build healthy relationship skills (including healthy relationship skills in dating, with peers, with caring adults, in other inter-personal relationships, and, as appropriate, marriage and co-parenting relationship skills), while supporting positive socioemotional development and promoting successful transitions to young adulthood. Where appropriate, projects may also provide services for parenting youth, and for job and career advancement.

ACF expects applicants awarded grants under this FOA will propose and conduct activities within a scope that is commensurate with the funding level being requested and their demonstrated organizational capacity. Proposed activities may range in scope from large scope service provision, to moderate scope service provision, to smaller scope service provision. ACF expects that applicants will provide evidence of organizational capacity to implement their proposed service provision activities in accordance with the organizational capacity standards of this FOA.

Additionally, grantees will be expected, among other things, to implement at least 12 hours of workshops (unless a lower intensity is proposed with strong justification and submitted with the application for post-award review and approval); meet program participation targets, within minimum and maximum limits; and achieve specified program completion rates. Applicants requesting funding from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 are expected to propose and conduct impact evaluations (those requesting less than \$1,000,000 have the option of proposing to conduct local evaluations). ACF is also interested in projects that implement only one specific program model designed for one specific youth service population (e.g., youth in high school or disadvantaged young adults).

ACF is particularly interested in projects that unambiguously demonstrate commensurate capacity (based upon funding level) to effectively carry out projects of various scopes to address the needs of targeted participants and communities. The following sets forth the organizational capacity scopes and commensurate funding levels:

- Large scope services: funding requests from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000;
- Moderate scope services: funding requests from \$750,000 to \$999,999; and
- Smaller scope services: funding requests from \$500,000 to \$749,000.

Link to Additional Information: https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/HHS-2020-ACF-OFA-ZD-1838

21. National Institute of General Medical Sciences Institutional Predoctoral Research Training Grant (T32 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed), Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadlines: Standard NIH "T" Grants Application Deadlines Apply (see https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/due-dates.htm)

The goal of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Predoctoral Institutional Research Training Grant (T32) program is to develop a diverse pool of well-trained scientists available to address the Nations biomedical research agenda. Specifically, this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) provides support to eligible, domestic institutions to develop and implement effective, evidence-informed approaches to biomedical graduate training and mentoring that will keep pace with the rapid evolution of the biomedical research enterprise. NIGMS expects that the proposed research training programs will incorporate didactic, research, and career development elements to prepare trainees for careers that will have a significant impact on the health-related research needs of the Nation.

Program Objective. Through this funding announcement, NIGMS encourages changes in biomedical graduate research training to keep pace with the rapid evolution of the biomedical research enterprise that is increasingly complex, interdisciplinary, quantitative, and collaborative. Other changes in the biomedical research enterprise include greater diversity in the backgrounds of people participating in biomedical research, the approaches utilized to investigate research questions, and the range of the careers that biomedical Ph.D. recipients are pursuing. Additionally, there is an increasing recognition of the need to enhance reproducibility of biomedical research results through scientific rigor and transparency, and to promote a culture where the highest standards of practice are used to ensure the safety of all individuals in the research environment. This FOA is intended to encourage and enable the scientific community to develop and implement evidence-informed approaches to biomedical research training and mentoring that will effectively train future generations of rigorous biomedical scientists.

Each funded program should provide high-quality research training, mentored research experiences, and additional opportunities that equip trainees with the technical, operational, and professional skills required for careers in the biomedical research workforce. The intention is not to layer additional activities onto existing structures; instead, this FOA is designed to allow for creative and transformational approaches to biomedical graduate training, including curricular reform, that preserve the best elements of current programs, while enhancing the focus on the development of trainee skills.

The **Overarching Objective** of the NIGMS Predoctoral Institutional Research Training Grant (T32) program is to develop a diverse pool of well-trained scientists who have the following:

- A broad understanding across biomedical disciplines;
- Expertise in a basic biomedical scientific discipline and the skills to independently acquire the knowledge needed to advance their chosen fields;
- The ability to think critically and independently, and to identify important biomedical research questions and approaches that push forward the boundaries of their areas of study;
- A strong foundation in scientific reasoning, rigorous research design, experimental methods, quantitative and computational approaches, and data analysis and interpretation;
- The skills to conduct research in the safest manner possible, and a commitment to approaching biomedical research responsibly, ethically, and with integrity;
- Experience initiating, conducting, interpreting, and presenting rigorous and reproducible biomedical research with increasing self-direction;
- The ability to work effectively in teams with colleagues from a variety of cultural and scientific backgrounds, and to promote inclusive and supportive scientific research environments;
- The skills to teach and communicate scientific research methodologies and findings to a wide variety of audiences (e.g., discipline-specific, across disciplines, and the public); and
- The knowledge, professional skills and experiences required to identify and transition into careers in the biomedical research workforce (i.e., the breadth of careers that sustain biomedical research in areas that are relevant to the NIH mission).

Diversity at all levels—from the kinds of science to the regions in which it is conducted to the backgrounds of the people conducting it—contributes to excellence in research training environments and strengthens the research enterprise. This FOA is intended to support outstanding research training programs that will enhance diversity at all levels (e.g., see the Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity).

Link to Additional Information: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-213.html

22. Advancing HIV/AIDS Research through Computational Neuroscience, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadline: November 6, 2020

This funding opportunity announcement invites computational HIV/AIDS research as it relates to NIDAs mission through collaborative research between investigators with experimental expertise related to HIV/AIDS and those with computational proficiency, including scientists from statistics, physics, mathematics, engineering, and computer science. An R01 research project should build on well-established computational strategies (theory, models, and methods) to investigate HIV-related neurocognitive deficits and neuropathogenesis in the context of substance use or substance use disorder (SUD).

Applications responsive to this RFA should build on well-established computational strategies (theories, models, and methods) to understand HIV neuropathogenesis, and underlying complex neurobiological systems in the context of substance use and SUD. Projects are encouraged to include close collaboration between quantitative and experimental researchers with expertise in HIV/AIDS and SUD neuroscience, including scientists from statistics, physics, mathematics, engineering, and computer science. It is expected

that: (1) research collaborations will build on complementary investigator expertise in computation or modeling, theory, and/or experimental neuroscience; (2) the development and testing of new models or theories should provide a framework for the design of experiments and the generation of new hypotheses that can help reveal mechanisms and processes underlying HIV-related neurocognitive deficits and neuropathogenesis in the context of substance use or SUD; (3) the data generated from these projects are expected to be made findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable (FAIR) to enable secondary analysis by the research community; and (4) any computational tools developed under this FOA should be made widely available to the neuroscience research community for their use and modification.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Illuminating and classifying homeostatic mechanisms of persistent inflammation, neuroimmune interactions, and plasticity of neural-cognitive-behavior function influencing pathogenesis and heterogeneity in neuroHIV comorbidity
- 2. Identifying molecular biomarkers and/or targets relevant to the status, breadth, or kinetics of disruption of HIV-related neurocognitive deficits or neuropathogenesis in the context of substance use or SUD. Some host characteristics of interest include immune or defense mechanisms, genetic determinants, molecular and genomic pathways, or cellular or brain circuitry neurosignatures.
- 3. Systems biology study of mechanisms and factors within and between multi-scale biological networks in the face of HIV-related perturbation of intrinsic system integrity
- 4. Statistical models for HIV-associated cognitive decline in SUD
- 5. Quantitative analysis and computational modeling of viral rebound in substance exposed animals
- 6. Computational models of neural circuit dysfunction that take into account individual differences such as genetic makeup, cognitive function, psychiatric profile and personality features in the context of neuroHIV
- 7. Secondary analysis of large HIV datasets towards the development of improved biomarkers, including artificial intelligence approaches
- 8. Integrating and performing meta-analysis of all datasets across all cohorts and physiological systems to define generalizable mechanisms that underlie the impact of the different substances of abuse on HIV persistence, immune homeostasis and function, and neurocognitive dysfunction.
- 9. Applying simulation-based approaches towards understanding whole brain dynamics related to neuroHIV and SUD comorbidity
- 10. Development of statistical methods for neuroHIV study that draw upon established toolset to enhance the accuracy of brain signal measurements.
- 11. Computational models that will differentiate etiological factors underlying heterogeneity of neuroHIV and SUD comorbidity
- 12. Identification of biomarker, signatures or computational markers that will define level of risk propensity seeking addictive substances or will reflect/represent quantitatively the level of disruption or addiction which is commonly affected under the influence of specific drugs or poly-drug use and under different phase or various type of addiction.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Program Staff to discuss potential research projects prior to submitting an application.

Link to Additional Information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-21-013.html

23. George M. O'Brien Urology Cooperative Research Centers Program, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadline: November 4, 2020

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks applications for the George M. O'Brien Urology Cooperative Research Centers Program (U54). This program will foster multi- and interdisciplinary collaboration between basic, translational, and clinical researchers with diverse expertise to address questions of underlying etiology and biological and clinical features of benign genitourinary conditions within the NIDDKs mission. In addition, the program will serve as a national resource for the larger urologic research community and provide opportunities for educational enrichment and engagement of investigators in pilot projects that target innovative science and researchers new to urology. All efforts will address the overall goal of improving prevention and clinical management of benign genitourinary disorders through research excellence, enhanced sharing of resources and access to core services, and establishment of a robust research community trained to address the Nations biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research needs for benign genitourinary conditions.

Background

Despite advances in the clinical management of many genitourinary conditions, millions of Americans remain afflicted with benign genitourinary diseases and disorders of the urogenital system, including urinary tract infections, urinary stone disease, conditions associated with lower urinary tract symptoms such as urinary incontinence, over- and underactive bladder and bladder outlet

obstruction, urologic chronic pelvic pain syndrome, and erectile dysfunction. The annual treatment cost of these illnesses is at least \$11.5 billion per year. Contributing to the inability to adequately treat patients are the gaps in knowledge of the basic physiology, cell biology, and genetics of normal and abnormal urologic function; a lack of objective diagnostic criteria and tests for many benign genitourinary diseases and disorders; inadequate in-depth characterization (phenotyping) of patients; and the paucity of epidemiological insights. These gaps also hinder development of clinically relevant models of genitourinary diseases and disorders.

The O'Brien Urology Cooperative Research Centers Program fosters broad basic, translational, and clinical research on questions of critical importance; develops research resources to support the larger urology research community; engages new and established investigators from urology and other clinical and research disciplines; and promotes the training of junior scientists electing to conduct research in the field of benign genitourinary diseases and disorders. The O'Brien Centers Program works cooperatively with the Urology Centers Program Interactions Core (U24), the NIDDK Exploratory Centers for Interdisciplinary Research in Benign Urology (P20), the NIDDK Urologic Research (KURe) Career Development Program (K12), and the Urological Epidemiology (UroEpi) Institutional Research Career Development Program (K12).

Research Centers

O'Brien Urology Cooperative Research Centers address critical questions related to proper urologic function and benign genitourinary diseases and disorders relevant to the NIDDK's mission. Research Centers address these questions through rigorous and high-impact scientific investigations designed to provide significant advances in the genitourinary field. Research Centers also provide unique opportunities for developing and sharing research resources; engaging new and established investigators from urology and other disciplines to foster a robust research community; and collaboration within the Program, with other NIDDK urology research and training efforts, and with the broader community. Research Center investigators are additionally expected to promote collaboration and research excellence through participation in relevant O'Brien Urology Research Centers Program Committees and through interactions with relevant NIDDK Program Staff. In addition, Research Center leadership and relevant investigators are expected to actively participate in regular O'Brien Cooperative Urology Research Centers Program teleconferences and in-person meetings. Such activities will be promoted through the Urology Centers Program Interactions Core (U24), which is tasked with ensuring productive collaboration between Urology Centers, relevant career development programs, and the larger research community. To foster true centers of excellence, it is anticipated all components will be within a single institution.

Research Center components will include:

- Two or more interdisciplinary Research Projects
- One or more Biomedical Research Cores that serve as local and national resources
- An Administrative Core, including an Educational Enrichment Program to promote a diverse and collaborative research
 environment and an Opportunity Pool Program to solicit and fund pilot projects targeting innovative science and investigators
 new to benign urology

NOTE: In addition to the Administrative Core, a viable Research Center would require a minimum of three highly meritorious components (i.e., two Research Projects and one Biomedical Research Core as a minimum).

Link to Additional Information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-20-008.html

24. Mid-Career Enhancement Awards to Integrate Basic Behavioral, Biomedical, and/or Social Scientific Processes, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadlines: March 17, 2021, March 17, 2022, March 17, 2023

The objective of this Career Enhancement Award for Mid-Career Investigators (K18) is to provide support for experienced scientists who wish either to expand their scientific capabilities or to change their research careers by acquiring new research knowledge or skills. In addition to preparing the awardee to apply for future independent funding in areas beyond her/his current expertise, it is expected that this career development activity also will lead to new research collaborations that could be competitive for future NIH funding, particularly projects that account for biopsychosocial interrelationships that impact behavior change and adherence related to health, recovery, and overall wellbeing.

Applicants are expected to identify one or more research mentors with relevant expertise in applicant knowledge-gap areas. The mentor(s) must be established, well-qualified, and willing to support the applicant's short-term research career development experience. The candidate and the proposed mentor(s) should not currently have established, longstanding collaborations at the time of the application. Candidates are expected either to establish new collaborative arrangements or to strengthen and enhance relatively new or developing collaborations on a research project.

Examples of novel skill combinations that might result from the mentored career development experience include, and are not limited to:

- 1. Development of career expertise and collaboration among researchers with expertise in animal models of basic behavioral and social processes and those studying similar or related processes in human subjects. For example, a researcher who studies human neurobiological mechanisms involved with social cognition might propose to work with an expert who studies neurobiological circuitry in social cognition among model animals.
- 2. Increased collaboration among basic and applied sciences and researchers to facilitate basic-applied translations. Innovative approaches to change individual health-related behaviors and/or social systems begin with basic (or fundamental) research that illuminates mechanisms and targets involved with attitudes, decision-making, and behavior change and maintenance. Applied (or intervention) research can identify intractable unhealthy behaviors or efficacious interventions whose original designs did not include sufficient basic measures to explain the intervention's efficacy--thus suggesting basic research questions. For example, an applied researcher who repeatedly has found that a setting-based social-network intervention results in sustained healthier behaviors might propose to seek mentorship from a basic sociologist with expert knowledge in social network nodes and ties.
- 3. Interactions among biological, behavioral, and social processes. Examples include and are not limited to, behavioral cardiology, cell biology, economic neuroscience, genetics, (self-) management of chronic conditions, neurolinguistics, live and virtual social networks, and the spread of disease or wellness. For example, a behavioral or cognitive neuroscientist may propose to extend her expertise with a mentor in in the field of computational sciences; a disease-specific researcher might seek mentoring in cognitive, social, and/or decision-making processes for more comprehensive future research approaches.
- 4. New approaches to research design and data collection, measurement, and analysis. Sample projects include research tools that could be used in behavioral and social sciences, engineering and technological sciences, in biomedical sciences, or interactions of multiple disciplines. Big data collection and analysis also is appropriate for this announcement. For example, a computational scientist who designs and analyzes mobile health applications might propose to be mentored by a cognitive or developmental neuropsychologist; a neuroscientist might seek additional expertise in behavioral and/or systems science and vice versa.

This short-term (up to 12 months) period of mentored research experience should expand the investigator's current expertise and lead to new knowledge and skills and potential new collaborators. The research career enhancement experience may be conducted in a different department within the candidate's home institution or in a different institutional setting from the location where the candidate holds her or his primary appointment. Mentoring may occur in-person, virtually, or in combination. The research experience proposed must have the potential to augment the candidate's research capabilities substantially and provide new research opportunities and benefits that would not be achievable through a collaborative research grant with the mentor(s). The research career enhancement experience should be tailored to the individual needs and level of experience of the candidate. The career enhancement plan may include (1) a didactic academic enrichment plan, e.g., coursework, seminars, journal clubs, etc., and (2) a small-scale research project. The research project is expected to expand the candidate's desired expertise.

Link to Additional Information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-226.html

25. Alcohol-HIV/AIDS Program Project Comorbidities, Coinfections, and Complications Research: Intervention and Cross-Cutting Foundational Research, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health

Application Deadline: November 17, 2020

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) solicits grant applications that propose research that can be translated into interventions in order to reduce infection and transmission of HIV in patients with alcohol use disorders. The FOA will solicit applications that address HIV and alcohol-related morbidity and mortality, and interventions that reduce the impact of alcohol on HIV disease progression and transmission.

Examples include studies that seek to:

- Develop interventions that combine behavioral and biological strategies leading to significant and sustainable reductions in the impact of alcohol on viral load and the spread of HIV, and other effective strategies that focus on addressing long-term underlying pathophysiology.
- Discover innovative approaches to measure and treat HIV and alcohol misuse in diverse populations who continue high-risk patterns of harmful or hazardous drinking across the lifespan and may have Alcohol Use Disorders.
- Develop strategies to prevent HIV- and common alcohol-associated coinfections (e.g. COVID-19, hepatitis C, tuberculosis) and reduce comorbidities, co-infections, and complications (CCC) that are also common (e.g. tobacco and depression) among PLWH.

- Support and advance novel research to address and mitigate underlying alcohol and HIV-associated medical and social
 inequalities that diminish the health and well-being of PLWH in underserved and marginalized communities in domestic and
 international settings.
- Pursue innovative research methods and the use of new and improved technologies to facilitate advances across the research agenda and to improve the translation of basic behavioral and biological research findings into clinical and community practice.
- Use of emerging new methodologies focused on analysis and representation of large/complex datasets could also be explored, particularly in relationship to the use of electronic medical records and/or other sources of reliable information related to engagement in care.
- Advance the understanding of how the severity of alcohol use (including Alcohol Use Disorders) impacts clinical outcomes for PLWH and identify new ways of engaging and retaining this target population in effective treatment.
- Examine the additive or synergistic impact for specific comorbidities in determining clinical outcomes for PLWH who have sustained organ and tissue damage due to past alcohol use (sick quitters) and understand the optimal recovery process.

Outcomes include but are not limited to:

- Health Outcomes for PLWH who continue to drink or have problems associated with past drinking include:
- Improving linkage to care and retention in HIV and alcohol care
- Accelerating reductions in alcohol use resulting in increased viral suppression,
- Identifying mitigating social determinants of poor outcomes (such as homelessness),
- Reducing frailty and subsequent mortality,
- Reducing the incidence of new infections through Treatment as Prevention (TasP)
- Reducing HIV and alcohol disparities in key populations of men and women and in the Southern US and other high-incidence locations.

The P01 Program Project is designed to foster teams capable of using coordinated, focused approaches to address high priority topics in alcohol research and to develop a sustained thematic approach required for resolution of complex issues in alcohol research. Thus, grant applications are expected to identify a relevant and important issue, propose innovative research that will address the related questions, provide a rationale for the proposed team approach, and establish an appropriate timeline. The central theme of the proposed Program Project should reflect the expertise of the participating investigators, should take advantage of the institution's strengths and/or unique facilities including access to relevant clinical populations, and should be directed toward a high priority topic of significant importance in alcohol research.

All activities will be under the general direction and supervision of the Project Director(s)/Principal Investigators(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)), who will function as Director(s) of the Program Project. The PDs/PIs should be established, independent scientist(s) in the field of alcohol research and in the chosen scientific area of the proposed program project. Strong research capability together with a well-developed research plan is fundamental to the establishment of coordinated, collaborative research across departmental structures of an institution. A Program Project should be an identifiable organizational unit within an institutional structure. Collaborations that take advantage of unique scientific opportunities, complimentary expertise and resources across different institutions are encouraged.

Link to Additional Information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AA-20-009.html

26. Family, Relationship, and Marriage Education Works - Adults (FRAMEWorks), Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Application Deadline: July 1, 2020

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA) announces its plan to solicit applications for the competitive award of grants that support "healthy marriage promotion" activities as authorized under Section 403(a)(2) of the Social Security Act. The Family, Relationships, and Marriage Education Works-Adult (FRAMEWorks) Program will be targeted exclusively to projects designed for adult individuals or adult couples, defined as persons who are age 18 and older. Applicants will be asked to submit proposals that are designed to implement programs that include a broad array of service provision strategies. These include curriculum-based skills development and services designed to support family strengthening activities through one or more of seven activities specified under the authorizing legislation: marriage and relationship education/skills (MRES); pre-marital education; marriage enhancement; divorce reduction activities; marriage mentoring; public advertising campaigns; and activities to reduce the disincentives to marriage. Applicants will be encouraged to also include services to promote employment and job and career advancement. Applicants will be strongly encouraged to submit a proposal to implement one specific program model designed for one specific service population, e.g. adult individuals or adult couples, but not multiple models for multiple populations. ACF is interested in funding a diverse range of projects, from high impact

projects, to moderate scope projects, to smaller scope projects. Applicants must provide evidence of organizational capacity to implement their proposed project.

Under this FOA, ACF identifies these elements—family, relationship and marriage education, together with gainful employment-as the scaffolding upon which healthy families are built and sustained. Grants awarded will support projects that provide a broad array of healthy marriage promotion activities and services designed to integrate skills-based healthy marriage education, along with additional services to address relationship skills and job and career advancement opportunities, for adults (age 18 and older). Applicants are encouraged to design program models that focus primarily on healthy marriage promotion activities, which include, pre-marital education for individuals or couples interested in marriage, marriage enhancement, divorce reduction, and/or marriage mentoring.

ACF expects applicants awarded grants under this FOA will propose and conduct activities within a scope that is commensurate with the funding level being requested and their demonstrated organizational capacity. Proposed activities may range in scope from large scope service provision, to moderate scope service provision, to smaller scope service provision. ACF expects that applicants will provide evidence of organizational capacity to implement their proposed service provision activities in accordance with the organizational capacity standards of this FOA.

Additionally, grantees awarded under this FOA will be expected, among other things, to implement at least 12 hours of curriculum-based workshops (unless a lower intensity is proposed with strong justification and submitted for post-award review and approval), meet program participation targets within minimum and maximum limits, and achieve specified program completion rates. Applicants requesting funding from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 are expected to propose and conduct impact evaluations (those requesting less than \$1,000,000 have the option of proposing to conduct local evaluations). ACF is also interested in projects that implement only one specific program model designed for a service population (e.g., adult individuals or adult couples).

Link to Additional Information: https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/HHS-2020-ACF-OFA-ZB-1817

