# NIH funding opportunities

21 October 2024 (#28)



Confirm your intent to apply ASAP, but not later than 60 days before the submission date.



See all Important Notices, Parent Announcements and Notice of Special Interest below

Plan your application. Before starting your application attend

1) Generic Grant Writing Workshop and then the2) NIH Grant Writing Workshop

To prepare an application can take 4-18 months.

From submission to receiving a Notice of Award can take 10 months

## **Important Notices**

NOT-OD-24-175 Reporting Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan Activities in Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPRs) Submitted on or After October 1, 2024. The purpose of this Notice is to remind the research community of the requirement to address the NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy in Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPRs) submitted on or after October 1, 2024, and to provide additional details about the implementation of the RPPR instructions. On October 1, 2024, NIH will issue new DMS questions that align with the NIH Final Policy on Data Management and Sharing, asking recipients for updates on the status of data sharing, repositories, and unique identifiers for data that have been shared.

NOT-OD-24-176 Updated Processes for Requesting Revisions to an Approved Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan. The purpose of this Notice is to inform the extramural research community of updates to the processes for submitting requests to revise a Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan through the Just in Time (JIT) Module, the Prior Approval Module, and the RPPR Module in eRA Commons. This updated functionality will be available for NIH grants subject to the Final NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Policy effective October 1, 2024, and will be used exclusively for submitting requests for updating the DMS Plan. As a reminder, emails and other communications are not acceptable.

NOT-OD-25-010 NIH Operates Under a Continuing Resolution. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including National Institutes of Health (NIH), operates under Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (Public Law 118-83) signed by President Biden on September 26, 2024. This Act (CR) continues government operations through December 20, 2024, at the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 enacted level, with no reduction.

<u>NOT-OD-24-178</u> Final Scientific Integrity Policy of the National Institutes of Health. The purpose of this guide notice is to issue the Final NIH Scientific Integrity Policy to promote a continuing culture of scientific integrity at NIH. This Policy codifies NIH's long-standing expectations to preserve scientific integrity throughout all NIH activities, establishes

key roles and responsibilities for those who will lead the agency's scientific integrity program, and, as appropriate, establishes relevant reporting and evaluation mechanisms.

#### **Parent Announcements**

NOT-OD-24-099 Notice to Extend Parent R01/R03/R21 Parent Notices of Funding Opportunities. Current Key Dates Modified Expiration Date: January 8, 2025

Parent Announcements (PA) for unsolicited are broad funding opportunity announcements allowing applicants to submit investigator-initiated applications. They are open for up to 3 years and use standard due dates.

- PA-20-185 NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- PA-20-184 Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)
- PA-20-183 Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)
- PA-20-200 NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- PA-20-195 NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- PA-20-194 NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Required)
- <u>PA-20-196</u> NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)

### **Notice of Special Interest (NOSI)**

NOT-DC-24-041 Developing and Evaluating Evidence-Based Practice for Users of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). The purpose of this NOSI is to encourage those with expertise in communication disorders to pursue research in collaboration with users of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) using one of two approaches: (1) community-engaged research or (2) user-centered design. Both of these strategies include AAC users and their families/caregivers through the process. Applications are expected to lead to the development and evaluation of (1) valid and reliable measures of communication that can be used in research and clinical practice; and (2) evidence-based practices to improve effective communication between AAC users and their communication partners. This notice applies to **due dates** on or after February 5, 2025 and subsequent receipt dates through February 4, 2028.

NOT-RM-24-013 Administrative supplements to active NIH awards to support replication studies using independent contract resources. The Office of Strategic Coordination (OSC), The Common Fund, seeks to enhance the validity of the impactful lines of biomedical research it supports. The purpose of this NOSI is to provide administrative supplements to active NIH-funded awards to conduct preparatory activities that enable high-fidelity replication studies using independent contract research resources, which will be supported by the Common Fund. The objective of this Notice is to provide support for necessary preparatory activities to enable replication of impactful NIH-funded biomedical studies by an independent contract research organization (CRO). Applications must identify a preclinical study with high potential impact on public health that is amenable to replication by an independent CRO. The capabilities of the CRO are listed on the Common Fund website (<a href="https://commonfund.nih.gov/replication-initiative/faq">https://commonfund.nih.gov/replication-initiative/faq</a>). **Due date:** November 15, 2024.

NOT-AG-24-010 The Role of the Immune System in Aging Brain and Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and AD-Related Dementias (ADRD). The goal of this NOSI is to explore the role of the adaptive immune system and innate immune system and their cross-talk in the etiology of AD/ADRD. This NOSI solicits human subjects and animal research across a broad range of topics and laboratory models. This notice applies to **due dates** on or after November 12, 2024 and subsequent receipt dates through December 31, 2027.

NOT-MD-24-022 Effectiveness of Mobile Health Clinics to Advance Health Equity. The term "Mobile Health Clinic (MHC)" refers to a community-based model of healthcare delivery in which health services are delivered from a motorized vehicle within communities. Sometimes referred to as "Mobile Health Units", "Mobile Clinics", or described as "Healthcare on Wheels," the MHC is usually a bus, truck or van that transports medical personnel and contains the clinical resources (e.g., examination table, laboratory supplies for point of care testing, and medical equipment) that are necessary to provide health care (e.g. primary care, behavioral health, dental, vision, specialized care or other health services). According to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), access to

health care is the "timely use of personal health services to achieve the best possible health outcomes." Obstacles that limit access to timely high-quality health care disproportionately affect populations that experience health disparities, increase the risk of poor health outcomes, and widen health disparity gaps. Factors that limit access to health care include provider shortages, restrictive office hours, limited transportation options, long travel distances to care, absence of culturally and linguistically appropriate services, having low household income, and being either uninsured or underinsured. Models of care that address barriers to accessing care and improving health outcomes are needed to reduce health disparities and advance health equity. This notice applies to **due dates** on or after February 5, 2025, and subsequent receipt dates through November 17, 2027. Submit applications for this initiative using one of the notices listed in the NOSI or any reissues of these announcements through the expiration date of this notice. Each IC will only consider applications submitted to NOFOs specified in that IC's Areas of Interest.

## **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

RFA-AI-24-023 U.S.-South Africa Program for Collaborative Biomedical Research – Phase 3 (HIV/AIDS) (R01 Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to support research projects under Phase 3 of the U.S.-South Africa Program for Collaborative Biomedical Research. Research areas supported under this program include HIV/AIDS, HIV/AIDS co-morbidities and co-infections, HIV/AIDS-associated implementation science, and HIV/AIDS-associated data science. The hallmark of the U.S.-South Africa program is the development of collaborative partnerships between South African investigators and United States (U.S.) investigators. Through international collaboration, this research will advance scientific discoveries, promote sharing of technologies and approaches, and serve local public health needs and priorities in support of global HIV/AIDS research.

**AIDS Date:** March 12, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date.

**Budget:** Issuing IC and partner components intend to commit an estimated total of \$3.8 million to fund 8-10 awards. Application budgets are not expected to exceed \$400,000 in direct costs per year and should reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

PAR-24-295 Emerging Global Leader Award (K43 Independent Clinical Trial Required). The goal of the Fogarty Emerging Global Leader Award is to provide research support and protected time (three to five years) to a low- or middle-income country (LMIC) early career research scientist who holds a junior faculty position at an LMIC academic or research institution, as defined by the World Bank (<a href="http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups">http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups</a>, including "low-income," "lower-middle-income," and "upper-middle-income" countries, with exceptions below (see Section III. Eligibility Information)). This intensive, mentored research career development experience is expected to lead to an independently funded research career at the LMIC institution or in another LMIC. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) invites applications from LMIC scientists from any health-related discipline who propose career development activities and a research project that is relevant to the health priorities of their country under the mentorship of LMIC and U.S. mentors. This NOFO is designed specifically for applicants proposing to serve as the lead investigator of an independent clinical trial, a clinical trial feasibility study, or a separate ancillary clinical trial, as part of their research and career development. Applicants not planning an independent clinical trial, or proposing to gain research experience in a clinical trial led by another investigator, must apply to companion NOFO PAR-24-296.

Roundup of Research Career Development (K) Award Resources
Frequently Asked Questions for the Emerging Global Leader Award

**Date:** December 03, 2024; December 03, 2025, December 03, 2026. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of Intent due:** 30 days before the application due date.

**Budget:** The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Award budgets are composed of salary and other program-related expenses. NIH will contribute up to \$100,000 per year toward the salary of the career award recipient for a minimum 75% effort or 9 person months. The requested salary must be consistent both with the established salary structure at the institution and with salaries provided by the institution from its own funds to other staff members of equivalent qualifications, rank, and responsibilities in the department. Confirmation of LMIC institutional salary may be required prior to the issuance of an award. NIH will contribute research development support of up to \$40,000 per year for the award recipient. Salary for mentors, secretarial and administrative assistants, etc. is not allowed. The total project period should be a minimum of 3 years and may not exceed 5 years.

PAR-24-296 Emerging Global Leader Award (K43 Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed). The goal of the Fogarty Emerging Global Leader Award is to provide research support and protected time (three to five years) to a low-or middle-income country (LMIC) early career research scientist who holds a junior faculty position at an LMIC academic or research institution, as defined by the World Bank (http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups, including "low-income," "lower-middle-income," and "upper-middle-income" countries, with exceptions below (see Section III. Eligibility Information)). This intensive, mentored research career development experience is expected to lead to an independently funded research career at the LMIC institution or in another LMIC. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)invites applications from LMIC scientists from any health-related discipline who propose career development activities and a research project that is relevant to the health priorities of their country under the mentorship of LMIC and U.S. mentors. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is designed specifically for applicants proposing research that does not involve leading an independent clinical trial, a clinical trial feasibility study, or an ancillary clinical trial. Applicants to this NOFO are permitted to propose research experience in a clinical trial led by a mentor or co-mentor. Applicants proposing a clinical trial or an ancillary clinical trial as lead investigator, should apply to the companion NOFO PAR-24-295.

Roundup of Research Career Development (K) Award Resources

**Frequently Asked Questions for the Emerging Global Leader Award** 

**Date:** December 03, 2024; December 03, 2025, December 03, 2026. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of Intent due: 30 days before the application due date.

**Budget:** The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Award budgets are composed of salary and other program-related expenses. NIH will contribute up to \$100,000 per year toward the salary of the career award recipient for a minimum 75% effort or 9 person months. The requested salary must be consistent both with the established salary structure at the institution and with salaries provided by the institution from its own funds to other staff members of equivalent qualifications, rank, and responsibilities in the department. Confirmation of LMIC institutional salary may be required prior to the issuance of an award. NIH will contribute research development support of up to \$40,000 per year for the award recipient. Salary for mentors, secretarial and administrative assistants, etc. is not allowed. The total project period should be a minimum of 3 years and may not exceed 5 years.

RFA-AI-24-068 New Therapeutic Strategies for Genital Herpes (R21/R33 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). The purpose of this NOFO is to stimulate the development of new treatments for genital herpes that suppress shedding and lesion formation and reduce transmission. This NOFO invites applications that propose research into a broad range of therapeutic approaches, including but not limited to development of new or improved antivirals, monoclonal antibodies, therapeutic vaccines, and gene editing technologies for treatment of people living with genital herpes. This NOFO will use a milestone-driven, phased innovation award. Transition to the second phase is not guaranteed and will depend on the successful completion of milestones.

**Date:** January 31, 2025, due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of Intent Due:** 30 days prior to the application due date.

**Budget:** NIAID intends to commit \$3.5 million in FY 2026 to fund 7-10 awards. Budgets for the R21 phase are limited to \$275,000 in direct costs over two years. No more than \$200,000 in direct costs may be requested in any single year. Budgets for the R33 phase are not expected to exceed \$300,000 annually in direct costs for up to three years. The maximum project period for the R21 phase is two years and the maximum project period for the R33 phase is three years, for a total of five years for the entire R21/R33 award.

<u>PA-25-121</u> Epidemiologic Research on Emerging Risk Factors and Liver Cancer Susceptibility (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). The purpose of this NOFO is to promote epidemiologic research investigating novel and innovative hypotheses on emerging risk factors (biological, environmental, and social) and their interplay with established risk factors (e.g., viral hepatitis) associated with the development of liver cancer (hepatocellular carcinoma and other histological subtypes) in the United States.

Date: February 05, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed research should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

<u>PA-25-123</u> Epidemiologic Research on Emerging Risk Factors and Liver Cancer Susceptibility (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). The purpose of this NOFO is to promote epidemiologic research investigating novel and innovative hypotheses on emerging risk factors (biological, environmental, and social) and their interplay with established risk factors (e.g., viral hepatitis) associated with the development of liver cancer (hepatocellular carcinoma and other histological subtypes) in the United States.

Date: February 16, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Budget:** The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year. The maximum project period is 2 years.

RFA-NS-24-038 Human Brain Single-cell Genomics Explorer (U24 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed). The NIH Blueprint for neuroscience is soliciting applications to pilot the establishment of an integrated resource for users to explore, analyze, and download processed deidentified human brain single-cell transcriptomics and epigenomics data that is harmonized across reference and disease datasets. The resource will generate a unified cell type taxonomy and provide users with a draft annotatable cell-type nomenclature and the ability to map community generated single cell omics data to the taxonomy. This pilot will lay the groundwork for an expanded and sustained effort to increase utility and accessibility of human cell-type classification data across multiple NIH consortia.

**Date:** February 14, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of intent: January 14, 2025

**Budget:** NIH Blueprint ICs intend to fund an estimate of 1 award, corresponding to a total of \$1M direct costs, for fiscal year 2025. Annual direct costs may not exceed \$1M and must reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project duration for this Pilot Project is 3 years.

RFA-NS-25-020 HEAL Initiative: Understanding Individual Differences in Human Pain Conditions (R01 - Clinical Trial Optional). This NOFO seeks to support research aimed at holistic understanding of inter-individual or between-person differences in human pain conditions, focusing on 'Whole Person Health' and enhancing pain treatment and management strategies towards personalized pain medicine. The goal of this NOFO is to support studies that focus on the collection of clinical and/or preclinical data to enable evidence-based modeling and understanding of inter-individual differences and/or heterogeneity of pain occurring with use of pain therapy/management, or with conditions such as a second pain condition, a comorbid health condition, a comorbid mental health condition, or conditions of use / misuse of opioids, alcohol or other substances. Applicants are encouraged to develop and implement novel, multidisciplinary research approaches, and include investigators with complementary expertise to fulfill the project and program goals. Input from patients and caregivers on the goals of the project is highly encouraged. Rigorous data-driven and evidence-based research approaches supported under this NOFO are expected to provide better understanding of biological and/or biopsychosocial underpinnings of inter-individual differences, heterogeneity, and stratification of persons with lived pain experience, which would accelerate the development of evidence-based solutions toward precision pain medicine. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) requires a Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives (PEDP).

**Date:** February 06, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Budget:** The NIH HEAL (Helping to End Addiction Long-term) Initiative intends to commit an estimated total of \$4 million to fund 3-4 awards in FY 2024. Awards pursuant to this funding opportunity are contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Application budgets should not exceed \$650,000 direct costs per year, and should be consistent with the complexity and needs of the proposed project. Annual inflationary increases are not allowed. Applications may request up to five years of support.

<u>PAR-25-078</u> NCI Small Grants Program for Cancer Research (NCI Omnibus) (R03 Clinical Trial Optional). This NOFO supports small research projects on cancer that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology.

**Date:** February 24, 2025, June 20, 2025, October 17, 2025. **AIDS dates:** May 07, 2025; September 07, 2025; January 07, 2026. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the Application Due Date.

**Budget:** A budget for direct costs of up to \$50,000 per year may be requested. The maximum project period is 2 years.

<u>PAR-25-082</u> Co-infection and Cancer (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). The purpose of this NOFO is to enhance mechanistic and epidemiologic investigations addressing the roles of co-infection and cancer to shed light on presently unestablished pathways in carcinogenesis that may inform prevention and treatment strategies for infection-related cancers. Co-infection is defined as the occurrence of infections by two or more infectious (pathogenic or non-pathogenic) agents – either concurrently or sequentially – and includes both acute and chronic infections by viruses, bacteria, parasites, and/or other microorganisms. Preference will be given to investigations of co-infections with

known oncogenic agents (excluding human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]) and of co-infections that engender novel opportunities for prevention and treatment.

**Date:** February 05, 2025; June 05, 2025; October 05, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of intent:** 30 days prior to the Application Due Date

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The project period may not exceed 5 years.

PAR-25-115 Towards a Better Understanding of the Neurological Effects of Infection-Associated Chronic Illnesses (R21 - Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this NOFO is to solicit applications focused on the neurological and/or mental health-related manifestations of infection-associated chronic illnesses, including the post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (Neuro-PASC) as well as other chronic illnesses with a potential infectious trigger (post-treatment Lyme Disease, myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome [ME/CFS], postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome [POTS], post-viral fatigue syndromes, etc.). Projects that investigate common neurological and/or mental health-related mechanisms across multiple infection-associated chronic illnesses would be of particular interest, although this is not a requirement (i.e., applications can focus on a single condition). Neurologically focused clinical research investigating scientifically compelling pathways that contribute to the development of infection-associated chronic illnesses - including basic experimental studies in humans (BESH) or mechanistic clinical trials that will accelerate the development of effective treatments - are within the scope of this initiative. Preclinical studies utilizing animal, cell culture, and/or human tissue models are also encouraged. All applications must propose such studies in the context of a post-infectious etiology.

**Date:** February 16, 2025; June 16, 2025; October 16, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of intent: 30 days prior to application due date

**Budget:** The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year. The maximum project period is 2 years.

PAR-25-116 Towards a Better Understanding of the Neurological Effects of Infection-Associated Chronic Illnesses (R01 - Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this NOFO is to solicit applications focused on the neurological and/or mental health-related manifestations of infection-associated chronic illnesses, including the post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (Neuro-PASC) as well as other chronic illnesses with a potential infectious trigger (post-treatment Lyme Disease, myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome [ME/CFS], postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome [POTS], post-viral fatigue syndromes, etc.). Projects that investigate common neurological and/or mental health-related mechanisms across multiple infection-associated chronic illnesses would be of particular interest, although this is not a requirement (i.e., applications can focus on a single condition). Neurologically focused clinical research investigating scientifically compelling pathways that contribute to the development of infection-associated chronic illnesses - including basic experimental studies in humans (BESH) or mechanistic clinical trials that will accelerate the development of effective treatments - are within the scope of this initiative. Preclinical studies utilizing animal, cell culture, and/or human tissue models are also encouraged. All applications must propose such studies in the context of a post-infectious etiology.

**Date:** February 05, 2025; June 05, 2025; October 05, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of intent:** 30 days prior to application due date

**Budget:** Application budgets are limited to less than \$500,000 in direct costs/year and need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is five years.

RFA-DA-25-070 Ending the Epidemic: New Models of Integrated HIV/AIDS, Addiction, and Primary Care Services (R34 Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this NOFO is to support the development and testing of enhanced models of care that optimally integrate HIV, Hepatitis B and C, addiction, and primary care services. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is interested in research that addresses gaps related to the delivery of comprehensive, integrated health services to include the full continuum of HIV/AIDS services, addiction prevention and treatment services, and primary care services, with a goal of improving the coordination of care, and improving health outcomes related to HIV, Hepatitis (optional), and substance use disorder (SUD) in the US.

**Date:** March 19, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Budget:** NIDA expects to fund a total of \$2M in new awards in FY26 across both the R01 and R34 mechanisms. Direct costs are limited to \$450,000 over the 3-year R34 project period, with no more than \$225,000 in direct costs allowed

in any single year. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 3 years.

RFA-DA-25-072 Ending the Epidemic: New Models of Integrated HIV/AIDS, Addiction, and Primary Care Services (R01 Clinical Trial required). The purpose of this NOFO is to support the testing of enhanced models of care that optimally integrate HIV and Hepatitis B and C, addiction, and primary care services. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is interested in research that addresses gaps related to the delivery of comprehensive, integrated health services to include the full continuum of HIV/AIDS services, addiction prevention and treatment services, and primary care services, with a goal of improving the coordination of care, and improving health outcomes related to HIV, Hepatitis (optional), and substance use disorder (SUD) in the US.

**Date:** March 19, 2025. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Budget:** NIDA expects to fund a total of \$2M in new awards in FY26 across both the R01 and R34 mechanisms. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

PAR-24-293 Blueprint Neurotherapeutics Network (BPN): Biologic-based Drug Discovery and Development for Disorders of the Nervous System (UG3/UH3 Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to provide funding, resources, and expertise to accelerate the development of diverse biotherapeutic modalities — including but not limited to antibodies, peptides, proteins, oligonucleotides, gene therapies, cell therapies, and other emerging therapeutic modalities — for the treatment of nervous and neuromuscular system disorders. The Blueprint Neurotherapeutics Network for Biologics (BPN Biologics) program provides support for biologics-based therapy discovery and development activities from lead optimization through first-in-human clinical trials. This NOFO is a phased, milestone-driven cooperative agreement that involves close collaboration and regular interactions with NIH program staff. Awarded projects will receive funding for investigator-led research activities to be conducted in their own laboratories and assistance from NIH-funded consultants with industry and regulatory experience. Participants may also augment their project through collaboration with NIH-funded contract research organizations that specialize in manufacturing, nonclinical studies, and early phase clinical trials. Recipient institutions will retain their rights to existing intellectual property and are assigned rights to any new IP developed within the program.

**Date:** January 27, 2025 through to August 18, 2027. All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. Applicants may seek up to two years of UG3 funding. The UH3 phase cannot exceed four years. The total duration of both the UG3 and UH3 cannot exceed 5 years. The actual duration of individual projects will depend upon the entry point and on successful achievement of milestones and conditions as described in Milestones Section of the program overview.

RFA-DA-26-009 Mitochondrial-associated Mechanisms of Neuropathological and Immunodeficient Aging in the Context of HIV and SUD (R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed). To promote research investigating protective and pathogenic mechanisms at the nexus of mitochondria function and aging in the context of HIV infection and exposure to addictive substances. We anticipate this foundational knowledge could be leveraged to develop targeted therapies and improve outcomes in people aging with HIV, substance use and addiction. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) requires a Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives (PEDP).

**Date:** March 10, 2025; March 10, 2026. Applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

**Budget:** NIDA intends to commit a total of \$3,000,000 in FY 2026 to fund three-six awards in response to this NOFO and the companion RFA-DA-26-010. Future year amounts will depend on annual appropriations. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

RFA-DA-26-010 Mitochondrial-associated Mechanisms of Neuropathological and Immunodeficient Aging in the Context of HIV and SUD (R21 Clinical Trials Not Allowed). This notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) invites applications to investigate protective and pathogenic mechanisms at the nexus of mitochondrial function and aging in

the context of HIV infection, antiretroviral therapy (ART) and exposure to addictive substances. We anticipate this foundational knowledge could be leveraged to develop targeted therapies and improve outcomes in people aging with HIV, substance use, and addiction. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) requires a Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives (PEDP).

**Date:** March 10, 2025; March 10, 2026. Applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of intent: 30 days prior to the application due date.

**Budget:** NIDA intends to commit a total of \$3,000,000 in FY 2026 to fund three-six awards in response to this NOFO and the companion RFA-DA-26-009. Future year amounts will depend on annual appropriations. The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 in direct costs may be requested in any single year. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 2 years.

PAR-24-299 Behavioral & Integrative Treatment Development Program (R01 Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is to encourage research grant applications on the development and testing of behavioral and integrative treatments for drug and alcohol use, misuse, and dependence. This NOFO reaffirms the continued commitment of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to major programs of research on behavioral and integrative treatments. The term "behavioral treatment" is used in a broad sense and includes but is not limited to psychotherapies, cognitive, relapse prevention, remediative, rehabilitative, skills training, counseling, family, and exercise therapies. Screening, brief, computerized, adherence, prevention interventions for HIV risk behaviors, and interventions that target therapist training and fidelity are included. Integrative refers to combinations with other treatments, including pharmacotherapies or other complementary approaches.

**Date:** February 05, 2025. **AIDS:** May 07, 2025. Applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 5 years.

PAR-24-300 Behavioral & Integrative Treatment Development Program (R34 Clinical Trial Optional). The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to encourage research grant applications on the development and testing of behavioral and integrative treatments for substance misuse and dependence. This NOFO reaffirms the continued commitment of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to major programs of research on behavioral and integrative treatments. The term "behavioral treatment" is used here in a broad sense and includes but is not limited to psychotherapies, cognitive, relapse prevention, remediative, rehabilitative, skills training, counseling, family, and exercise therapies. Screening, brief, computerized, adherence, prevention interventions for HIV risk behaviors, and interventions that target therapist training and fidelity also are included. Integrative refers to combinations with other treatments, including pharmacotherapies or other complementary approaches.

**Date:** February 16, 2025. **AIDS:** May 07, 2025. Applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Letter of intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

**Budget:** Direct costs are limited to \$450,000 over a 3-year project period, with no more than \$225,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year. The maximum project period is 3 years.

RFA-AI-24-065 Discovery and Development of Novel Therapeutics for Select Fungal Pathogens (R21/R33 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is to support milestone-driven, early-stage

**Not Allowed).** The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is to support milestone-driven, early-stage translational research focused on drug discovery and development of novel therapeutics against select fungal pathogens including: Candida species, specifically Candida auris; Aspergillus fumigatus; Coccidioides; and Mucorales. This NOFO will use a milestone-driven, biphasic award mechanism. Transition to the R33 phase will depend on the successful completion of specific milestones during the R21 phase.

**Date:** January 28, 2025. Applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Budget:** NIAID intends to commit \$2.4 million in FY 2026 to fund 8-10 awards. Application budgets are limited to \$275,000 in direct costs over the two-year R21 project period, with a maximum of \$200,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year. For the R33 award phase, application budgets are not expected to exceed \$300,000 in direct costs per year and should reflect the actual needs of the project. Applicants may request up to two years of support for the R21 phase and up to 3 years of support for the R33 phase. The maximum project period for an application submitted in response to this NOFO cannot exceed five years total.

RFA-NS-25-017 BRAIN Initiative: Optimization of Instrumentation and Device Technologies for Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (U01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed). This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) seeks applications to optimize instrumentation and device technologies for recording and modulation of neural cells and circuits, to address major challenges and to enable transformative understanding of dynamic signaling in the central nervous system. It is expected that the proposed technologies and approaches have previously demonstrated their transformative potential through initial proof-of-concept testing, and are ready for accelerated refinement through iterative engineering and end-user feedback, appropriate for a path towards sustainable dissemination and user-friendly incorporation into routine neuroscience research. Applications may propose development of instrumentation hardware and/or devices and associated software. Approaches may utilize any modality such as optical, electrical, magnetic, or acoustic recording/manipulation, to target neuronal electrical signals or other forms of neural activity, including intracellular signaling and engagement of non-neuronal cells in circuit function. This NOFO is a re-issue of RFA-NS-21-027, but unlike the previous NOFO the focus is narrowed to technologies associated with recording/manipulation instrumentation and devices, and excludes projects primarily focused on development of molecular reagents.

**Date:** June 02, 2025; January 20, 2026. Applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of intent:** 60 days prior to the application due date

**Budget:** Issuing IC and partner <u>components</u> intend to commit an estimated total of \$10,000,000 per year to fund 15-20 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 4 years.

RFA-NS-25-018 BRAIN Initiative: New Technologies and Novel Approaches for Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) seeks applications for proof-of-concept testing and development of new technologies and novel approaches for recording and modulation of neural cells and circuits, to address major challenges and enable transformative understanding of dynamic signaling in the central nervous system. Preliminary feasibility data are not required, and it is expected that the proposed research may be high-risk, but if successful could profoundly change the course of neuroscience research. Applications may propose development of instrumentation hardware and/or devices and associated software, and/or molecular constructs for sensing and manipulating neural activity. Approaches may utilize any modality such as optical, electrical, magnetic, or acoustic recording/manipulation, to target neuronal electrical signals or other forms of neural activity, including intracellular signaling and engagement of non-neuronal cells in circuit function. A companion NOFO (RFA-NS-25-017) is targeted to projects focused on optimization of instrumentation and devices that are later in the development cycle, where iterative optimization and end-user testing is needed. The companion NOFO does not allow projects primarily focused on development or optimization of molecular constructs for recording and manipulating neural activity. Projects of this nature are supported by this NOFO and other BRAIN Initiative announcements including RFA-MH-22-245, RFA-MH-21-175, and RFA-EY-21-001 (or their reissue).

**Date:** June 02, 2025; January 20, 2026. Applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. **Letter of intent:** 60 days prior to the application due date

**Budget:** Issuing IC and partner <u>components</u> intend to commit an estimated total of \$10,000,000 per year to fund 15-20 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 3 years.

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Research & Internationalisation Development & Support (RIDS) & Grants Management Office (GMO)

009 K<sup>th</sup> Floor, Teaching Block, Tygerberg Campus.

Enquiries: fmhsgmo@sun.ac.za

Add "Interest in NIH opportunity" in the subject line.

Add the notice number with hyperlink in the text of the email.