

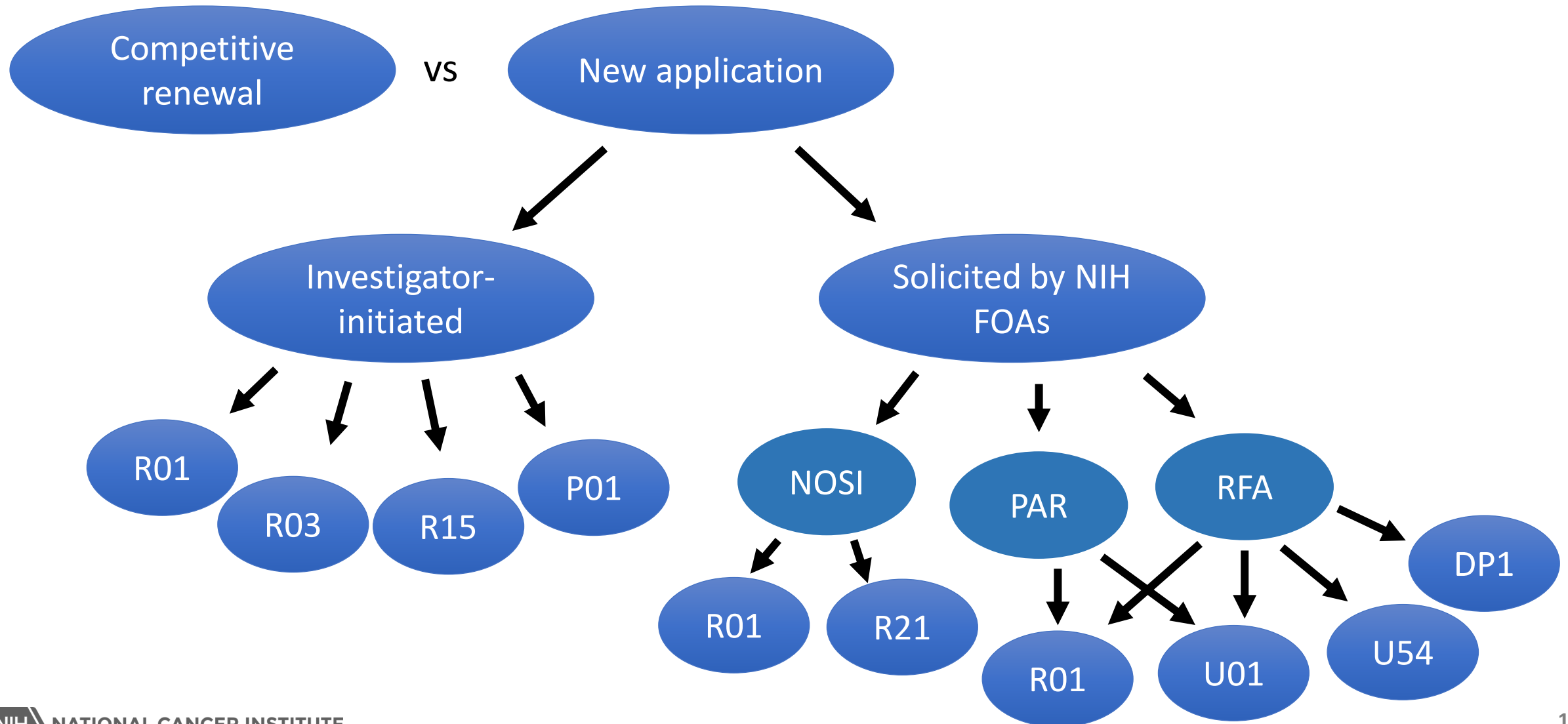
Additional Funding Opportunities:

Options Beyond (or In Addition to) a Competing Renewal

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Division of Cancer Biology

For a new application, options abound!



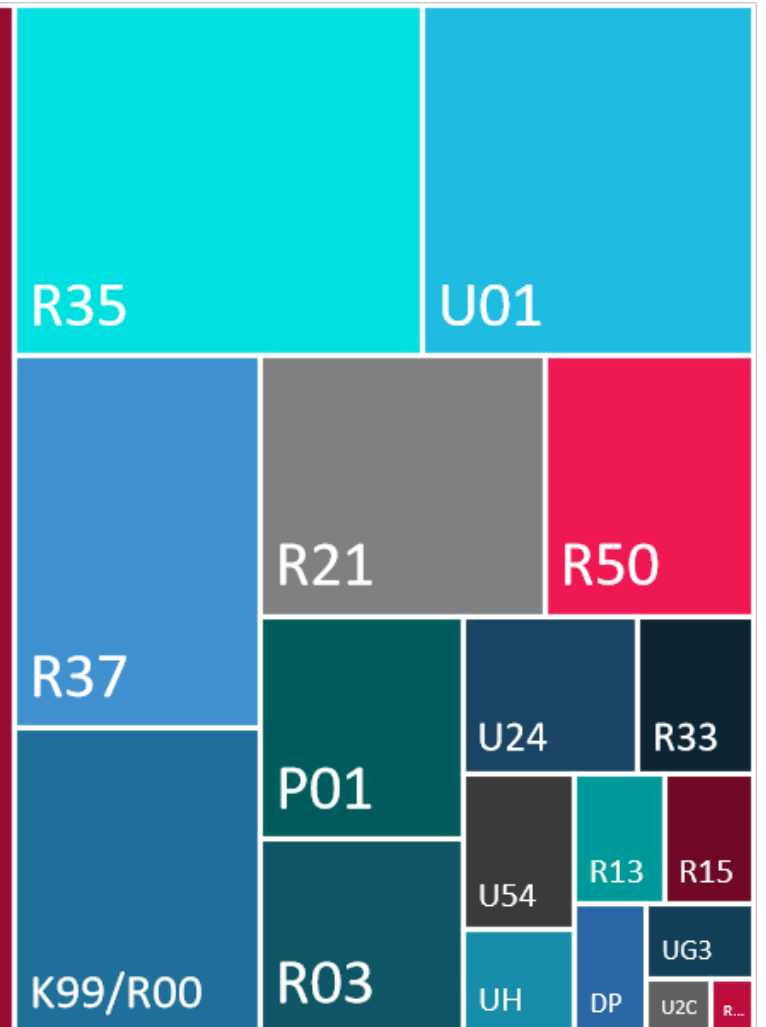
Objectives

- To explain the various types of grant mechanisms you might be considering applying for
- To demystify how the NIH solicits grant applications through NOSIs, PARs, and RFAs
- To provide some pointers about where to look for NIH funding initiatives of interest

Funding mechanisms used by DCB

- Usually 5 years of funding
- \$250k or more Direct per year
- Can be investigator-initiated or submitted in response to an FOA
- Requires substantial prelim data

R01



What about smaller grants?

- **R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant**
 - 2 yrs; combined budget for both years capped at \$275k direct costs
 - For NCI, only in response to NOSI/PAR
 - Often high-risk high reward
 - Preliminary data optional, but desired
 - Not renewable
- **R03 NIH Small Grant**
 - Up to 2 years; up to \$50k direct costs per year
 - For NCI, usually in response to an omnibus R03 FOA
 - Designed for small, self-contained research projects, pilot or feasibility studies, secondary analysis of existing data, or development of research methodology or new technology
 - Not renewable

Myths about the R21 mechanism

- **Myth 1: New or junior investigators should use an R21 to establish a research career or generate preliminary data for an R01**
 - An R21 should be used because it's the appropriate mechanism to address a defined scientific question
 - Should not be used just to generate preliminary data
 - No consideration of career stage in funding decisions
- **Myth 2: R21 is less competitive than an R01; it's just a small R01 without preliminary data**
 - More competitive, lower payline
 - More than 98% of successful R21 applications include some preliminary data.
 - Don't confuse "not required" with "not desired."

Am I ready for a P01?

- **P01 Research Program Project Grant**
- Investigator-initiated, but submitted in response to an IC-specific omnibus PAR for P01s
- Requires permission of NIH Program staff to submit
- Usually 3 or 4 research projects on a common theme and contributing to overall research objectives. Synergy is key.
- Has an Admin Core plus usually one or more Shared Resource Cores
- Budget can be up to \$1.5-2M Direct/year
- PIs, Project Leaders, and Core Leaders all expected to have independent research funding and a track record of leadership
- No payline

Funding Opportunity Title	National Cancer Institute Program Project Applications for the Years 2023, 2024, and 2025 (P01 Clinical Trial Optional)
PAR-23-059	
Activity Code	P01 Research Program Projects

How does the NIH solicit applications?

Investigator-initiated

- Submitted in response to a Parent Program Announcement or omnibus announcement
 - [PA-20-185](#) (Parent R01)
 - [PAR-23-058](#) (Omnibus R03)
 - [PAR-23-059](#) (NCI P01 announcement)
- Often broad announcements with multiple ICs participating

Solicited by NIH FOAs

- Submitted in response to Specific Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs)
 - Notice of Special Interest (NOSI)
 - Program Announcement with Special Receipt, Referral, or Review (PAR)
 - Request for Applications (RFA)

What's a NOSI?

- Notice of Special Interest
- Recently replaced the NIH “Program Announcement”
- Not actually an FOA, but a Notice.
- Describes an IC’s interest in an area
- Points applicant to the right FOA to apply to (often a Parent Announcement)

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): RNA Modifications in Cancer Biology

Notice Number:

NOT-CA-22-003

What's a PAR?

- Program Announcement with Special Receipt, Referral, or Review
- Identifies areas of increased priority or emphasis by NIH or an IC
- Active for multiple years; usually 3 receipt dates/year
- Can be reviewed in regular study sections or Special Emphasis Panel (SEP)
- Does not have specific funds set aside

Funding Opportunity Title

PAR-22-234

The Metastasis Research Network (MetNet): MetNet Research Projects (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Activity Code

U01 Research Project – Cooperative Agreements

PAR Example: Basic Cancer Health Disparities Research Grants

- Collaboration between DCB, DCP, and CRCHD
- Eligibility: Open to any qualified researcher
- Looking for mechanistic studies that investigate biological/genetic basis of cancer health disparities

R01: [PAR-21-322](#)

R21: [PAR-21-323](#)

R03: [PAR-21-324](#)

Funding Opportunity Title

PAR-21-322

Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R01
Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

What's an RFA?

- Request for Applications
- A (usually) one-time call for applications in a specific area of high programmatic interest
- Reviewed in a Special Emphasis Panel (SEP)
- Has set-aside funds
- No payline; paid by funding plan

Funding Opportunity Title

RFA-CA-22-016

Pediatric Immunotherapy Network (PIN) (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Activity Code

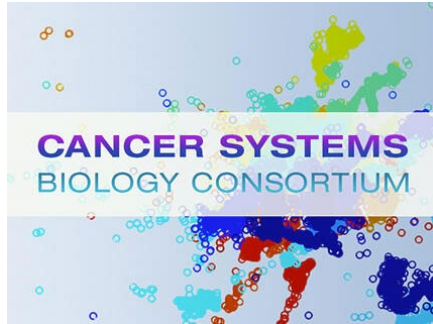
U01 Research Project – Cooperative Agreements

Many RFAs and Some PARs are for Cooperative Agreements (U grants)

Funding Opportunity Title	Pediatric Immunotherapy Network (PIN) (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)
RFA-CA-22-016	
Activity Code	U01 Research Project – Cooperative Agreements

- Substantial involvement from NIH staff
- Significant collaborative aspects (i.e. forming a consortium, regular meetings, sharing of data, protocols, etc.)
- Requires a substantial time commitment from investigators beyond research time
- Many (not all) have a team science approach

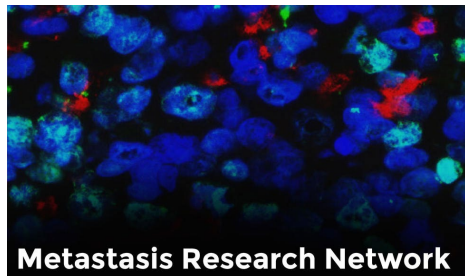
Examples of DCB-supported programs with U grants



Cancer Systems Biology Consortium (CSBC): Using systems biology approaches to advance the understanding of mechanisms that underlie fundamental processes in cancer



Cancer Cell Biology Imaging Research (CCBIR) Program: Bringing together technology developers and cancer biologists for designing and testing imaging technologies at the cellular and organ scales driven by questions in cancer biology



Metastasis Research Network (MetNet): Using systems level approaches to understand the spectrum of complex metastatic processes

The NIH Common Fund also supports team science

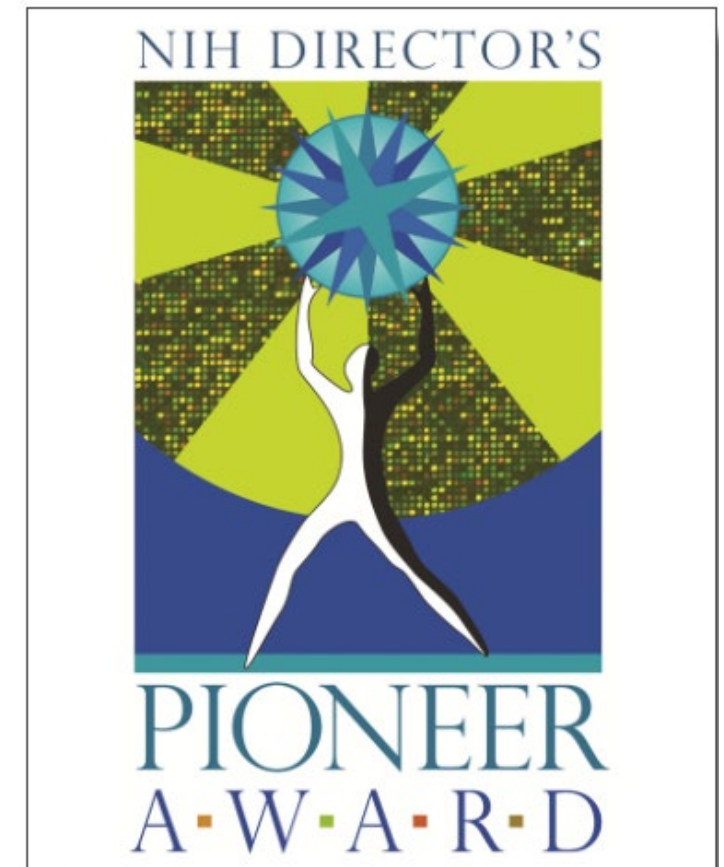


<https://commonfund.nih.gov/>



And High-Risk High Reward Initiatives:

[RFA-RM-22-18](#): NIH Director's Pioneer Award
Program (DP1 Clinical Trial Optional)
CLOSED: Look for new announcement in 2023



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How can I get an early glimpse of future initiatives?

- *Concepts* are initiatives that are still being developed by NIH staff
- NCI concepts are presented to the NCI Board of Scientific Advisors for approval at public meetings that are archived on the NCI website:

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/bsa/bsameetings.htm>

- Approved concepts will likely be released shortly as FOAs

**Cancer Immunoprevention Network
(CIP-Net)**

RFAs: UG3/UH3s and U24 (Clinical Trials Not Allowed)
Co-sponsored by the
Division of Cancer Prevention and the Division of Cancer Biology

New Program for Immunoprevention

NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Altaf Mohammed and Lillian Kuo
Divisions of Cancer Prevention and Biology, NCI

The graphic is a rectangular box with a blue background. The title 'Cancer Immunoprevention Network (CIP-Net)' is in yellow. The text 'RFAs: UG3/UH3s and U24 (Clinical Trials Not Allowed)' is in white. Below it, 'Co-sponsored by the Division of Cancer Prevention and the Division of Cancer Biology' is in white. The phrase 'New Program for Immunoprevention' is in white italics. At the bottom left is the NIH logo and 'NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE' in red. At the bottom right is the names 'Altaf Mohammed and Lillian Kuo' and 'Divisions of Cancer Prevention and Biology, NCI' in white.

So many options— How do I decide?

- Let the science dictate the mechanism
 - How big is the project?
 - What resources does it require?
 - Funds, equipment, collaborations, novel technologies
 - How long will it take to complete the project?
 - How much preliminary data do I have?
- Look into what FOAs are currently available for submission
- Ask Program staff to help you strategize



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