



Florida Department of Health
Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) Programs

William G. “Bill” Bankhead Jr., and David Coley Cancer Research Program
James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program
Live Like Bella Pediatric Cancer Research Initiative

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA)

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Award Period:

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Letters of Intent Due: December 16, 2025

Applications Due: January 12, 2026

Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Florida Department of Health
Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management
4052 Bald Cypress Way Bin A-15
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1720
Office: 850-245-4585
Email: research@flhealth.gov

1. Is a Principal Investigator (PI) allowed to hold two Bankhead-Coley grants simultaneously?

The PI may serve as Co-PI or other role on other applications, provided they are not over-committed. Note the definition on commitment below.

Overlap, Commitment: Commitment overlap occurs when any project staff has time commitments exceeding 100 percent. This is the case whether the grant includes salary support for the effort. While information on other support is only requested for the Corresponding Principal Investigator, no individual on the project may have combined commitments more than 100%.

Note also the following:

The Corresponding Principal Investigator shall not:

- i. Apply for the same research project for which he or she was a previously funded grant recipient. The aims and experiments in the new proposal must be significantly different from any previously funded grants.
- ii. Submit the same project/research that is also being submitted by another investigator regardless of the grant mechanism.
- iii. Submit duplicate projects or projects with significant scientific or financial overlap during the same competition year.

Applicants must ensure that their proposed project does not duplicate or significantly overlap, scientifically or financially, with other projects in which they or any key personnel are involved. Overlap, whether scientific or financial, or commitment of a project member's effort greater than 100% is prohibited.

2. Can direct patient-care costs be included in the indirect cost calculation?

Patient-care costs are direct costs. For this Funding Opportunity Announcement, indirect costs may not exceed 15% of the total direct costs requested. Since patient-care costs are direct costs, they may be included in the indirect cost calculation.

3. Will a research plan be required? It is not listed in the required components table in the FOA.

The required application components are found in Table 6 of the Funding Opportunity Announcement. These include a letter of intent, general project information, general audience abstract, scientific abstract, health impact, cancer-relatedness, collaborator information, biographical sketch, consultants, specific aims, human subjects, vertebrate animals, recombinant DNA molecules, survey instruments, table/image/graph, budget template, letters of support, and a work plan. Components not listed in Table 6 of the FOA are not required.

4. Is a PI who is applying for a Green Card eligible for these programs.

The PI must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

5. Is a cancer connection through tobacco prevention and cancer survivor care sufficient for the James and Esther King Program, or does the program require cancer as a primary study endpoint?

All applicants must clearly demonstrate how the proposed project is relevant to cancer (Bankhead-Coley program), tobacco related diseases (James and Esther King Program) and pediatric cancer (Bankhead-

Coley program and Bella Initiative). The Funding Opportunity Announcement states that applicants must, “Provide a clear explanation of how the project is related to cancer.” Showing a cancer connection through research on tobacco-related diseases is allowed for the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program.

6. which LOI due date should be used for the current Biomedical Research Program applications?

The Letter of Intent period opens on December 2, 2025, at 5 PM and closes on December 16, 2025, at 12 PM (i.e., noon).

7. Besides the Specific Aims description (6800 characters) and Work Plan form, is there another component that can be used to explain the study design in detail for background, rationale, approach, expected outcomes and alternatives?

The required application components are found in Table 6 of the Funding Opportunity Announcement. These include a letter of intent, general project information, general audience abstract, scientific abstract, health impact, cancer-relatedness, collaborator information, biographical sketch, consultants, specific aims, human subjects, vertebrate animals, recombinant DNA molecules, survey instruments, table/image/graph, budget template, letters of support, and a work plan. Components not listed in Table 6 of the FOA are not required.

8. If a grant proposal focuses on childhood cancer but the budget exceeds the \$250k limit for the appropriate category (Live Like Bella), can the applicant instead apply through the Bankhead-Coley mechanism?

The Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program provides grants for cancer research to further the search for cures for cancer. Proposals submitted for the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program must clearly demonstrate how the proposed project is relevant to cancer. Proposals that focus on pediatric cancer are allowed in the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program.