Limited Submission Funding Opportunity

National Institutes of Health: Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers (IDDRC) (U54)


FOA#: RFA-HD-15-033

The intent of the IDDRC program is to bring together scientists from various disciplines to work within a Center on the most pressing issues related to Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). Each IDDRC typically supports investigators studying a range of topics in basic and clinical or applied research. This FOA also encourages support of postdoctoral trainees, junior investigators, and investigators new to the IDD field through their access to Core services, as one of the goals of the IDDRC program is to attract scientists to IDD research. NICHD strongly encourages translation of basic research observations into patient-oriented protocols whose ultimate aims are to validate the mechanistic basis of IDD in humans and to develop new approaches for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of IDD.

For purposes of this FOA, it is essential that scientific personnel and institutional resources capable of providing a strong research base in the IDD field are available. There also must be a strong institutional commitment. The commitment may take the form of faculty appointments and/or partial salary support for investigators, purchase of research equipment, or assignment of research space to facilitate collaborative research and interdisciplinary interaction.

Applications responding to this FOA must propose a multi-disciplinary program of IDD research that includes Core Components and Research Components.

Research Projects: The five focus areas are as follows, in no order of priority:

1. **Comprehensive –omic Approaches** Comprehensive –omic approaches (e.g., genomic, transcriptomic, epigenomic, metabolomic) that will markedly increase our understanding of IDD conditions with no known etiology or IDD conditions with complex etiologies to improve diagnosis, and potentially, treatment.

2. **Outcome Measures for Interventions or Treatments**: Development of preclinical or clinical outcome measures or biomarkers for the cognitive and/or behavioral phenotypes of IDD that have the potential to demonstrate a change in response to intervention or treatment.

3. **Multi-modal Treatment Approaches**: Development of bi- or multi-modal treatment approaches for a single IDD condition or a group of IDD conditions or spectrum disorders to demonstrate combinatorial effects to ameliorate a cognitive or behavioral symptom(s) of the condition(s). The interventions may or may not be disease-specific, and the potential to broaden to multiple IDD disorders is encouraged.
4. **Shared Resources Across IDDRCs for Treatment or Assessment**: Development of an assessment battery or clinical intervention for an IDD condition or group of IDD conditions that links more than one funded IDDRC into a network, with sharing of at least one unique core resource from each IDDRC.

**ELIGIBILITY**
The Center Director(s) should have a minimum total commitment of 2.4 person-months to the IDDRC.

**LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION**
Only one application per institution is allowed.

**KEY DATES**
Internal Letter of Intent Due: March 9, 2015 (by midnight)
Sponsor Proposal Due: April 15, 2015

**SUBMITTING A MANDATORY LETTER OF INTENT**
Faculty members interested in this funding opportunity are required to submit a letter of intent (LOI). An LOI is required but not binding.

1. Click [here](#) to access the LOI form. On the Project Summary section, indicate whether you are applying to the AIR-B or the AIR-P program.
2. Name the LOI as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-NIH-IDDRC”, replacing “LastName” with your last name and “First Initial” with your first initial.
3. Click on the Vault ticket: https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6475382_1-t_1PTFwqNX
4. Click the Upload button.
5. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
6. Click the OK button.

Note: You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.

**COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES**
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely (yehiely@northwestern.edu), Director of ORD, for more information.

**CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Fruma Yehiely, Director of ORD, 847-491-1074, yehiely@northwestern.edu
Limited Submissions web site: [http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/](http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/)