

THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

## WASHINGTON E-UPDATE

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***Budget and Appropriations Update*** – As we reported in last month's newsletter, Congress managed to pass a continuing resolution that keeps the government running through December 9. Soon after, lawmakers left town to campaign, not to return until mid-November.

But even with Congress officially in recess, appropriations committee staff are working behind the scenes in an effort to finish the 11 remaining fiscal 2017 spending bills.

Each appropriations subcommittee has been given a "top-line" number indicating how much it has to spend. Staff now has the difficult challenge of spreading that amount across the departments, agencies and programs contained in each spending bill—by November 15.

Still, there's no clear path to any final legislation. Republican leaders are hoping to avoid the need for another mammoth omnibus appropriations bill. Conservatives, particularly in the House, are reluctant to sign on to such a vehicle, which they say allows for excessive spending that gets little scrutiny. To avoid an omnibus bill, some have suggested bundling several regular appropriations bills into small packages known as "minibuses." But it's not clear they will have enough time to get more than one or two minibuses drafted and passed when Congress reconvenes for a lame-duck session after the elections. (Congress is scheduled to be working only one week in November before Thanksgiving, followed by two weeks just before the Dec. 9 deadline when the current Continuing Resolution expires.)

In all likelihood, Congress will be forced to opt for passing a single omnibus appropriations bill. And if history is any indication, that won't happen until a few days before Christmas.

### **Current policy extended on subsidized grad student health plans**

In welcome news to universities and graduate students across the country, the Administration issued a policy document from the Departments of Treasury, Labor and Health and Human Services on October 21, extending -- for the foreseeable future -- a safe harbor that will allow universities to continue offering students reimbursements to cover their health plan coverage.

The departments are extending temporary enforcement relief that was provided earlier to universities pending future agency guidance. The new policy is not a permanent fix but will remain in place until further notice, providing time for a future Administration to develop permanent policy on the matter.

The issue arose last February when the agencies issued Notice 2013-54 intended to prevent employers from eluding the ACA employer mandate. However, the guidance document would have had the effect of preventing universities from providing subsidized health insurance coverage through Student Health Insurance Plans to certain graduate students.

In June, a group of Senators, including Florida Sen. Bill Nelson, wrote a letter to the Administration seeking a solution. The letter stated: "While we commend your Departments for providing temporary transition relief in the guidance, this guidance is based on an interpretation of the ACA that interferes with a university's ability to provide graduate students with ACA-compliant SHIP coverage, at little or no cost. Notwithstanding the provided temporary transition relief there remains an urgent need to resolve this issue expeditiously. Colleges and universities will be negotiating the terms and cost of their student health insurance coverage for academic year 2017-18 during this fall. Thousands of graduate students at campuses across the country could potentially be affected, costing students and schools millions of dollars."

An FAQ document on the new policy issued October 21 states:

**Q. Will the Departments' enforcement relief to colleges and universities for certain health care premium reduction arrangements offered in connection with student health plans be extended?**

Yes. Colleges and universities have premium reduction arrangements for graduate student health coverage that are often part of a large and complex admission offer and acceptance process. Additionally, Congress evidenced an intent in the Affordable Care Act to preserve the ability of institutions of higher education to continue offering student health insurance plans otherwise permitted under applicable Federal, State, or local law.

Accordingly, pending further guidance, the Departments consider it appropriate to further extend the enforcement relief provided in the February 5, 2016 guidance and will not assert that a premium reduction arrangement offered by an institution of higher education fails to satisfy PHS Act section 2711 or 2713 if the arrangement is offered in connection with student health coverage (insured or self-insured).

## **SUS to host HHS SBIR meeting in Orlando**

Small business owners and academic researchers in biotech fields will flock to Orlando from around the country November 15-17 to learn about collaborative opportunities to apply for more than \$870 million in federal awards in medicine and biotechnology.

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual HHS SBIR/STTR Conference, titled *Shining a Light on Small Business Innovation*, will feature keynote speaker: Dr. Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, director of the

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities at the National Institutes of Health.

Co-hosted by the State University System of Florida and the University of Central Florida, the conference is designed to help researchers and small businesses forge academic partnerships and build new businesses based on recently developed medical and biotechnology. It is being promoted through the *Think Florida: A Higher Degree for Business* campaign, a statewide initiative to promote synergies between universities and the business community in the areas of talent, research and partnerships. Conference registration is available [here](#). Almost 100 Federal research officials from HHS agencies such as NIH, FDA and CDC will participate as speakers and be available for one on one meetings with attendees.

Born in Cuba and raised in Miami, Dr. Pérez-Stable oversees the Institute on Minority Health's \$281 million budget to conduct and support research, training, research capacity and infrastructure development, public education, and information dissemination programs to improve minority health and reduce health disparities. His expertise spans a broad range of health disparities disciplines, and his research interests have centered on improving the health and racial ethnic minorities in underserved populations, advancing patient-centered care, improving cross-cultural communication skills among health care professionals and promoting diversity in the biomedical research workforce. His full biography is available [here](#).

Recognized as a leader in Latino health care and disparities research, Dr. Pérez-Stable has spent more than 30 years leading research on smoking cessation and tobacco control policy in Latino populations in the United States and Latin America. His collaborations with researchers and public health advocates in Argentina have helped to put tobacco use on the country's public health agenda, raising awareness of tobacco use as a critical public health problem, building capacity for tobacco control policy, and creating opportunities for prevention and treatment measures through physician education and smoking cessation programs.

"It's clear Dr. Pérez-Stable has deep experience in tackling some of the most important issues of our time," said Marshall Criser III, State University System Chancellor. "Dr. Pérez-Stable's presentation is one of many opportunities during this conference to glean new information that can help bring groundbreaking research to market and create real change."

"This conference provides the chance for entrepreneurs and researchers to learn about federal funding opportunities, network with each other, and forge new relationships that can help bring technologies and discoveries to market," said Matthew Portnoy, PhD, the NIH SBIR/STTR Program Coordinator.

"As an emerging hub for biotechnology and life science innovation, Orlando is the ideal location for this meeting," said Dr. Elizabeth Klonoff, Vice President for Research and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies at UCF. "We are proud to co-sponsor this conference and help further partnerships between research universities and the

business community that will create real-world solutions to health issues in our nation and across the globe.”

## **Final teacher prep regulation issued**

The Education Department released its often delayed final regulations on teacher preparation programs October 12.

Under these rules, teacher preparation programs will be evaluated based on the classroom learning achieved under the teachers once they enter the education workforce. States will have to start implementing the new rules on a pilot basis in the 2017-18 academic year.

The regulation will require states to annually track and report metrics for teachers in their first three years, to report surveys of teaching graduates and their employers, and student achievement under those teachers. Teacher prep programs that fail to meet state requirements for being "effective" for at least two of the previous three years will have federal aid from the TEACH grant program taken away. The earliest that programs could lose eligibility for funding is the 2021-22 school year.

Several education groups blasted the new rule, including the American Council on Education, whose spokesman said the rules are “costly, complex, burdensome and based on only tenuous evidence that they will work.”

To read the regulations visit [this link](#), or to read the Department’s press release, [click here](#).

## **Defense policy bill faces roadblocks in lame duck session**

Conference negotiations have continued throughout the month in an effort to develop a final version of the \$600 billion 2017 National Defense Authorization Act, the annual policy measure for the military. The conference bill is essentially complete with the exception of a few key lighting-rod issues that could block its passage.

The House bill (HR 4909) was approved last May by a vote of 277-147 while the Senate approved its version in June by a vote of 85 to 13.

The funding approach taken by the House involves supporting the Overseas Contingency Fund for war efforts for only seven months and using the additional funding for base operations. That would mean a new President would have to come back to Congress in April to request addition financing for the remainder of the year for overseas war efforts. The White House has vowed to veto the measure if that strategy remains in the final bill.

Most recently, the White privately issued another veto threat for a provision in the House bill that would effectively allow religiously affiliated contractors doing business

with the government to discriminate based on the religious views of the federal contractor.

Another unresolved issue that would trigger a veto involves language to restrict the President's ability to close the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Once Congress returns for the lame duck session top Armed Service Committee leaders will attempt to resolve the outstanding issues and keep intact their decades-long track record of passing the bill.

## **Report highlights consumer issues in student loan industry**

One-in-three rehabilitated student loan borrowers with previous defaults will "re-default" due to servicing and program failures, according to a [new report](#) by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau released this month.

The report says 650,000 defaulted loans were restructured during the past year and it projects 220,000 who "rehab" their debt through consistent, but small payments, will default again in the next 24 months. Without significant policy intervention, the CFPB says that more than \$125 million in unnecessary interest will be charged to consumers, many of whom face financial hardship.

As called for in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the CFPB reports annually on complaints about student loans. The consumer complaints referenced in this report were submitted between September 1, 2015 and August 31, 2016.

Student loan consumers identify a range of problems dealing with payments, billing, customer service and income-driven repayments services: Roughly 300 companies spanning the spectrum of the industry (loan servicers, collectors, private lenders, and debt relief companies) received consumer complaints. The five largest loan servicers received complaints about a broad range of operations. According to the report, issues seem to affect all consumers, not just those behind on payments or experiencing economic hardship.

The report highlights areas of concern which include breakdowns in communication, consumer difficulty transitioning from default to an income driven repayment plan, and poor debt collection practices.

The report offers recommendations to policymakers and industry to improve the recovery process for the most vulnerable student loan borrowers. These recommendations include actions to:

### ***Streamline and simplify the pathway from default to affordable repayment plans:***

The CFPB's report acknowledges that the rehabilitation program was designed as a part of the bank-based guaranteed student loan program, which ended in 2010.

Additionally, the program has not been reformed in almost twenty years. As such the Bureau's report urges policymakers to streamline and simplify the process for consumers in default to recover and enroll in income-driven repayment plans.

***Take immediate action to prevent vulnerable borrowers from slipping through the cracks:*** The CFPB urges policymakers and the servicing and collections industries to take immediate action to address the problems outlined in the report, including improving consumer communications, realigning economic incentives so that debt collectors and servicers work to promote borrowers' long term success, and improving access to servicing data on the performance of previously-defaulted borrowers.

## **House report says billions spent in improper federal payments**

A new report by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee finds improper payments by the federal government hit a record amount in 2015 -- \$137 billion. From 2011 through 2015 the report says almost \$600 billion was improperly paid out.

The [report](#) cited five agencies -- HHS, Treasury, Social Security, Labor and Agriculture -- as accounting for 85 percent or \$363 billion over the five year span.

The report makes six recommendations:

- Agencies need to use reliable data and processes to generate complete and accurate improper payment estimates;
- Agencies must resolve outstanding inspector general recommendations;
- Congress should work with nine agencies that have failed to meet requirements for reporting improper payments over the past five years: Agriculture, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Labor, Transportation, Treasury, Veterans Affairs, the Small Business Administration and the Social Security Administration;
- Eleven agencies who have failed to meet improper payment reduction goals set out in fiscal 2015 should identify the root causes of their failure and work with the Office of Management and Budget to improve;
- The executive branch's "Do Not Pay" initiative should expand access to data;
- OMB must improve government-wide reporting on improper payments.

## **Army seeking input on cyber training issues**

Acting on behalf of the Defense Department, the Army issued a Request for Information October 17 intended to obtain "information for the purposes of market research which may inform future requirement and contract efforts for the Persistent Cyber Training Environment."

The U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation is requesting white papers by November 16 providing possible technical solutions for all or part of the cyber training requirements. It is expected that the RFI will lead to future solicitations for cyber training ranges in fiscal 2017. To read the RFI [click here](#).

## Highlights of competitive grant opportunities at federal agencies

**Agency:** Department of Defense  
Office of Naval Research

**Program:** Long Range Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology

**Description:** The Office of Naval Research (ONR) is interested in receiving proposals for Long-Range Science and Technology Projects which offer potential for advancement and improvement of Navy and Marine Corps operations. Readers should note that this is an announcement to declare ONR's broad role in competitive funding of meritorious research across a spectrum of science and engineering disciplines. A brief description of the ONR Program Codes and the science and technology thrusts that ONR is pursuing is provided below. Additional information can be found at the ONR website at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/Science-Technology/Departments.aspx>.

**Due Date:** 9/30/2017

**Funding:** See announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289180>

**Agency:** Department of Education

**Program:** Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE): Upward Bound Program CFDA Number 84.047A

**Description:** The Upward Bound (UB) Program is one of the seven programs known as the Federal TRIO Programs. The UB Program is a discretionary grant program that supports projects designed to provide students with the skills and motivation necessary to complete a program of secondary education and to enter into and succeed in a program of postsecondary education. There are three types of grants under the UB Program: UB; Veterans UB; and UB Math and Science grants. In this notice we invite applications for



UB grants only. We will invite applications for Veterans UB grants and UB Math and Science grants in forthcoming notices. Required services under the UB Program are specified in sections 402C(b) and (c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1070a-13), and permissible services under the UB Program are specified in section 402C(d) of the HEA. not email an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

**Due Date:** 11/28/2016

**Funding:** \$273,000,000

**Awards:** 813

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289531>

**Agency:** Department of Energy  
Golden Field Office

**Program:** Scaling Up the Next Generation of Building Efficiency Packages

**Description:** The Commercial Buildings Integration (CBI) program, working in cooperation with the General Services Administration's (GSA) Green Proving Ground program, will invest \$6.5 million in a competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). DOE seeks proposals that drive innovation in real building technology demonstrations while also fostering the collaboration of dynamic demonstration teams that include energy organizations (states, local governments or Regional Energy Efficiency Organizations), efficient building hubs (such as Innovation or Incubator hubs), utilities, and building energy modeling professionals. This FOA builds off of current laboratory and simulation analysis of technology packages by investing in real building demonstrations led by strategically structured teams who will identify and verify multi-system energy efficiency packages (groups of technologies that improve efficiency across two building systems: envelope, lighting/electrical, plug, process, heating, ventilation, cooling, refrigeration, energy management and information, sensors and controls).

**Due Date:** 2/21/2017

**Funding:** \$6,500,000

**Awards:** 15

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289588>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

**Program:** AHRQ Conference Grant Programs (R13)



**Description:** The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) announces its interest in supporting conferences through the AHRQ Single Year and Multiple Year Conference Grant Programs (R13). AHRQ seeks to support conferences that help to further its mission to produce evidence to make health care safer, higher quality, more accessible, equitable and affordable, and to work with HHS and other partners to make sure that the evidence is understood and used  
(<http://www.ahrq.gov/funding/policies/foaguidance/index.html>).

**Due Date:** 11/1/2021

**Funding:** \$50,000 per award

**Awards:** 100

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289256>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - ERA

**Program:** Evaluations to Improve Prevention Interventions Under the Presidents Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

**Description:** PEPFAR is committed to reducing new HIV infections worldwide by implementing evidence-based interventions that address risk at the individual, relationship, and community level. Adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) ages 15 to 24 years in sub-Saharan Africa are unique with respect to both their high burden of HIV disease and their extensive array of potential risk factors at the biological, behavioral, interpersonal, social, and structural levels. The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement(FOA) is to determine which factor or combination of factors most strongly predicts risk of HIV acquisition among AGYW in a high HIV burden community. Future studies may target other at risk populations in high burden communities or AGYW in other communities.

**Due Date:** 12/14/2016

**Funding:** \$7,500,000

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=287878>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Advanced Molecular Detection in Support of Systems for Prevention, Treatment and Control of HIV, HCV and Related

Comorbidities in Rural Communities Affected by Opioid Injection Drug Epidemics in the United States (U24)

**Description:** This FOA will support a Center for HCV next-generation sequencing (advanced molecular detection) using Global Hepatitis Outbreak and Surveillance Technology (GHOST) to be developed in collaboration with CDCs Division of Viral Hepatitis. The GHOST Center will support HCV next-generation sequencing activities of research projects funded by the companion RFA (RFA-DA-17-014).

**Due Date:** 1/10/2017

**Funding:** See announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=28940>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Nicotinic Immune Modulation in the Presence of HIV-1 Infection (R01)

**Description:** The FOA encourages the submission of research project applications to determine nicotines modulatory effects on peripheral and central immune system functions in the presence of HIV-1 infection. Specifically, NIDA is particularly interested in projects exploring the ability of nicotine to produce anti-inflammatory and protective effects, and the translational potential of the new knowledge in attenuating HIV-induced pathologies and HIV-associated CNS complications such as neurological/cognitive disorders.

**Due Date:** 1/17/2017

**Funding:** \$3,000,000

**Awards:** 6

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289602>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Contraception Research Centers Program (U54)

**Description:** The purpose of this announcement is to support and facilitate multidisciplinary approaches to the development of new and/or improved contraceptive methods for both men and women. This FOA expands the scope of the former program by calling for Centers to inform contraceptive development and improve contraceptive use by integrating the biomedical research and development with behavioral and social science research, e.g., demography and other population sciences, psychology, economics, and sociology. These Centers also will serve as a national resource for

development of early stage investigators electing to pursue careers in contraceptive research.

**Due Date:** 1/18/2017

**Funding:** \$6,285,000

**Awards:** 4

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289232>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Collaborative Consortia for the Study of HIV Associated Cancers: U.S. and Low-and Middle-Income Country Partnerships (U54)

**Description:** The purpose of this announcement is to fund research on HIV-associated cancers in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) through collaborative efforts between investigators in United States (U.S.) and investigators in LMICs. The FOA will also support the enhancement of research capacity of LMIC institutions for research in this area. The FOA solicits applications for Specialized Center Cooperative Agreements (U54) for research on HIV-associated cancers from research institutions in the U.S. and LMICs. Each application is required to propose between two to three research projects that address high-priority questions relevant to both the LMIC and the NIH HIV/AIDS research agenda. The proposed projects may range, as appropriate, from basic research to translational efforts as well as population and implementation studies. Clinical trials, however, will not be supported. In addition, the proposed consortium must include two mandatory cores; an Administrative Core and a Career Enhancement Core. Additional cores such as Shared Resource cores may be included as appropriate for the needs of the projects

**Due Date:** 12/20/2016

**Funding:** \$2,400,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289310>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Stimulating Peripheral Activity to Relieve Conditions (SPARC): Pre-clinical Development of Existing Market-approved Devices to Support New Market Indications (U18)

**Description:** This announcement is part of the Stimulating Peripheral Activity to Relieve Conditions (SPARC) Common Fund program. This FOA invites applications exclusively for non-clinical tests in animal models to obtain

safety and efficacy data that support new market indications for a limited set of neuromodulation devices. Partnering companies (see Device Portal) have agreed to provide neuromodulation technology to investigators supported by the SPARC program. Pre-clinical developments supported by this FOA are expected to generate the necessary safety and efficacy evidence to enable an Investigational Device Exemption submission for a future pilot clinical study.

**Due Date:** 12/21/2016

**Funding:** \$6,000,000

**Awards:**

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289583>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative: Clinical Studies to Advance Next-Generation Invasive Devices for Recording and Modulation in the Human Central Nervous System (UH3)

**Description:** The purpose of this FOA is to encourage investigators to pursue a small clinical study to obtain critical information necessary to advance recording and/or stimulating devices to treat central nervous system disorders and better understand the human brain (e.g., Early Feasibility Study). Clinical studies supported may consist of acute or short-term procedures that are deemed Non-Significant Risk (NSR) by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), or Significant Risk (SR) studies that require an Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) from the FDA, such as chronic implants. The clinical study should provide data to answer key questions about the function or final design of a device. This final device design may require most, if not all, of the non-clinical testing on the path to more advanced clinical trials and market approval. The clinical study is expected to provide information that cannot be practically obtained through additional non-clinical assessments (e.g., bench top or animal studies) due to the novelty of the device or its intended use. Activities supported by this Funding Opportunity include a small clinical study to answer key questions about the function or final design of a device

**Due Date:** 10/18/2017

**Funding:** \$10,000,000

**Awards:** N/A

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289235>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative: Next-Generation Invasive Devices for Recording and Modulation in the Human Central Nervous System (UG3/UH3)

**Description:** The purpose of this FOA is to encourage investigators to pursue translational and clinical studies for recording and/or stimulating devices to treat nervous system disorders and better understand the human brain. The program will utilize a cooperative agreement mechanism to support the submission of an Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) for a Significant Risk (SR) study or obtain Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for a Non-Significant Risk (NSR) study, and a subsequent small clinical study (e.g., Early Feasibility Study). The small clinical study should provide data to answer key questions about the function or final design of a device. This final device design may require most, if not all, of the non-clinical testing on the path to more advanced clinical trials and market approval. The clinical study is expected to provide information that cannot be practically obtained through additional nonclinical assessments (e.g., bench top or animal studies) due to the novelty of the device or its intended use. Activities supported in this program include implementation of clinical prototype devices, non-clinical safety and efficacy testing, design verification and validation activities, and pursuit of regulatory approval for, and implementation of, a single small clinical study.

**Due Date:** 10/18/2017

**Funding:** \$10,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289252>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BD2K Support for Meetings of Data Science Related Organizations (U13)

**Description:** The purpose of this FOA is to support high quality and impactful conferences/scientific meetings that are convened by data science related organizations whose missions focus on biomedical data science. This FOA, which uses the NIH conference cooperative agreement program (U13), is part of the NIH-wide initiative, Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K). Data science related organizations have a critical role in advancing biomedical data science but often depend on meetings to carry out their work. This FOA will support high quality conferences or meetings that are relevant to the biomedical data science needs of the participating Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health. For the purpose of this FOA, a conference is defined as a gathering, such as in the form of

a symposium, seminar, scientific meeting, workshop, or any other organized and formal meeting where persons assemble to coordinate, exchange, and disseminate information, or to explore or clarify a defined subject, problem, or area of knowledge. Applicants representing data science related organizations may request support for one or a series of meetings over multiple years that address areas of data science aligned with the goals of the NIH BD2K program.

**Due Date:** 11/30/2018

**Funding:** \$2,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289414>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** NIH-CASIS Coordinated Microphysiological Systems Program for Translational Research in Space (UG3/UH3)

**Description:** The purpose of this FOA is to promote the development of in vitro microphysiological systems in modeling human diseases and conditions that mimic the pathology in major organs and tissues in the human body, when exposed to the extreme environments of space, and the use of these models at the International Space Station-U.S. National Laboratory (ISS-NL) to facilitate the assessment of biomarkers, bioavailability, efficacy, and toxicity of therapeutic agents prior to entry into clinical trials.

**Due Date:** 12/15/2016

**Funding:** \$3,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289229>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Coordinating Center for NICHD Population Dynamics Centers Research Infrastructure Program, FY 2017 (R24)

**Description:** The purpose of this funding announcement is to support a coordinating center for the NICHD Population Dynamics Centers Research Infrastructure Programs. The purpose of this funding announcement is to support a coordinating center for the NICHD Population Dynamics Centers Research Infrastructure Programs.

**Due Date:** 12/28/2016

**Funding:** See announcement

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289416>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Network (BICCN) Brain Cell Data Center (U24)

**Description:** This FOA intends to support a Brain Cell Data Center (BCDC) that will work with other BICCN Centers and interested researchers to establish a web-accessible information system to capture, store, analyze, curate, and display all data and metadata on brain cell types, and their connectivity. The BCDC is expected to: (1) lead the effort to establish spatial and semantic standards for managing heterogeneous brain cell census data types and information; (2) lead the effort to collect and register multimodal brain cell census data to common brain coordinate systems; (3) generate searchable 2D and 3D digital brain atlases for cell census data; and (4) generate a unified and comprehensive brain cell knowledge base that integrates all existing brain cell census data and information across diverse repositories. A central goal of this and the three companion FOAs is to build a brain cell census resource that can be widely used throughout the research community.

**Due Date:** 1/23/2017

**Funding:** \$3,000,000

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289611>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Network (BICCN) Comprehensive Center on Mouse Brain Cell Atlas (U19)

**Description:** This FOA intends to assemble a group of Comprehensive Centers that will adopt scalable technology platforms and streamlined workflows to generate a comprehensive 3D brain cell reference atlas encompassing molecular, anatomical, and physiological annotations of brain cell types in mouse, and incorporate additional genetic and other advanced cell-specific targeting approaches and tools to facilitate this goal. A central goal of this and the three companion FOAs is to build a brain cell census resource that can be widely used throughout the research community.

**Due Date:** 1/23/2017



**Funding:** \$18,000,000  
**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289631>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative: Research on the Ethical Implications of Advancements in Neurotechnology and Brain Science (R01)

**Description:** This announcement, in support of the NIH Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, is one of several FOAs aimed at supporting transformative discoveries that will lead to breakthroughs in understanding human brain function. Guided by the long-term scientific plan, BRAIN 2025: A Scientific Vision, this FOA specifically seeks to support efforts addressing core ethical issues associated with research focused on the human brain and resulting from emerging technologies and advancements in research and development supported by the BRAIN Initiative. The hope is that efforts supported under this FOA might be both complimentary and integrative with the transformative, breakthrough discoveries being supported through the BRAIN Initiative.

**Due Date:** 1/30/2017

**Funding:** See announcement  
**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289651>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Program:** Creation of a Healthcare-Associated Infectious Disease Modeling Network to Improve Prevention Research and Healthcare Delivery

**Description:** The purpose of this project is to support innovative transmission modeling research that will expand knowledge and develop tools to better understand the spread of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs), particularly those that are resistant to antimicrobials. This includes the creation of a new network of multidisciplinary scientists conducting computational and mathematical research to improve the ability to prepare for, detect, control, and prevent the growing problem of HAIs in the United States, particularly HAIs involving antimicrobial resistant pathogens.

**Due Date:** 1/31/2017

**Funding:** \$9,750,000

**Awards:** 5

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=285279>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Brain Lymphatic System in Aging and Alzheimer's Disease (R01)

**Description:** The goal of this FOA is to support research that will lead to a greater understanding of complex mechanisms by which the brain lymphatic system and meningeal and peripheral lymphatic systems change in normal and pathological brains. This knowledge is critical to determine whether a functional impairment or disruption of these systems may be involved in neurological disorders that are associated with immune system dysfunction, such as Alzheimers disease.

**Due Date:** 2/9/2017

**Funding:** See announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289647>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Coordinating Center for Population-based Research to Optimize Cancer Screening (PROSPR) (U24)

**Description:** Population-based Research to Optimize the Screening Process (PROSPR) is the National Cancer Institute program to promote research aimed at evaluating and improving the cancer screening process. As a part of the reissued PROSPR program, this announcement solicits applications for a PROSPR U24 Coordinating Center. A companion FOA (RFA-CA-16-016) will support PROSPR UM1 Research Centers. The overall goal for the PROSPR Research Centers is to enhance understanding of the implementation and effects of screening as practiced in multiple healthcare environments in the United States.

**Due Date:** 2/9/2017

**Funding:** \$1,500,000

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289673>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Research Centers for Population-based Research to Optimize Cancer Screening (PROSPR) Initiative (UM1)

**Description:** Population-based Research to Optimize the Screening Process (PROSPR) is the National Cancer Institute program to promote research aimed at evaluating and improving the cancer screening process. As a part of the reissued PROSPR program, this announcement solicits applications for PROSPR UM1 Research Centers. A companion FOA (RFA-CA-16-017) will support a PROSPR U24 Coordinating Center. The overall goal for PROSPR Research Centers is to enhance understanding of the implementation and effects of screening as practiced in multiple, heterogeneous healthcare environments in the United States. Therefore, the research programs proposed must cover long-term observations of diverse cohorts of patients who are eligible for screening. In addition to observational research to evaluate factors that affect the quality of the screening process for the selected cancer type, these programs should also develop and pilot-test interventions aimed at improving the screening process for that cancer.

**Due Date:** 2/9/2017

**Funding:** \$12,000,000

**Awards:** 3

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289691>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Understanding the Effects of ApoE2 on the Interaction between Aging and Alzheimers Disease (R01)

**Description:** This FOA invites applications on descriptive, basic and translational studies of APOE2 to delineate the functional effects of ApoE2 on healthy aging of the brain and other tissues. The primary focus is on the "APOE2Aging-AD" relationship and the mechanistic effects of the protective variant on aging and potential interaction/cross talk between tissues in the aging process and AD. These studies are expected to generate new mechanistic insights that involve brain and/or other organs and assist in the identification of potential prognostic and diagnostic markers and therapeutic targets for AD and other age-related cognitive disorders. Eventually, the findings from these studies could lead to translational research opportunities not only to prevent or delay the onset of AD, but also to protect against multiple age-related conditions.

**Due Date:** 2/10/2017

**Funding:** \$3,000,000

**Awards:** 7

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289678>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** NINDS Institutional Center Core Grants to Support Neuroscience Research (P30)

**Description:** This FOA invites applications for Center Core Grants that provide resources and facilities shared by a minimum of six NINDS-supported investigators from one or more organizations, and supporting a wider base of neuroscience research. The proposed Centers should offer services and expertise that would be difficult or impractical to support in individual labs. The Centers are expected to capitalize on economies and synergies associated with shared resources, and to foster a collaborative environment among neuroscientists at host institutions.

**Due Date:** 2/14/2017

**Funding:** See announcement

**Awards:** 5

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289418>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative: Development of Next Generation Human Brain Imaging Tools and Technologies (U01)

**Description:** This announcement, in support of the NIH Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, aims to support full development of entirely new or next generation noninvasive human brain imaging tools and methods that will lead to transformative advances in our understanding of the human brain. The FOA seeks innovative applications that are ready for full-scale development of breakthrough technologies with the intention of delivering working tools within the timeframe of the BRAIN Initiative (BRAIN 2025: A Scientific Vision, <http://braininitiative.nih.gov/>). This FOA represents the second stage of the tool/technology development effort that started with RFA-MH-14-217 and RFA-MH-15-200.

**Due Date:** 1/20/2017

**Funding:** \$7,500,000  
**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289656>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Implementation Science Research to Improve Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Health (U01)

**Description:** This FOA encourages investigators to submit research grant applications on the use of implementation science strategies aimed at reducing the time between establishment of the evidence base of interventions, policies, practices and widespread uptake and adoption for dental/oral/craniofacial health.

**Due Date:** 2/21/2017

**Funding:** \$2,500,000  
**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289582>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

**Program:** Announcement of Anticipated Availability of Funds for Family Planning Services Grants -(Florida entire state)

**Description:** This announcement seeks applications from public and private nonprofit entities to establish and operate voluntary family planning services projects, which shall provide family planning services to all persons desiring such services, with priority for services to persons from low-income families. The Title X statute specifies that local and regional public or private nonprofit entities may apply directly to the Secretary for a Title X family planning services grant under this announcement. Funding of applications that propose to rely on other entities to provide services will take into consideration the extent to which the applicant indicates it can provide the required services and best serve individuals in need throughout the anticipated service area. For applicants that will not provide all services directly, the applicant must document the process and selection criteria it will use for providing an opportunity to receive subawards to qualified entities eligible to receive federal funds in providing services throughout the service area to meet the needs of project beneficiaries. Family planning services include clinical family planning and related preventive health services; information, education, and counseling

related to family planning; and, referral services as indicated. Applicants should use the Title X legislation, applicable regulations, legislative mandates, current Program Guidelines (issued in 2014), OPA Program Policy Notices, program priorities, and other key issues included in this announcement to guide them in developing their applications.

**Due Date:** 3/1/2017

**Funding:** \$10,761,000

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=287973>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Partnerships for Development of Vaccines to Prevent Mycobacterium tuberculosis Infection and/or Tuberculosis Disease (R01)

**Description:** The purpose of this FOA is to solicit research applications for milestone-driven projects focused on establishing proof-of-concept for and/or preclinical development of lead candidate vaccines targeting infection with Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb) and/or tuberculosis disease (TB).

**Due Date:** 3/2/2017

**Funding:** \$6,200,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289357>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative: Proof of Concept Development of Early Stage Next Generation Human Brain Imaging (R01)

**Description:** This FOA, in support of the NIH Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, aims to support early stage development of entirely new and novel noninvasive human brain imaging technologies and methods that will lead to transformative advances in our understanding of the human brain. The FOA solicits unusually bold and potentially transformative approaches and supports small scale, proof of concept development based on exceptionally innovative, original and/or unconventional concepts.

**Due Date:** 1/20/2017

**Funding:** \$4,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289655>



**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

**Program:** WWB Africa 2017 NOFO

**Description:** Central Africa is a globally important region for forest and biodiversity conservation. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) works closely with national governments, U.S. agencies, and a range of other partners to ensure a strategic, results-based approach to wildlife conservation in the region. In collaboration with U.S. Agency for International Development's Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE), USFWS is providing this funding opportunity to reduce threats to key wildlife populations, and to develop the requisite individual and institutional conservation capacity to undertake long-term conservation programs. Please see A Results-Based Vision for Conservation in Central Africa for greater detail on USFWS' approach to wildlife conservation in Central Africa. Funding will only be considered for projects that impact wildlife populations in the following countries: Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. The authorizing statute is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-43)

**Due Date:** 1/22/2017

**Funding:** \$16,375,000

**Awards:** 25

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289638>

**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**Program:** NAGPRA Repatriation Grants

**Description:** Awards to defray costs associated with the packaging, transportation, contamination removal, reburial and/or storage of NAGPRA-related human remains and/or cultural items.

**Due Date:** 6/1/2017

**Funding:** \$1,654,000

**Awards:** 15

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289641>

**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**Program:** NAGPRA Repatriation Grants

**Description:** Awards to defray costs associated with the packaging, transportation, contamination removal, reburial and/or storage of NAGPRA-related human remains and/or cultural items.

**Due Date:** 6/1/2017

**Funding:** \$1,654,000

**Awards:** 15

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289641>

**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**Program:** Conduct Archeological Survey of Savonoski River to Hallo Bay

**Description:** This project is an archeological and ethnographic study of the Savonoski River to its headwaters, and across the Aleutian Range to Shelikof Strait on the North Pacific coast.

**Due Date:** 10/9/2017

**Funding:** \$36,000

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289247>

**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

**Program:** Great Ape Conservation Fund

**Description:** The Great Ape Conservation Fund is soliciting project proposals for the conservation of apes; gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla*); chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*); bonobos (*Pan paniscus*); orangutans (*Pongo spp.*); and gibbons (family *Hylobatidae*) throughout their ranges. The U.S. Government enacted the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 in response to the decline of ape populations in Africa and Asia. The Act provides for the conservation and protection of apes by supporting conservation programs in countries within the range of apes, and the projects of persons with demonstrated expertise in the conservation of apes. Authorizing legislation: Great Ape Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 6301-6305)

**Due Date:** 12/1/2016

**Funding:** \$2,000,000  
**Awards:** 20

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289189>

**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

**Program:** Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act

**Description:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) requests interested entities to submit restoration, research and Regional Project proposals for the restoration of the Great Lakes Basin fish and wildlife resources, as authorized under the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (16 USC 941c). The purpose of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (GLFWRA) is to provide assistance to States, Indian Tribes, and other interested entities to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration and management of the fish and wildlife resources and their habitats in the Great Lakes Basin.

**Due Date:** 12/12/2016

**Funding:** \$1,560,000  
**Awards:** 8

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289444>

**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**Program:** FY 17 American Battlefield Protection Program Battlefield Preservation Planning Project Grants

**Description:** The purpose of this grant program is to provide seed money for projects that lead directly to the identification, preservation, and interpretation of battlefield land or historic sites associated with battlefields.

**Due Date:** 1/19/2017

**Funding:** \$1,200,000  
**Awards:** 25

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=288737>

**Agency:** Department of State  
International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs

**Program:** Liberia Law Enforcement Strategic Communications Project

**Description:** The INL office at the U.S. Embassy in Liberia is partnering with the Liberia National Police (LNP) to build national police communications capacity. Effective policing requires that the police serve and protect the community, collaborating directly with residents to improve safety and security. In serving the public, police must be as transparent as possible in all their dealings. Transparency requires responsive, effective, and timely communications with both internal and external audiences. Communication with the public must be an open, two-way channel where the police share information with the community and the community has enough confidence in the police to share information with them. This project would thus involve providing assistance to the LNP, including to the Press and Public Affairs Department, in updating communication methods, assessing how Liberians receive news and information and the associated levels of trust, and upgrading the public communications strategy so that the LNP can improve direct communication with the public and through the news media.

**Due Date:** 11/30/2016

**Funding:** \$500,000

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289340>

**Agency:** Department of State  
Bureau Grants Offices

**Program:** Request for Statements of Interest: Sustainable diaspora Goals

**Description:** The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), otherwise known as the 17 Global Goals, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. In recognition of the increasing role diasporas are playing in addressing global challenges, the International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA) is launching the Sustainable diaspora Goals (SdG) Challenge, an initiative dedicated to scaling up diaspora-focused or diaspora-driven partnerships and activities that are positioned to address the sustainable development goals.

**Due Date:** 11/30/2016

**Funding:** See announcement

**Awards:** 5

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289430>

**Agency:** Department of State  
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

**Program:** Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Transitional Justice Processes including Bolstering Accountability for Gross Human Rights Violations

**Description:** The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that support transitional justice processes including bolstering accountability for gross human rights violations.

**Due Date:** 12/2/2016

**Funding:** \$500,000

**Awards:** 2

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289286>

**Agency:** Department of State  
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

**Program:** Promoting Resilient Communities in Nigeria and Kenya

**Description:** The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that support the DRL policy goal to mitigate threats of violent extremism in Nigeria and Kenya by promoting community resilience and empowering youth leaders to recognize and prevent violence committed by groups such as Boko Haram and Al Shabaab.

**Due Date:** 12/16/2016

**Funding:** See announcement

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289653>

**Agency:** Department of State  
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

**Program:** DRL Programs to Promote Religious Freedom

**Description:** The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that support policy objective to promote international religious freedom.

**Due Date:** 12/21/2016

**Funding:** \$1,500,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289654>

**Agency:** Department of State  
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

**Program:** Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) Notice of Funding Opportunity: Supporting Justice Sector Reform in Tunisia

**Description:** The U.S. Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that increase transparency of and accountability within the judicial process in Tunisia. DRL seeks to support projects that will enhance ongoing justice sector reforms in Tunisia by supporting civilian capacity to understand, oversee, and engage in these efforts. Programs will promote accountability in the judicial sector by strengthening the ability of key justice actors to collaborate and engage effectively on both the demand and supply sides. Proposals must address one or more of the following program focus areas. Applicants may submit up to one proposal per focus area.

**Due Date:** 12/22/2016

**Funding:** \$2,000,000

**Awards:** 4

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289624>

**Agency:** Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration

**Program:** Low and No-Emission Component Assessment Program (LoNo-CAP)

**Description:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of \$3 million of fiscal year (FY) 2016 funding for qualified institutions of higher education to conduct testing, evaluation, and analysis of low or no emission (LoNo) components intended for use in LoNo transit buses used to provide public transportation. FTA is authorized by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) to pay 50 percent of the established assessment fees, up to \$3.0 million annually. The FAST Act authorizes a total of \$15.0 million at \$3.0 million per year starting in FY 2016 through FY2020 to carry out the Low and No Emission Component Assessment Program (LoNo-CAP). Funds awarded under the LoNo-CAP program will be used to reimburse the cost of assessing eligible LoNo components. FTA intends to competitively select at least one qualified

institution of higher education to evaluate and report on LoNo components. Subject to future appropriations, the selected institution(s) will be eligible for a combined total of up to \$3 million of LoNo-CAP funding per year from FY16-FY20, without further competition. Synopses and the full announcement with additional details are posted on Grants.gov site as opportunity FTA-2016-008-TRI-LoNoCAP. Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Grants.gov website by midnight Eastern Time on 11/28/2016.

**Due Date:** 11/28/2016

**Funding:** \$15,000,000

**Awards:** 1

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289261>

**Agency:** National Endowment for the Arts

**Program:** NEA Poetry Out Loud: 2018 National Finals Competition

**Description:** An organization may submit only one proposal under this program solicitation. This Cooperative Agreement will begin no earlier than June 1, 2017, and may extend for up to 15 months. Program Description Through this Program Solicitation, the National Endowment for the Arts seeks a Cooperator to produce and administer the 2018 Poetry Out Loud National Finals competition to take place April 23-25, 2018 in Washington, DC. The National Finals are the culmination of the nationwide Poetry Out Loud (POL) program that encourages more than 365,000 high school students each year to learn about classic and contemporary poetry through memorization and performance. Students select, memorize, and recite poems from an anthology and compete for the title of National Poetry Out Loud Champion. Through a pyramid structure competition, winners advance from classroom recitation contests to school-wide competitions, then to the state competitions and, ultimately, to the National Finals. One student from every state, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico travel to the National Finals to compete for the national championship. Scope of Work The purpose of this Program Solicitation is to select an organization (Cooperator) to produce and coordinate the three-day 2018 POL National Finals competition of state and jurisdictional champions of the POL program, in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Arts and its partners. That National Finals will take place April 23-25, 2018 in Washington, DC. The National Finals competition venue and hotel have already been reserved to ensure the availability of space.

**Due Date:** 1/5/2017



**Funding:** \$195,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=289143>

**Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Program:** Oceanographic Facilities and Equipment Support

**Description:** Oceanographic facilities and equipment are supported by the Integrative Programs Section (IPS) of the Division of Ocean Sciences Division (OCE), Directorate for Geosciences (GEO). These awards are made for the procurement, conversion and/or up-grade, enhancement or annual operation of platforms in the ocean, coastal, near-shore and Great Lakes. Awards are generally directed specifically to support facilities that lend themselves to shared use within the broad range of federally-supported research and education programs. Most of these platforms and facilities also receive partial support from federal agencies other than NSF. This includes state and local governments and private sources on a proportional basis; usually through a daily rate mechanism. The primary objective of these awards is to ensure the availability of appropriate facilities for federally-funded investigators and educators. Individual project-based facilities and instrumentation, limited to one, or a small group of investigators, should be supported through appropriate research programs as opposed to the IPS programs

**Due Date:** 11/15/2016

**Funding:** See announcement

**Website:** [https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=504848&WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_39&WT.mc\\_ev=click](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504848&WT.mc_id=USNSF_39&WT.mc_ev=click)

**Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Program:** Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC)

**Description:** The goals of the Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC) program are aligned with the Federal Cybersecurity Research and Development Strategic Plan (RDSP) and the National Privacy Research Strategy (NPRS) to protect and preserve the growing social and economic benefits of cyber systems while ensuring security and privacy. The RDSP identified six areas critical to successful cybersecurity R&D: (1) scientific foundations; (2) risk management; (3) human aspects; (4) transitioning successful research into practice; (5) workforce development; and (6) enhancing the research infrastructure. The NPRS, which complements the

RDSP, identifies a framework for privacy research, anchored in characterizing privacy expectations, understanding privacy violations, engineering privacy-protecting systems, and recovering from privacy violations. In alignment with the objectives in both strategic plans, the SaTC program takes an interdisciplinary, comprehensive and holistic approach to cybersecurity research, development, and education, and encourages the transition of promising research ideas into practice.

**Due Date:** 11/16/2016

**Funding:** See announcement

**Website:**[https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=504709&WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_39&WT.mc\\_ev=click](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504709&WT.mc_id=USNSF_39&WT.mc_ev=click)

**Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Program:** Computational and Data-Enabled Science and Engineering (CDS&E)

**Description:** Advanced computational infrastructure and the ability to perform large-scale simulations and accumulate massive amounts of data have revolutionized scientific and engineering disciplines. The goal of the CDS&E program is to identify and capitalize on opportunities for major scientific and engineering breakthroughs through new computational and data analysis approaches. The intellectual drivers may be in an individual discipline or they may cut across more than one discipline in various Directorates. The key identifying factor is that the outcome relies on the development, adaptation, and utilization of one or more of the capabilities offered by advancement of both research and infrastructure in computation and data, either through cross-cutting or disciplinary programs.

**Due Date:** 11/15/2016

**Funding:** See announcement

**Website:**[https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=504813&WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_39&WT.mc\\_ev=click](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504813&WT.mc_id=USNSF_39&WT.mc_ev=click)

**Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Program:** Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases (EEID)

**Description:** The Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases program supports research on the ecological, evolutionary, and socio-ecological principles and processes that influence the transmission dynamics of infectious diseases. The central theme of submitted projects must be quantitative or computational understanding of pathogen transmission dynamics. The intent is discovery of principles of infectious disease transmission and testing mathematical or computational models that elucidate infectious disease systems. Projects should be broad, interdisciplinary efforts that go beyond the scope of typical studies. They should focus on the determinants and interactions of transmission among humans, non-human animals, and/or plants. This includes, for example, the spread of pathogens; the influence of environmental factors such as climate; the population dynamics and genetics of reservoir species or hosts; the cultural, social, behavioral, and economic dimensions of disease transmission. Research may be on zoonotic, environmentally-borne, vector-borne, or enteric diseases of either terrestrial or freshwater systems and organisms, including diseases of animals and plants, at any scale from specific pathogens to inclusive environmental systems. Proposals for research on disease systems of public health concern to developing countries are strongly encouraged, as are disease systems of concern in agricultural systems. Investigators are encouraged to develop the appropriate multidisciplinary team, including for example, modelers, bioinformaticians, genomics researchers, social scientists, economists, epidemiologists, entomologists, parasitologists, microbiologists, bacteriologists, virologists, pathologists or veterinarians, with the goal of integrating knowledge across disciplines to enhance our ability to predict and control infectious diseases.

**Due Date:** 11/16/2016

**Funding:** See announcement

**Website:** [https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5269&WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_39&WT.mc\\_ev=click](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5269&WT.mc_id=USNSF_39&WT.mc_ev=click)