CHRP Basic Biomedical Discovery Initiative 2021

Applicant Questions and CHRP Responses

Revised 14July2021

1. **What should I say in my New Investigator Statement?** IMPORTANT: Although we typically allocate a full page for applicants who are "new investigators" (see #6 above) to describe how they qualify as such and to provide their history of grant funding as PI, this year we would prefer that new investigators simply state the following on the allotted page: *I qualify as a new investigator because I have not previously received a substantial NIH or other independent research award as PI, nor have I received a non-training award as PI from CHRP or any other RGPO funding program.* Applicants who would like to provide more information are welcome to do so, but the reviewers will be informed of this instruction. (12July2021)

2. **What is the CHRP definition of a new or early stage investigator?** An applicant who has NOT previously received a substantial NIH independent research award as PI/PD, or any CHRP/RGPO award as PI, is eligible to apply for this CHRP funding opportunity as a new investigator. (16June2021)

3. **Would a large grant from a non-NIH federal funder make one ineligible to apply as a new investigator?** Although non-NIH funders are not specified in the guidance, yes, receipt of a large research grant from a non-NIH federal funder would deem the PI no longer a new investigator. (16June2021)

4. **Can I receive this grant as a post-doc, with a PI exception letter from my institution?** Yes, with the letter noting that PI status would be conferred at the time of award. University of California policy defines "Principal Investigator (PI) Status" as the eligibility to submit proposals for research, training, or public service contracts or grants to extramural agencies, subject to approval of the appropriate department chair/Organized Research Unit (ORU) director or their appointed delegate. Institutions outside the UC system may have different rules; CHRP will defer to the governing policy at the applicant institution. (16June2021; revised 14July, see https://www.ucop.edu/research-policy-analysis-coordination/resources-tools/contract-and-grant-manual/index.html)

5. **In past years, the Research Plan was required to have a section on Research Benefits to California, is this still an expected component to be included in applications?** No, we have removed that section. (14July2021)

6. **Can any of the funds go out of the country?** Although CHRP does not have an explicit rule against international collaborators per se, out-of-state sub-contracts and collaborations are generally not allowed – please contact a program officer to discuss your case, as exceptions may be considered if scientifically justifiable. (16June2021)

7. **Are letters of support or collaboration allowed?** Yes, allowed and encouraged; they can be added as part of the appendix. (16June2021)

8. **Can the PI serve as Signing Official and Fiscal Contact?** The PI can <u>never</u> be the signing official in SmartSimple, and we strongly discourage applicant PIs from acting as the fiscal contact in SmartSimple; please check with your institution for further requirements they may have in this regard. (16June2021)

9. **What are "assurances and documentation links"?** These items in the webinar slides refer to the SmartSimple *assurances* tab, containing information about IRB and IACUC assurances, and the *documentation* tab, with additional templates for completion and upload. (16June2021)

10. **Do the character limits include spaces?** Yes. (27April2021)

11. **I can't edit the header (PI name, institution, project title), and I am on a Mac in Microsoft Word, please advise?** We failed to replicate this problem; please consult your IT person, and if that fails then discuss with the program officer at CHRP. (14July2021)