Frequently Asked Questions for the Administrative Supplement, The Collaborative, PAR-22-114

Administrative Supplements to Support Cancer Disparity Collaborative Research (Clinical Trial Optional) (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-22-114.html)

- **1.** Will PAR-220-114 only support NCI-funded grants? Yes, and only for a prescribed list of NCI parent grant research activity codes.
- 2. Which parent grants are eligible to apply for the administrative supplement? The following 12 parent grants are eligible to apply for PAR-22-114: P01, P20, P50, U19, U54, U56, UM2, R01, R37, U01, UG1, UM1.
- 3. What are the research scope preconditions for a parent grant to be eligible for application to the administrative supplement? And what is the relationship between the aims of the parent grant and the supplement? The scope of the parent grant must not include a cancer health disparities (CHD) question, i.e., it should have not proposed cancer disparities research question(s) as part of the original aims. Application to the administrative supplement must expand the parent grant's research aims by including a CHD topic/aim that addresses a cancer disparity question in racial ethnic minority population(s) (R/E) using a comparative research design.
- 4. What are examples of a comparative research design? The inclusion of a comparator is an essential component of CHD research, where at least one group in the study design is a R/E population, the underserved groups most impacted by cancer. In contrast to minority health research (see definitions in NOFO), disparities research has a comparative analysis between two different racial/ethnic minority and/or underserved groups, or one racial/ethnic minority and/or underserved group in different settings and/or environments. Examples include scientific investigations in disease comparison, disease etiology/mechanism, and barriers to health and wellness in different settings and environments.
- 5. What is an important eligibility requirement regarding the status of the parent grant at the time of the application submission of the administrative supplement? The parent grant must have at least two full years of active funding (excluding no-cost extension periods) remaining at the time of submission of the supplement application.
- 6. What is the meaning of "no prior cancer health disparities (CHD) research experience" for the eligibility requirement for the principal investigator? PIs may not have any record of CHD experience, which refers to awards received, publications (as first author, last author, or corresponding author), speaking engagements, and other professional activities/outputs related to CHD.
- 7. What is the difference between the principal investigator (PI) and the collaborator (the CHD expert). The principal investigator (PI) is a NON-CHD NCI-funded researcher on the prescribed research activity mechanisms, while the collaborator is a CHD expert, that is, an

acknowledged investigator based on published CHD records of awards received, publications, and other professional outputs. Each application is required to have a collaborative team composed of the PI and CHD collaborator.

- **8. Do the PI and the Collaborator have to be underrepresented minorities?** *No. There is no requirement for the PI nor the CHD expert to belong to an underrepresented group.*
- 9. When are the application and funding due dates? For awards starting in:

 There are two application due dates (in September and January). However, funding is awarded only one time per year, in August, regardless of the application date. For awards starting in:

August 2023, dues dates are on September 6, 2022, and January 23, 2023
August 2024, dues dates are on September 6, 2023, and January 23, 2024
August 2025, dues dates are on September 6, 2024, and January 23, 2025
Earlier submission date does not confer an advantage, as all applications are processed and reviewed on the same timeline leading up to the earliest possible start date of August 1 (as specified in the NOFO). Applicants for both the September and January submission dates are encouraged to plan accordingly.

10. What are the maximum direct and total costs of the award that can be requested per year?

Direct cost is capped at \$150k/ year. Total cost is capped at \$255K/year.

- **11.** How many years can be requested for administrative supplement support? The maximum period of administrative supplement support that an eligible NCI-funded grant may request is two years, provided that the project and budget periods are within the currently approved project period for the existing parent grant.
- 12. What about parent grants that have one but less than two years remaining in active status at the time of the award? The application can only apply for one year as long as the aims and the budget are responsive to the focus of the NOFO and are in alignment with the months remaining on the active parent grant. There will be no prorating based on months. Awards will then be for 12 months or 24 months only. We encourage collaborative teams to use the full 24 months, if possible, and encourage plans for an RO1 (or equivalent) to be included in the application, as the ultimate goal of this NOFO is to stimulate more partnerships and CHD research.
- 13. Can the CHD expert be a collaborator from within the PI's institution (but not currently part of the parent R01) or does the collaboration have to be from outside the PI's institution? The proposal aims to foster novel collaborations between a NON-CHD PI and a CHD expert and does not preclude an internal collaboration (within the same system/institution).

- **14.** What is the page limit for submission? All page limitations applicable to the parent award as described in the Application Guide and the <u>Table of Page Limits</u> for the activity code of the parent award must be followed.
- 15. Who can receive additional funds from the supplement award? Only the CHD Collaborator, the senior key personnel added to the team, can receive salary support. The PI may not receive salary support from this funding opportunity. From The NOFO's Section IV on Sr/Key Person Profile (Expanded) form: List the PD/PI as the first person (regardless of their role on the supplement activities). List any other Senior/Key Personnel who are being added through this supplement, or for whom additional funds are being requested through this supplement; include a biographical sketch for each.
- 16. Can several administrative supplement proposals be submitted for a parent grant? Selection of awardees depends upon the scientific rigor and the elements that need to be addressed described in the NOFO. It's best to focus on the submission of a single meritorious application per parent grant.
- 17. What is the implication in submitting a project for the shorter duration of one year? The maximum period of the supplement support to an eligible NCI award is two years, if and only if the parent grant is active for that two-year project period. There will be no prorating in terms of months. That is, awards will be for 12 months or 24 months only. The parent grant must have two active years (excluding NCE) at the time of submission and should have these two active years to receive the full two years of support. The Collaborative program aims to provide an opportunity for the PI and the CHD expert to work together, culminating in generating enough outputs/records to support the proposal of a subsequent CHD-focused application. We encourage collaborative teams to use the full 24 months, if possible, and encourage plans for an RO1 (or equivalent) to be included in the application, as the ultimate goal of this NOFO is to stimulate more partnerships and expand CHD research. This outcome may be challenging for a 12 month award.
- 18. What are the cancer target areas of the NOFO? It is expected that proposals will address a wide array of cancer diseases. The NOFO listed the different cancer research topics: "including (but not limited to) studies of cancer biology, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and cancer control. Applicants are encouraged to focus upon cancer types for which health disparities are particularly well documented including cancers of the breast, gastrointestinal systems, liver, prostate, leukemia, and multiple myeloma. Although studies involving these cancers are strongly encouraged, other cancer types can be included if a disparity is appropriately justified. Basic, behavioral, observational, interventional environmental, translational, clinical, and/or population-based studies in these research areas are appropriate."
- 19. If you have a collaborator on the parent grant who is also known as a CHD expert, will you be able to apply for the Collaborative? You can still apply as long as the parent grant aims do not include a CHD focus. The administrative supplement would add the focus on

- CHD. As described above, please note that the PI must not have any record of CHD experience, and, in contrast, the CHD collaborator must have a demonstrated record of CHD expertise.
- **20.** Will a parent grant with a modular R01 be eligible to apply (in collaboration with disparity specialist) for the Collaborative? Yes, a modular R01 would be eligible to apply, given that it meets the other requirements stated in the PAR (e.g., within scope of parent grant, years of active funding remaining on parent grant is adequate, etc.)
- 21. Will it be possible to have two CHD collaborators in a project supplement? Justifications on the composition of the team, budget, and work efforts will be evaluated. In addition, the contribution of each collaborator will be checked if they are bringing in overlapping areas versus distinct areas of expertise that are essential for the conduct of the aims of the project.
- **22.** Does the Collaborative allow subawards to foreign components? Subawards to other countries are not allowed. The only thing that will be allowed is an international cohort as comparator, as stated in the NOFO. PI and CHD expert must be based in the US.
- 23. How many awards will be supported for FY 2024? NCI anticipates supporting 10 awards in FY 2024.
- 24. I have another opportunity for a supplement on my parent grant, but my Collaborative application is preventing me from submitting it. Can my application be withdrawn from funding consideration? As per NIH policy, at any time, a PI may withdraw an application after submitting it if he or she decides not to pursue funding, or the application has a problem that needs to be addressed for a future receipt date. Please see <u>link</u> for more details.
- 25. When is the earliest start date for an award? The Notice of Award (NoA) is the legal document issued to notify the recipient that an award has been made and that funds may be requested from the designated HHS payment system or office. An NoA is issued for the initial budget period specifying the start date. Earlier submission date does not confer an advantage, as all applications are processed and reviewed on the same timeline leading up to the earliest possible start date of August 1 (as specified in the NOFO). Applicants for both the September and January submission dates are encouraged to plan accordingly. Please see Pre-Award and Award Process for more details.
- **26. My** application was not recommended for funding. Can I resubmit my application? *Yes,* a supplement can be resubmitted for any of the due dates listed in the NOFO. You may submit as a regular submission and not as a revision. All requirements and guidelines for resubmissions are the same as initial applications (e.g., active time left on the parent grant). We strongly suggest that the applicant review and address any reviewer comments and communicate with the parent grant Program Directors, as appropriate. That is, we

recommend that the PI and collaborator work to strengthen the application, as opposed to submitting the same application a second time.