



# NIH funding opportunities



Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support

17 Jun 2021 (#17)

[Click on blue [hyperlink](#) for further information]

The NIH funding opportunities listed below are only a **selection** of pre-screened, currently open health funding opportunities for which **South African institutions are eligible to apply**. For a comprehensive selection of NIH funding opportunities, please visit [www.grants.nih.gov](http://www.grants.nih.gov) or [www.sun.ac.za/RDSfunding](http://www.sun.ac.za/RDSfunding) (current & archive).

**Confirm your intent to apply ASAP, but not later than 60 days before the submission date.**

**Tygerberg Campus:** [cdevries@sun.ac.za](mailto:cdevries@sun.ac.za) • **Stellenbosch Campus** [lizelk@sun.ac.za](mailto:lizelk@sun.ac.za)

## Parent Announcements

Parent Announcements (PA) for unsolicited are broad funding opportunity announcements allowing applicants to submit investigator-initiated applications. They are open for up to 3 years and use standard due dates.

- [PA-20-185](#) NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- [PA-20-184](#) Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)
- [PA-20-183](#) Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)
- [PA-20-200](#) NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- [PA-20-195](#) NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- [PA-20-194](#) NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Required)
- [PA-20-196](#) NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)

## Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA)

### 1. Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award Extension Request (Type 4 Clinical Trial Optional)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [PA-21-138](#)

**Type:** R37: 444 Type 4 eSubmission

**Application Due Date:** Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The National Cancer Institute (NCI) Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) (R37) Award provides extended grant support to Early Stage Investigators (ESIs) who qualify for conversion based on receiving a percentile within the NCI payline for established investigators on their R01 applications. By providing longer term support to ESIs who qualify, the NCI intends to offer flexibility and opportunity for creativity and innovation and additional time to successfully launch their careers and to become more established before having to submit renewal applications ([NOT-CA-18-037](#)). The objective of the NCI's ESI MERIT Award is to allow eligible investigators the opportunity to obtain up to 7 years of support in two segments: The initial approved duration of the award; and A second phase, providing an additional two years of support. This funding opportunity announcement is specifically for currently funded NCI ESI MERIT recipients to request the second phase of the initial award.

**Budget:** Budget (modular or categorical as appropriate) that can be requested will be indicated on the penultimate year Notice of Award. Questions about the budget cap should be directed to the NCI Grants Management Specialist (GMS) assigned to the current award. Project period is limited to 2 years.

### 2. NIDA Animal Genomics Program (U01 – Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [PAR-21-244](#)

**Type:** U01

**Application Due Date:** March 02, 2022; July 26, 2022; March 02, 2023; July 26, 2023; March 04, 2024. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of the NIDA Animal Genetics Program is to identify genetic, genomic, and molecular (epi)genetic variants that underlie: 1. Phenotypes associated with addictive behaviors and/or vulnerability to distinct stages along the substance use disorder (SUD) trajectory (e.g. initial/acute use, escalation of use, acquisition of tolerance, dependence, uncontrolled use, abstinence and relapse or recovery); 2. Behaviors associated with SUD (e.g. impulsivity, novelty seeking, delayed discounting, and other genetically-associated

phenotypes); and 3. Comorbidities that demonstrate genetic correlations with phenotypes and behaviors linked with SUD (e.g. anxiety, stress, poor maternal care, social defeat, and other paradigms). Applications may examine any type of variant, including single nucleotide variants (SNVs), indels, large and small structural variants, and all types of mobile DNA. NIDA encourages applications that take genomics, multi-omics, and/or data-based approaches that integrate multi-level 'omics data, delineate gene networks, and/or uncover the function of known or newly discovered genetic or epigenetic variants. NIDA expects these studies to uncover novel mechanisms that contribute to SUD and facilitate the discovery of targets for intervention and guide the development of individualized therapeutics to treat these different aspects of SUD.

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 5 years.

### 3. High Resolution Mapping of Biomolecules in Brain Cells in Aging and Alzheimer's Disease (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-AG-22-019](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** October 28, 2021. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will use the R01 funding mechanism to support discrete, specified, and circumscribed projects on novel molecular imaging approaches to establish high-resolution mapping of biomolecules in brain cells and regions during the course of aging and Alzheimer's disease (AD).

**Budget:** NIA intends to commit \$4.8 million in FY 2022 to fund 6-8 awards. The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Application budgets need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project and should be limited to no more than \$500,000 in direct costs per year. The maximum project period is 5 years.

### 4. Promoting Bunyavirales Basic Science Research (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-AI-21-046](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** October 22, 2021. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to stimulate fundamental research of human disease-causing pathogens in the Bunyvirales order by supporting projects studying vector competence, virology, pathogenesis, and immunity.

**Budget:** NIAD intends to commit \$5 million in FY 2022 to fund 10 to 14 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

### 5. BRAIN Initiative: New Technologies and Novel Approaches for Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-NS-21-026](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** October 29, 2021, May 02, 2022, October 28, 2022, May 01, 2023, October 27, 2023. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** Understanding the dynamic activity of brain circuits is central to the NIH BRAIN Initiative. This FOA seeks applications for proof-of-concept testing and development of new technologies and novel approaches for recording and modulation (including various modalities for stimulation/activation, inhibition and manipulation) of cells (i.e., neuronal and non-neuronal) and networks to enable transformative understanding of dynamic signaling in the central nervous system (CNS). This FOA seeks exceptionally creative approaches to address major challenges associated with recording and modulating CNS activity, at or near cellular resolution, at multiple spatial and/or temporal scales, in any region and throughout the entire depth of the brain. It is expected that the proposed research may be high-risk, but if successful, could profoundly change the course of neuroscience research. Proposed technologies should be compatible with experiments in behaving animals, validated under in vivo experimental conditions, and capable of reducing major barriers to conducting neurobiological experiments and making new discoveries about the CNS. Technologies may engage diverse types of signaling beyond neuronal electrical activity such as optical, magnetic, acoustic and/or genetic recording/manipulation. Applications that seek to integrate multiple approaches are encouraged. If suitable, applications are expected to integrate appropriate domains of expertise, including biological, chemical and physical sciences, engineering, computational modeling and statistical analysis.

**Budget:** Issuing IC and partner [components](#) intend to commit an estimated total of \$10,000,000 per year to fund 15-20 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 3 years.

### 6. BRAIN Initiative: Optimization of Transformative Technologies for Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (U01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-NS-21-027](#)

**Type:** U01

**Application Due Date:** October 29, 2021; May 02, 2022; October 28, 2022; May 01, 2023; October 27, 2023. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** Understanding the dynamic activity of neural circuits is central to the NIH BRAIN Initiative. The invention, proof-of-concept investigation, and optimization of new technologies through iterative feedback from end users are key components of the BRAIN Initiative. This FOA seeks applications to optimize existing or emerging technologies through iterative testing with end users. The technologies and approaches should have potential to address major challenges associated with recording and modulation (including various modalities for stimulation/activation, inhibition and manipulation) of cells (i.e., neuronal and non-neuronal) and networks to enable transformative understanding of dynamic signaling in the central nervous system (CNS). These technologies and approaches should have previously demonstrated their transformative potential through initial proof-of-concept testing and are now ready for accelerated refinement. In conjunction, the manufacturing techniques should be scalable towards sustainable, broad dissemination and user-friendly incorporation into regular neuroscience research. Proposed technologies should be compatible with experiments in behaving animals, validated under in vivo experimental conditions, and capable of reducing major barriers to conducting neurobiological experiments and making new discoveries about

the CNS. Technologies may engage diverse types of signaling beyond neuronal electrical activity such as optical, electrical, magnetic, acoustic or genetic recording/manipulation. Applications that seek to integrate multiple approaches are encouraged. If suitable, applications are expected to integrate appropriate domains of expertise, including biological, chemical and physical sciences, engineering, computational modeling and statistical analysis.

**Budget:** Issuing IC and partner [components](#) intend to commit an estimated total of \$10,000,000 to fund 15-20 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 4 years.

#### 7. HEAL Initiative: Planning Studies for Initial Analgesic Development [Small Molecules and Biologics] (R61 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-NS-21-029](#)

**Type:** R61

**Application Due Date:** October 13, 2021; June 09, 2022, October 11, 2022, June 09, 2023, October 10, 2023. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The goal of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to solicit Initial Analgesic Development R61 applications that propose 2-year exploratory/planning awards that are expected to enable a future application for RFA-NS-21-015 HEAL Initiative: Team Research - for Initial Translational Efforts in Non-addictive Analgesic Development [Small Molecules and Biologics] (U19 Clinical Trial Not Allowed). Thus, the limited scope of aims and approach of these applications are expected to establish a strong research team, feasibility, validity, or other technically qualifying results that support, enable, and/or lay the groundwork for a subsequent Team Research U19 application. These R61 awards will support the building of a research team to collect initial data and recruit additional collaborators. The application must include a plan for developing a strong research team, as well as a strategy to collect preliminary data linking putative therapeutic targets to the proposed pain indication and supporting the hypothesis that altering target activity will produce desirable outcomes for the disease.

**Budget:** NIH intends to fund an estimate of up to 6 awards for fiscal year 2021. Future year number of awards and funding amounts will depend on annual appropriations. The direct costs for each year of the project may not exceed \$500,000, including consortium costs. 2 years

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