



Questions and Answers

FY 2019-2020 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program
James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program
Live Like Bella Pediatric Cancer Research Initiative

1. Where can I find the links to the online application intake system?

The links to all of our application intake sites can be found at:

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/research/funding-opportunity-announcements/index.html>.

2. I have a research project that I would like to submit to the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research program, but it is not directly related to cancer. Would I still be eligible to apply?

The Department does not provide feedback on the goodness of fit of any potential research proposal with any of our grant funding programs. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine whether their research project is a good fit based upon the guidelines presented in the funding opportunity announcement. That being said, applications are rated by our peer reviewers on how closely their project fits the program goals. Since the major focus of the Bankhead-Coley program is cancer research, you would need to state in your application how your research is related to the prevention and treatment of cancer.

3. I am preparing to resubmit the proposal I submitted during the last funding cycle and I have a question about the peer review results I received. In one document the scores I received were very high, but in the second document my overall impact score fell by several points. What does this mean?

You received two peer review reports because your application scored well enough in the first round of peer review to progress to the panel review stage. It is not unusual for reviewers at the panel stage to reevaluate and reconsider the original scores that were assigned to a proposal during the initial stage of peer review. Sometimes this means that the overall score goes up. In other cases, it means that the overall score goes down. It appears that that is what happened with your proposal.

4. Can I submit as PI a Discovery Science grant as well as a High risk grant in the same cycle through Bankhead-Coley?

As stated in the FOA, “Applicants cannot submit: Two applications to BC ; two applications to JK; two applications to LLB; the same or substantively similar application to LLB, BC, and JK.” For detailed information regarding application overlap limits, please see page 17 of the funding opportunity announcement.

5. I am writing to ask whether the high risk-high reward discovery science award requires preliminary data or if instead can be hypothesis driven similarly to the DoD Idea Award.

The High-Risk High Reward Discovery Science mechanism, and the High-Risk High-Reward Clinical Research mechanism are intended for highly innovative pilot projects in each of these areas. As such, applicants may not have much in the way of preliminary data, but may have an exceptionally compelling idea that they would like to explore at a smaller scale than a classic Discovery Science or Clinical Research grant.

6. Would a R21 grant without percentile (score of 29) be considered for the Bridge funding?

To be eligible, applicants must have submitted a multi-year, investigator-initiated research application to a federal agency (such as an NIH R type). The applicant must have received a peer review summary statement indicating high scientific merit. For purposes of this competition, “high scientific merit” is a percentile ranking within five percentile points of the respective federal funding stream’s payline or a score of 2 or better for federal funding streams that do not provide a percentile rank with peer review results.

7. For the LOI, should I mention that this is a resubmission for a previously reviewed application in 2018? If yes, what are the required information to report?

Yes. There is a question in the LOI that asks whether the application you intend to submit was submitted in a prior cycle but not funded. Answer “Yes” here. The next question in the LOI asks what has been updated or changed since the last time you submitted this application. There is a text box for your response. Please indicate what you have changed and address any criticisms raised by peer reviewers. Your response is limited to 3,500 characters, including spaces.

8. How can I request that a reviewer from my previously submitted proposal not be included in the review of my resubmitted proposal?

There is a space in the application where you can indicate reviewers that you would like to exclude from the review of your application during this cycle. Please indicate the reviewer number in this section.

9. Must the person submitting the application be the corresponding PI? Can a Co-PI register on PeerNet to submit our grant application?

Yes, it is fine for the Co-PI to register and submit the grant application on behalf of the Corresponding Principal Investigator. Once they register and start the LOI they should fill in the Corresponding PI's information in Section 1 of the LOI where we collect information about the Corresponding Principal Investigator.

10. For Bridge grant applications, do applicants have to submit the exact application components as outlined in Table 2 of the Funding Opportunity Announcement which includes the Research/Project Plan? If yes, what would be the page limit?

Yes, Table 2 of the funding opportunity announcement outlines the requirements for all grant proposals.

Please see page 7 of the Frequently Asked Questions document at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/research/funding-opportunity-announcements/BC.JEK.LLBFrequentlyAskedQuestions2018-2019.pdf> for information regarding page/character limits for each section of the application.

11. Would a collaborative, multi-PI (2 PIs) research program that is highly relevant to the Bankhead-Coley, James and Esther King goals, but involves one PI at a FL institute and the other PI at a major university in another state be supported?

Yes, you can absolutely include an out-of-state PI on your proposal, so long as the Corresponding Principal Investigator is located in-state. You will also need to comply with the 10% out-of-state funding cap as stated in the FOAs.