



Questions and Answers from June 30 through July 7

FY 2017-2018 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)
James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program (King)
Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program (Bankhead-Coley)

The following questions were submitted to the Biomedical Research Section at Research@flhealth.gov. When possible, the questions were edited to remove any information specific to an individual's unique research project. Questions have also been edited to make them as relevant to the general pool of applicants when possible. A second round of questions and answers will be posted to the Program website by July 21.

- 1. I am interested in applying for the King Biomedical Research Program funding opportunity. I am a full-time faculty member at [an eligible Florida-based institution]. I would like to include two co-investigators on the grant who are faculty at [an out-of-state research institution] whom I collaborate with on [X]. Would out of state faculty, receiving a part of the research budget, be allowable on the grant? I want to make sure this does not impact eligibility.**

Please refer to page 19 of the FOA for more information regarding the requirement that work occur in Florida. The relevant section is copied and pasted below.

Work Must Occur in Florida:

Activities funded through this competition must occur in Florida. All work (effort) must occur and funds must be spent in Florida at the applicant organization and any collaborating entities. However, the Department may make exceptions if the service is essential and only provided outside Florida, and if the amount is less than 10 percent of the requested amount.

The Principal Investigator must provide justification describing how the out of state work is related and essential to the project and why the service can only be provided outside of Florida. If awarded, the Department reserves the right to: 1) require further justification, 2) reject any disallowed costs, and 3) request new/revised budgets as it deems necessary.

- 2. Florida is among the states with the highest mortality rates from nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) lung infections. There is strong correlation between NTM-related mortality and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic respiratory failure, bronchiectasis, and tobacco use. There is a lack of effective antibiotics for treatment of NTM infections. Would the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program support Discovery Research on new antibiotics treatment for NTM infections?**

Grant applications must be responsive to one of the research priorities listed in this Funding Opportunity Announcement. All applications to the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program, regardless of research priority, must indicate a relationship to at least one of the following: lung cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer, melanoma, or tobacco-related diseases. If there is a connection between your research topic and tobacco use, then you must make this explicit in your application. This in no way guarantees funding, but it makes the relationship as clear as possible.

- 3. Is it okay to submit a proposal that has a substantial overlap with a submitted NIH grant as long as only one is accepted if both are funded?**

Yes.

- 4. Is it permissible to have a consultant that is not a Florida resident? Specifically, we have someone in mind that could help us with this program but they are faculty at [out-of-state research institution].**

Please see the answer to question number 1.

- 5. Is it permissible to be a principal investigator on one grant and a coinvestigator on another one or two? There would be no overlap with any of these proposals.**

Yes, so long as you do not exceed 100% effort/commitment.

- 6. Can this program be used to generate preliminary data to apply for a larger multicenter federally funded grant?**

Yes, however, if you are funded at a later date for a federally funded grant that is for substantively similar research, then you not be allowed to keep both funding sources. You will need to inform the Department immediately if you are awarded federal funding, and decide which funding source you will maintain and which you will relinquish.

- 7. Hi, I was interested in applying for this grant with a pancreatic cancer trial concept. Can you confirm that the grant is only available for studies involving lung, breast, prostate, colon cancer, or melanoma?**

Grant applications must be responsive to one of the research priorities listed in this Funding Opportunity Announcement. All applications, regardless of research priority, must indicate a relationship to at least one of the following: lung cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer, or melanoma. Applications submitted to the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program have the additional option of tobacco-related diseases. If the application involves a different cancer than the specific cancers listed, the application must also include justification as to how and why the proposal is linked to at least one of the specific cancers listed.

- 8. I wanted to ask if the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program funding opportunities for FY 2017-2018 are truly limited to only certain cancer types. My concern arises from this text on page 4 of 48 in the document: All applications, regardless of research priority, must indicate a relationship to at least one of the following: lung cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer, or melanoma. Can you confirm whether projects focused on transplantation for other cancers (e.g. leukemia, lymphoma, etc.) would be considered?**

Please see the answer to question number 7.

- 9. Do you consider chronic venous insufficiency to be a cardiovascular disease?**

The Department does not typically provide this type of feedback in the pre-application stage. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine whether their research is related to the types of research outlined in the FOA.

- 10. I understand that the announcement states that the work and effort for these projects must take place within the state of Florida, with few exceptions. We have an investigator that will be out of state but is necessary to the project. Can this person be listed as a Co-I on the project?**

Please see the answer to question number 1.

- 11. For the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program, Funding Opportunity Announcement FY 2017-2018, can an individual be a PI on two different BC grants, if they are different mechanisms? For example, can an individual be**

a PI on a Research Infrastructure proposal and a Discovery Science proposal?

No. Researchers can only submit one application per funding program.

12. I read these detailed FOAs and cannot decide if these opportunities are limited submissions. May more than one faculty member apply to each grant opportunity?

Researchers can only submit one application per funding program. If seeking funding from both the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program, and the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program, the applications must be for different projects. There is, however, no limit to the number of faculty members from a single institution that may apply for funding through either the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program or the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program.

13. I am writing to inquire about the eligibility of our small pharmaceutical company in applying for the FY 2017-2018 Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program and the FY 2017-2018 James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program Funding Opportunities. Both announcements claim that eligibility for funding is available to “any university or established research institute in Florida.” We are a small private start-up company located in Miami. While we are not part of the University of Miami, we are currently located in the University of Miami Life Sciences and Technology Park (incubator space owned by the University). We are currently developing small-molecule inhibitors for various types of cancer. In parallel, we are performing investigational research on various types of cancer to determine which cancers might be susceptible to our inhibitors. Please let us know if our company is considered an “established research institute in Florida.”

No, small businesses are not eligible to serve in the role of lead institution. Please see page 14 in both the Bankhead-Coley FOA and the James and Esther King FOA: “To be eligible as a Corresponding Principal Investigator at an eligible institution, the individual must be a full-time faculty member by the time the application is submitted.” Researchers at small business entities are not eligible to serve as the Corresponding Principal Investigator (CPI), but may serve as collaborators. Likewise, a small business cannot serve as the lead institution, but may serve as a collaborating entity.

14. If you are substantially changing a grant proposal to where it is quite different than the first proposal, but still includes some overlap with previous submission, then is it okay to submit as a new proposal rather than as a resubmission?

This would still be considered a resubmission. Please follow the instructions in the online application regarding responses to peer reviewer comments in resubmitted applications. You may also comment on how this application differs from the original application in this section.

15. I could not find some of the format specifications for the research strategy/plan section, including page limits, margins, etc. Would you please provide some information on this regard?

The page/character limits for each item in Table 2 are listed below. Please keep in mind, some of these items are optional. Refer to the second column in Table 2 in the FOA for more information on each of these components.

General Project Information: No page/character limits. This section consists of simple questions and answers.

General Audience Abstract: 3,500 characters

Scientific Abstract: 2,100 characters

Health Impact: 3,500 characters

Tobacco Relatedness: 2,100 characters

Collaborator Information: No page/character limits.

Biographical Sketch: Follows NIH format. Not to exceed 5 pages.

Consultants: No page/character limits.

Research/Project Plan: Specific Aims (2,100 characters), Research Strategy (68,000

characters), Facilities and Other Resources (3,500 characters).

Human Subjects: No page/character limit. This is a downloadable form.

Vertebrate Animals: No page/character limit. This is a downloadable form.

Recombinant DNA: No page/character limit. This is a downloadable form.

Survey Instruments: No page/character limit. Simply upload any survey instruments

used to conduct your research.

Table, Image or Graph: No page/character limit. Simply upload any tables, images, and

graphs you wish include in your application.

Budget Template: No page/character limit. This is a simple downloadable template.

Letters of Support: No page/character limit.

Federal Agency Peer Review Summary Statement: No page/character limit.

Reportable Financial Interests: No page/character limits. This is a simple downloadable form.