

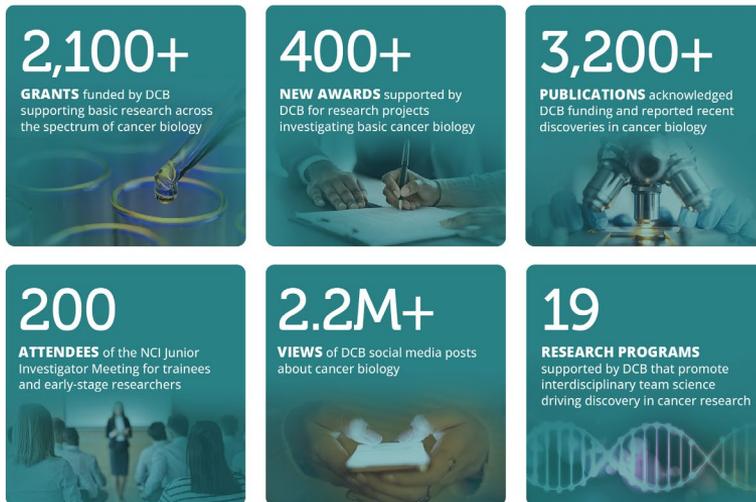
Additional Funding Opportunities: Understanding the Options

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Objectives

- Describe the various types of funding opportunities you might be considering applying for
- Describe how the NIH solicits grant applications and develops various notices of funding opportunities
- Provide some pointers about where to look for NIH funding opportunities of interest

DCB: Advancing Basic Cancer Research



DCB supports basic cancer researchers, including new and early-stage investigators

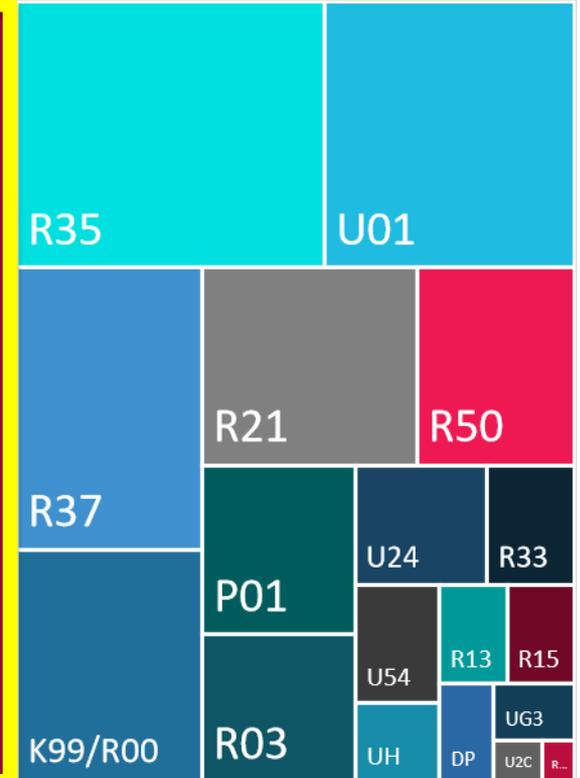


Factoid Credit: Dr. Claire McCarthy

DCB: Funding Mechanisms

- Usually 5 years of funding
- \$250k or more Direct Cost per year
- Can be investigator-initiated or submitted in response to a NOFO
- Requires substantial preliminary data

R01



Many Options: How to Decide?

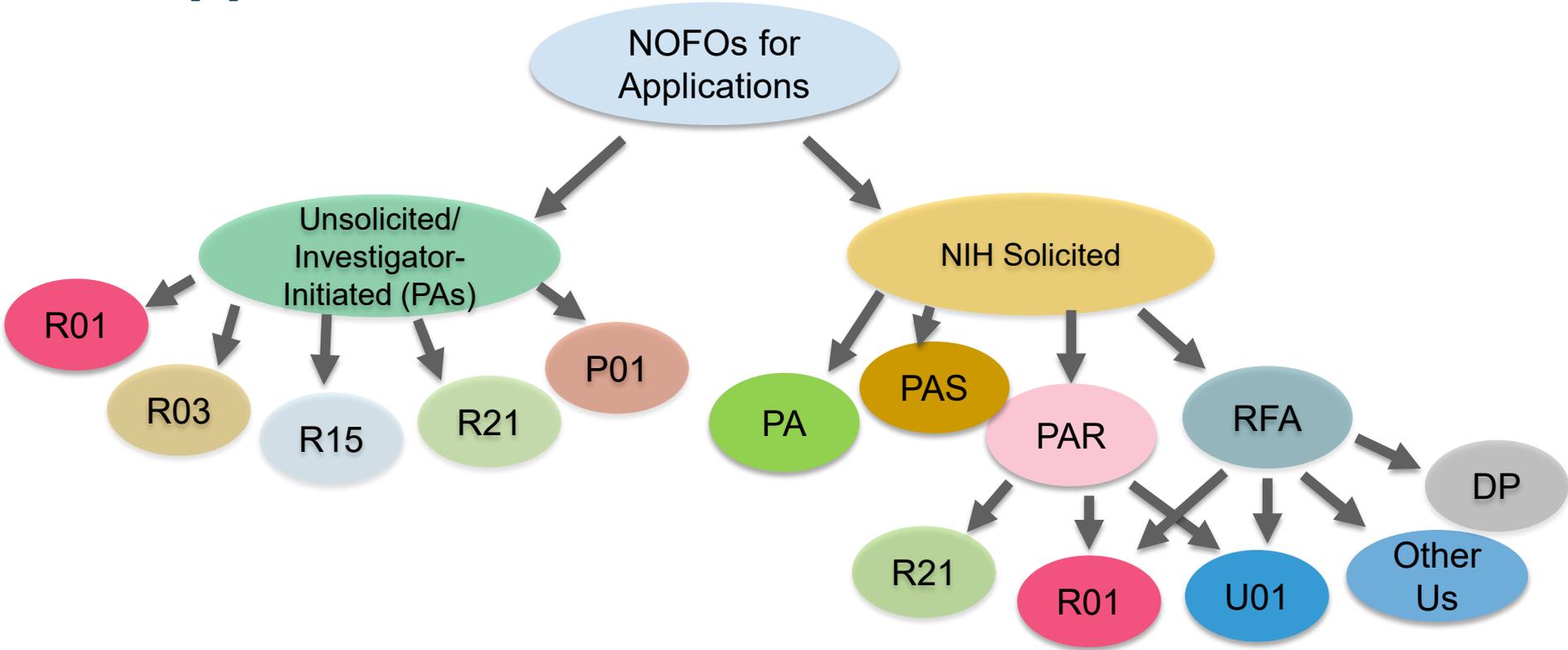
- Let the science dictate the mechanism
 - How big is the project?
 - What resources does it require — funds, equipment, collaborations, new technologies
 - How long will it take to complete the project?
 - Adequacy of strong preliminary data
- Look into currently active NOFOs
- Reach out to your program officer
- Familiarize yourself with agency guidelines

Type 2 for Your Current Award:

Renewal (a.k.a. Competing Continuation)

- Productivity is important
- Talk to staff in your organization's Office of Sponsored Research or equivalent
- Check the latest NCI grants policies
- Pay attention to cost principles
- Discuss with your program officer

New Application



PA = Program Announcement;
PAR = Program Announcement with Special Receipt, Referral, or Review;
PAS = PA with set-aside funds;
RFA = Request for Applications (set-aside funds).

Investigator-Initiated NOFOs

Submitted in response to a **Parent Program Announcement** or **omnibus announcement**

- **R, T, K, F**

(NCI has signed on to the R21 Omnibus!)



- **P01 (PAR-23-059)**



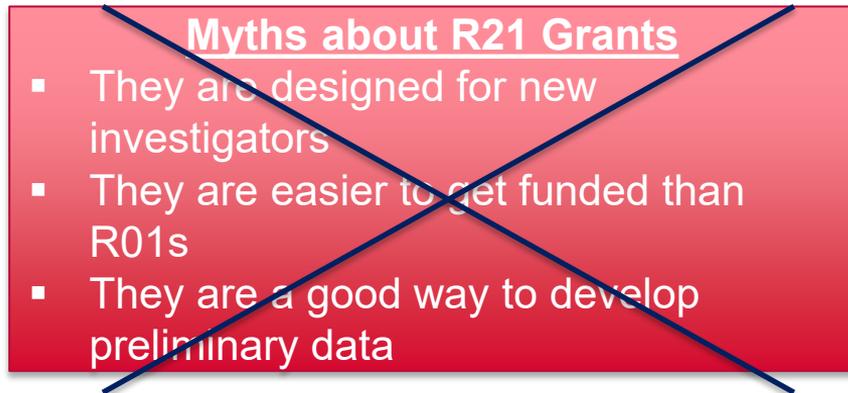
Assessing Suitability for a P01 Application

- **P01 Research Program Project Grant**
- Usually, 3 or 4 research projects on a common theme and contributing to overall research objectives; synergy is the key
- Has an Admin Core plus usually one or more Shared Resource Cores
- PIs, Project Leaders, and Core Leaders all expected to have independent research funding and a track record of leadership
- Reach out to a program officer for guidance

Don't Forget About Smaller Grants

R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant

- 2-year grants
- Often high-risk high reward
- Preliminary data optional, but desired
- Not renewable
- NCI Participation: NOT-CA-25-118



R03 NIH Small Grant

- Up to 2 years; up to \$50K direct costs per year
- For NCI, usually in response to an omnibus R03 NOFO
- 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

Solicited by NIH

An Example: Cooperative Agreement Award

A cooperative agreement (U) is a support mechanism we frequently use for high-priority research areas that require substantial involvement from NIH program or scientific staff.

- Significant collaborative aspects (i.e., regular meetings, sharing of data, protocols, ideas, development of trans-consortium collaborative projects, etc.)
- Requires a substantial time commitment from investigators beyond research time
- A team science approach

What is a PAR?

- PAR = Program Announcement with Special Receipt, Referral, or Review
- Identifies areas of enhanced 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 can be directed to a specialized panel based on NOFO requirement
- Sometimes (but not always) given a percentile in addition to an impact score
- Does not have specific set-aside funds

What is an RFA?

- RFA = Request for Applications
- Generally, a one-time call for applications in a specific area of high programmatic interest
- Reviewed in a Special Emphasis Panel (SEP)
- Funding using set-aside funds and via program-developed funding plan

What's in an RFA?

An Example of a Research Strategy Section

RFA-CA-23-039

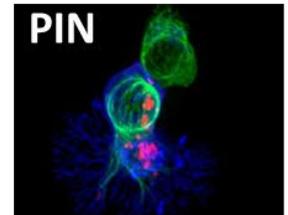
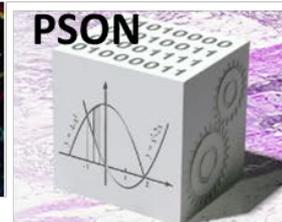
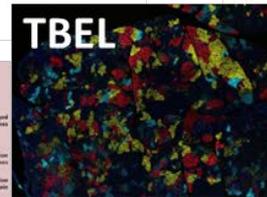
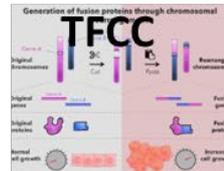
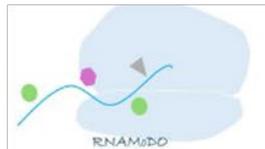
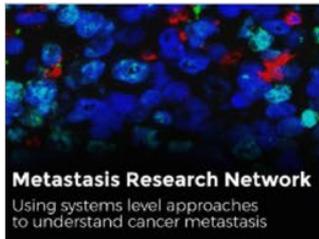
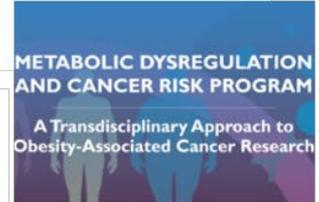
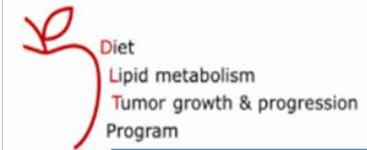
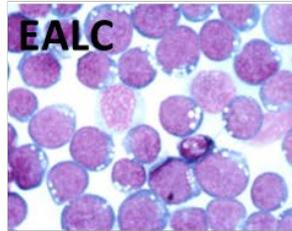
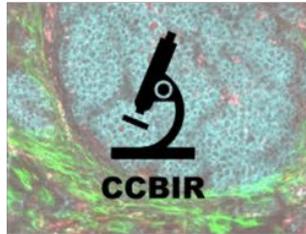
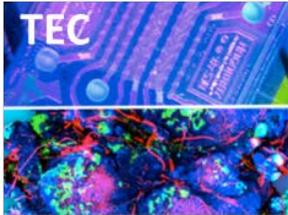
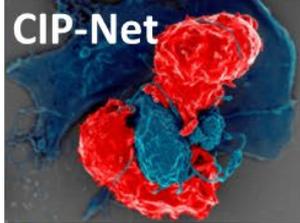
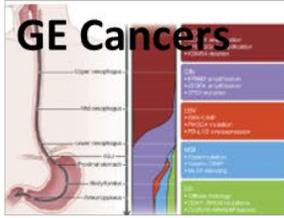


Biospecimen acquisition, processing, and annotation

This functional unit is responsible for identification, collection, preservation, labeling, and quality control of all biospecimens used to construct the proposed atlas and must be founded upon strong biospecimen science. At a minimum, provide the following information:

- A biological and statistical justification for biospecimen collection frequency, sample type, and volume of biospecimens to be acquired that is motivated by the specific atlas use case being proposed by the HTA Research Center. Applicant must specifically address the requirement to include biospecimens from a diversity of patient populations (see *Sub-section D: Addressing Cancer Health Disparities*).
- Evidence of access to a source of human samples and epidemiological and clinical data (i.e., ability to recruit patients and/or a prospective cohort, ongoing clinical trial or other approved and accruing cancer-related study) relevant to the proposed precancer or tumor atlas immediately upon award. Provide information on how samples will be tracked within the Center.
- Information regarding the quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) metrics employed to ensure high sample quality upon collection, after preservation, and upon pre-analytical processing. Include information on how tissue will be processed and/or preserved to facilitate biospecimen characterization activities, including optimization of pre-analytical processing of tissue for multiple imaging and omics assays.
- Because histopathological examination remains important and serves as the gold standard for clinical diagnosis, describe how the biospecimens submitted for characterization will be verified by trained pathologist(s) to ensure that the samples meet the protocol guideline standards. Describe how morphologic information will be preserved for correlation with characterization data.
- If applicable, address how disparate geographical locations of the Center personnel may or may not influence downstream processing and the activities related to sample characterization. Describe and, preferably, demonstrate through presentation of preliminary data strategies to minimize confounding variables during sample collection and processing.

DCB Research Programs



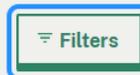
Where to Find NOFO Announcements



Search funding opportunities

[Return to Grants.gov](#)

💡 Tip: Use a minus sign to exclude words or phrases, like "-research"

- Must include all words (ex. transportation AND safety)
- May include any words (ex. transportation OR safety)

Science, Technology, and Other Research and Development × National Institutes of Health × Forecasted × Open ×

Where to Get a Glimpse of Upcoming Initiatives?

- *Concepts* are initiatives that are developed by the NIH staff
- NCI concepts are presented to the NCI leadership and then to the NCAB for approval at public meetings
- Approved concepts will likely be released shortly as NOFOs
- Keep an eye out for Forecasts as a heads up for upcoming NOFOs
- Archived concepts (presented at NCAB) can be viewed at the NCI DEA website



Recent NIH Guide Notices



- Research Security Training Requirements for NIH (**NOT-OD-26-017**)
- NIH Applications Must Be Complete and Compliant with NIH Policy and Application Instructions at Time of Submission (**NOT-OD-26-025**)
- NIH's Implementation of Common Forms for Biographical Sketch and Other Support (**NOT-OD-26-018**)
- NIH Administrative Burden Reduction Effort (**NOT-OD-26-019**)
- Refresher! Updated NIH policy on foreign subaward and foreign collaborations (**NOT-OD-25-104**)
- Refresher! New Application Structure for NIH-Funded International Collaborations (**NOT-OD-25-155**)

Important Considerations

NIH Director's Statement of NIH Priorities



NIH Highlighted Topics





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