NCI-supported Cancer Centers and Core Facilities

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Program Director, Office of Cancer Centers
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Outline

• Mission of the Cancer Center Program
• P30 Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG)
  – History and Purpose
  – Center Types, Designation, and Structure
• NCI Cancer Centers vision for core facilities
  – Cores/Shared Resources Policies
  – Peer Review of Shared Resources
• NCI Cancer Center Cores
• Future of NCI Cores
  – Funding Opportunity Announcement PAR-386-13
"To foster excellence in research across a broad spectrum of scientific and medical concerns relevant to cancer" and "to extend the benefits of research to patients, their families, and the general public through clinical care, outreach, and education."

Guidelines for the Cancer Center Support Grant, October 2010
• 1971 National Cancer Act and 1974 Amendments
  – Formally established the NCI Cancer Centers Program
    • Enhancement and enlargement of existing centers
    • Establishment of new centers
    • Establishment of the P30 core grant funding mechanism
    • Development of programmatic guidelines (and now FOA)
    • Establishment of the Cancer Centers Branch
      (currently Office of Cancer Centers)
• Providing organizational focus and structure
• Stimulating, organizing, and coordinating the competitive cancer research base into formalized transdisciplinary Research Programs
• Providing access to centralized technologies, services, and scientific consultation that support cancer research
  – Enhancing research productivity
  – Providing foci for scientific interaction
  – Ensuring stability, reliability, consistency, quality control
Types of NCI-designated Cancer Centers

- **Designations**
  - **41 Comprehensive Centers**
    - Reasonable depth/breadth in basic, clinical, population sciences
    - Strong transdisciplinary research bridging those areas
    - Service to the catchment area via research conducted
    - Training and education of biomedical
  - **27 Cancer Centers**
    - Primary focus in basic, clinical or population research or a combination of these areas

- **Organizational Structures**
  - Free-standing
  - Matrix
  - Consortia
The Six Essential Characteristics

• A critical mass of cancer focused research, organized into cohesive, high quality research programs
• Strong institutional commitment
• A director with appropriate scientific and administrative qualifications and authorities
• Strong transdisciplinary collaborations within and between research programs
• Appropriate research, clinical, and administrative facilities
• Organizational capabilities that maximize productivity and take advantage of institutional strengths
Structure of a Cancer Center

Center Director

Deputy Director

AD, Basic Sciences
- Leaders, Basic Research Programs

AD, Clinical Sciences
- Leaders, Clinical Programs

AD, Administration
- Director, Clinical Trials Office

AD, Population Sciences
- Leaders, Pop. Sci. Programs

AD, Shared Resources

Directors, Shared Resources
General Policies Relevant to CCSG-supported Shared Resources

• Types of Resources
  – No restrictions under guidelines; center proposes those it wishes to have funded
  – Resources may be center- or institutionally-managed

• Users
  – Priority given to cancer center members with peer-reviewed funded cancer research projects
  – Other researchers at discretion of center director

• Usage
  – Primary focus is on shared resources serving multiple members, but there are some exceptions
General Budget Policies Relevant to CCSG-supported Shared Resources

- CCSG supports ‘fixed’ costs associated with key personnel and minimal supplies
- Varies according to number of users, type of resource, and other sources of support, including chargebacks
- For institutionally managed resources, should be proportional to use by cancer center members
- Not intended to support:
  - Highly specialized projects specific to 1 or 2 investigators
  - Shortfalls in other funding mechanisms
  - Services normally provided by the institution
Peer Review of CCSG-supported Shared Resources

- Quality of the science supported
- Importance of the resource to the science
- Provision of services to multiple users
- Quality and cost-effectiveness of service
- Qualifications of staff
- Extent of compliance with national/other standards
- If an institutional shared resource
  - Accessibility to members
  - Benefits to members
  - Participation by center in facility planning and oversight
## CCSG Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Awarded (Millions)</strong></td>
<td>271.5</td>
<td>257.7</td>
<td>258.2</td>
<td>244.8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong># of Centers</strong></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shared Resources % of Total</strong></td>
<td>55</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>49</td>
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NCI Supported Shared Resources for Fiscal Year 2013

• Total Cores Supported – 688
• Average Cores per Cancer Center ~ 10
• Max number per Center – 23
• Min number per Center - 6
Categories of Cores/Shared Resources at a NCI-Designated Cancer Center

- Laboratory Sciences
- Laboratory Support
- Epidemiology, Cancer Control
- Clinical Research
- Biostatistics
- Informatics
- Miscellaneous
Distribution of Core Funds

- Laboratory Science: 52%
- Laboratory Support: 3%
- Clinical Research: 23%
- Biostatistics: 12%
- Epidemiology, Cancer Control: 5%
- Informatics: 5%
- Misc & Unknown: 0%

2011
Distribution of Core Funds

- Laboratory Science: 50%
- Laboratory Support: 1%
- Epidemiology, Cancer Control: 4%
- Clinical Research: 14%
- Biostatistics: 15%
- Informatics: 9%
- Misc & Unknown: 7%
Cancer Centers in the USA
### Funding Opportunity Announcement

**PAR-13-386**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Part 1. Overview Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participating Organization(s)</th>
<th>National Institutes of Health (NIH)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Components of Participating Organizations</td>
<td>National Cancer Institute (NCI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Opportunity Title</td>
<td>Cancer Center Support Grants (CCSGs) for NCI-designated Cancer Centers (P30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity Code</td>
<td>P30 Center Core Grants</td>
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**Announcement Type**

- Release of PAR-13-386

**Related Notices**

- **June 4, 2014** - Notice NOT-CA-14-067 provides instructions in Section II.3 regarding applications that are assembled the same.
- **November 26, 2013** - Notice NOT-CA-14-006. Notice of Transition to Research and Related Other Project Information (Clinical Protocol and Data Management), Research and Related Other Project Information (Research Programs), and PMIS 358 Research Plan (Research Programs).

**Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number**

PAR-13-386

**Companion Funding Opportunity**

- None

**Number of Applications**

Only one application per institution is allowed as described in Section II.3. Additional information is included.

**Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number(s)**

03.397

**Funding Opportunity Purpose**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications for P30 Cancer Center Support Grants (CCSGs) for NCI-designated Cancer Centers. CCSGs support two types of cancer centers: 1) Comprehensive Cancer Centers, which demonstrate outstanding depth and breadth of research activities in each of these major areas: basic laboratory, clinical, and prevention, control and population-based research, and which have substantial translational research that bridges these scientific areas; and 2) Cancer Centers, which are primarily focused on basic laboratory, clinical, and prevention, control, and population-based research or some combination of these three areas. The purpose of both types of NCI-designated Cancer Centers is to capitalize on all institutional cancer research capabilities, integrating research programs in laboratory, clinical, and population research into a single interdisciplinary research enterprise across all institutional boundaries. Cancer Centers supported through this FOA are expected to serve as major sources of discovery of new targets of cancer and of development of more effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis, and therapy; to contribute significantly to the development of shared resources that support research; to collaborate and coordinate their research efforts with other NCI-funded programs and investigators; and to disseminate research findings for the benefit of the community.

**Key Dates**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Posted Date</th>
<th>November 7, 2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>Open Date (Earliest)</td>
<td>December 25, 2013</td>
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NIH/NCI’s Response to the need for Core Development

- Developmental Funds
  - Development of new Shared Resource when there is a recognized need.
  - Increase access to state-of-the-art technologies or other specialized shared services through purchase of peer-reviewed shared services from other NCI-designated Cancer Centers.
Center to Center Core Sharing

Benefits

• Access to state-of-the-art technology with expert staff and consultation services
• Development of standard operating procedures (SOPs)
• Share rather than duplicate reduces cost
• Equalizes the research field for all centers (large and small)
• Increases collaborations and/or co-publications
Issues

• Intellectual Property
  – Non-royalty Academic License Agreement
  – Memorandum of Agreement (invention sharing)

• Fees
  – Need to be negotiated

• Quality Assurance of the Core Facility

• Protection of Patient Information
Thank you!

http://cancercenters.cancer.gov/
http://cancercenters.cancer.gov/Center/SharedResource

Questions?