



Strategic Research Project

Applications due: February 15, 2011

OVERVIEW

The Midwest Regional Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research is seeking proposals for a newly organized funding competition. The goal of this competition is to identify a new research project for incorporation into the MRCE research portfolio. Currently funded strategic research projects can be viewed at:

http://mrce.wustl.edu/index.php?page=research§ion=strategic_current

SUMMARY

Support is for innovative projects that address key questions in biodefense and emerging infectious diseases. Funding priority will be placed on projects supporting a current MRCE research theme (*Innate Immunity to Priority Pathogens* or *New Pathogen Discovery*). Additionally, projects must involve agents from the NIAID Category A-C or Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases lists:

NIAID Category A, B and C priority pathogens:

<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/BiodefenseRelated/Biodefense/research/Pages/CatA.aspx>

NIAID Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases:

<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/emerging/pages/list.aspx>

ELIGIBILITY

Open to full-time faculty at academic institutions or equivalently ranked investigators from biotechnology or pharmaceutical industries. Proposals will not be accepted from investigators currently receiving significant research support from RCE grants.

Successful projects will be focused on one of the MRCE's primary research themes and be viewed as valuable research investments for the next 3 years. Unfunded Developmental Project proposals will be considered. Of note, the application requirements and terms of award are significantly different from MRCE Developmental Project competitions. Please revise accordingly.

AMOUNT

Projects should budget for up to \$150,000 direct costs plus institutional F&A per year.

REVIEW PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed by members of the MRCE leadership including members of its Steering Committee (<http://mrce.wustl.edu/index.php?page=about§ion=steering>) and External Advisory Board (<http://mrce.wustl.edu/index.php?page=about§ion=external>). Awardees will be notified by the MRCE as soon as a decision is made. Awards are contingent on the MRCE's timely receipt of all appropriate institutional regulatory information (e.g. human studies, animal studies, etc.), and final approval by the NIAID. Applications are encouraged to have all regulatory paperwork in process or ready for submission by February 28, 2011.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Awardees are required to submit an annual progress report to the MRCE and report related publications. All publications must reference U54AI57160. Acceptance of funds implies a commitment to provide these reports in a timely manner. All publications should acknowledge the MRCE. It is expected that awardees will completely utilize the full amount of funding awarded during the duration of the award. All unexpected funds at the end of the term will be returned to the MRCE Administrative Core. Extensions or changes to the terms of the award will generally not be permitted.

TO APPLY

Please use NIH PHS 398 forms (Revised 06/2009) and list the Principal Investigator's (PI) name on the top right of every page of the application. Forms can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

When completing budget pages, please refer to the following list:

Expenditures Allowed:

- Principal investigator salary support
- Staff salary support
- Research supplies and animal maintenance
- Equipment
- Domestic or foreign travel
- Special fees (pathology, photography, etc.)

Expenditures NOT Allowed:

- Secretarial/administrative salary support
- Office equipment and supplies
- Telephone/Internet charges
- Tuition
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Dues and membership fees in scientific societies
- Purchasing and binding of periodical and books
- Honoraria and travel expenses for visiting lecturers
- Rental of office or laboratory space
- Construction or building maintenance
- Recruiting or relocation expenses

The following headings should be used for the research plan (A-C page limit is 10 pages including tables and/or figures):

- A. **Specific Aims:** State concisely the hypothesis to be tested and the specific aim(s) to be achieved during the grant period.
- B. **Research Strategy (Significance, Innovation and Approach):** Concisely present your experimental design and the methods to be used to accomplish your specific aims relating to that of biodefense/emerging infectious diseases and to longer term funding objectives. Also indicate how the results will be interpreted and how they will lead to future investigations. Well-known methods and standard procedures may be described very briefly or referenced, but novel experimental approaches should be outlined in more detail.
- C. **Bibliography and References Cited**
- D. **Protection of Human Subjects**
- E. **Inclusion of Woman and Minorities**
- F. **Targeted/Planned Enrollment Table**
- G. **Inclusion of Children**
- H. **Vertebrate Animals**
- I. **Select Agent Research**
- J. **Multiple PD/PI Leadership Plan**
- K. **Consortium/Contractual Agreements**
- L. **Letters of Support (e.g. Consultants)**
- M. **Resource Sharing Plan(s)**

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- ___ Face page (form page 1)
- ___ Project Summary, Relevance, Project/Performance Sites, Senior/Key Personnel, Other Significant Contributors, and Human Embryonic Stem Cells (form page 2)
- ___ Research Grant Table of Contents (form page 3)
- ___ Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period (form page 4)
- ___ Budget for Entire Proposed Project Period (form page 5)
- ___ Biographical sketch (maximum of 4 pages)
- ___ Resources format page
- ___ Research plan (10-pages maximum for sections A-C listed above. No appendices allowed.)
- ___ Checklist form page
- ___ Copy of approval letter(s) if project involves human or animal subjects
- ___ Other support format page
- ___ If project requires a sponsor, consultant or collaborator, this individual should write a letter of support for the application and should clarify any potential overlap between their support and the subject of the proposal

APPLICATION FILES MUST BE E-MAILED AS A SINGLE PDF FILE NO LATER THAN 5:00 pm CDT FEBRUARY 15, 2011 TO: shandley@mrce.wustl.edu