



# NIH funding opportunities



Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 25 Nov 2019 (#40)

[Click on blue [hyperlink](#) for further information]

The NIH funding opportunities listed below are only a **selection** of pre-screened, currently open health funding opportunities for which **South African institutions are eligible to apply**. For a comprehensive selection of NIH funding opportunities, please visit [www.grants.nih.gov](http://www.grants.nih.gov) or [www.sun.ac.za/RDSfunding](http://www.sun.ac.za/RDSfunding) (current & archive).

**Confirm your intent to apply ASAP, but not later than 60 days before the submission date.**

Tygerberg Campus: [cdevries@sun.ac.za](mailto:cdevries@sun.ac.za) • Stellenbosch Campus [lizelk@sun.ac.za](mailto:lizelk@sun.ac.za)

## Important Notices & News

- You should always check for updates, clarifications, or changes to a given funding opportunity announcement before applying. [Watch the "Related Notices" Section of Guide Notices](#). One tricky aspect of NIH Guide notices is that when NIH issues a correction or update, the original notice's text may not change since NIH makes corrections to the original notice in some fields but not others. Therefore, it's vital to check the "Related Notices" section periodically for both types of notices.
- [What is an R25? Who is meant to apply for it?](#) Research Education Program (R25) supports educational activities at grantee institutions with a primary focus on Courses for Skills Development, Research Experiences, and Mentoring Activities. The R25 is not meant to be a substitute for Training Grants (T).
- [Not All NIAID Initiatives Follow the Paylines](#): In general, we advise grant applicants to consider themselves fundable when their application receives an overall impact score that falls within published NIAID paylines. However, context matters—specifically, the type of funding opportunity announcement (FOA) to which you applied. Just as there are multiple types of applications, there are multiple types of FOAs. Here are the four types:
  - **Program announcement (PA)** = NIH-wide announcement that invites investigator-initiated research
  - **Program announcement with special receipt, referral, and/or review considerations (PAR)** = defines a narrow area of scientific interest by one or more NIH institutes or centers (ICs)
  - **Program announcement with set-aside funds (PAS)** = defines a narrow area of scientific interest by one or more NIH institutes or centers (ICs)
  - **Request for applications (RFA)** = sets specific research requirements within a defined scientific topic by one or more ICs.In other words, applications to PAs are usually funded following our paylines. Some applications will get a percentile along with their overall impact score. See [NIAID Paylines](#) for information on which mechanisms and what payline percentiles are currently being used. See also [Newsletter # 38](#)
- [NOT-OD-19-110 Guidance on Posting Informed Consent Forms for NIH-Funded Clinical Trials](#). The purpose of this notice is to provide guidance to the extramural research community regarding where to post clinical trial informed consent forms, as required by [Section 46.116\(h\)](#) of the Revised Common Rule (Subpart A of [45 CFR 46](#)). For clinical trials conducted by or supported by a Federal department or agency, the Revised Common Rule requires the posting of an IRB-approved consent form on a public federal website designated for posting such consent forms.
- [NOT-OD-20-026](#) This notice informs the biomedical and health services research communities of changes to grant application form and application guide instructions for due dates on or after 25 May 2020.
- [NOT-OD-20-019](#) Findings of Research Misconduct

### 1. Sustained Release of Antivirals for Treatment or Prevention of HIV (SRATP) (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [PAR-20-029](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** January 7, 2020; January 7, 2021; January 7, 2022 Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage grant applications that address the long term goal and objective of developing sustained release strategies for HIV treatment or prevention. Applications may propose treatment or prevention products delivered using sustained release platforms (oral, injection, implant or direct delivery to HIV target mucosa) that will provide a minimum of 1 week for oral (treatment) or a minimum of once a month for all other drug delivery systems for prevention and treatment. Only accepting applications that do not propose clinical trials

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

### 2. Co-infection and Cancer (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [PAR-20-061](#)

**Type:** R21

**Application Due Date:** R01 = March 06, 2020; R21 = March 17, 2020 and then [Standard dates](#) Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to enhance mechanistic and epidemiologic investigations addressing the roles of co-infection. Co-infection is defined as the occurrence of infections by two or more infectious (pathogenic or non-pathogenic) agents – either concurrently or sequentially – and includes both acute and chronic infections by viruses, bacteria, parasites, and/or other microorganisms. Preference will be given to investigations of co-infections with known oncogenic agents (excluding human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]) and of co-infections that engender novel opportunities for prevention and treatment

**Budget:** R21- The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

### 3. Addressing Suicide Research Gaps: Understanding Mortality Outcomes (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-MH-20-305](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** February 10, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks to support efforts focused on linking pertinent data from healthcare system records (e.g., suicide attempt events) to mortality data so that a more accurate understanding of the risk factors for, and the burden of, suicide among those seen in structured healthcare settings can be discerned. Specifically, data are needed on the type, severity, and timing of suicide predictors in the U.S. In addition to improving our national knowledge of the burden of suicide, these data offer the hope of yielding essential benchmarks for both public and private care providers/insurers, who increasingly will be seeking improvements to reduce the frequency of suicide events in their systems. Projects supported by this FOA will help address gaps identified in the [2014 Prioritized Research Agenda for Suicide Prevention](#). Applicants seeking to integrate data sets from existing basic, clinical, and intervention research on suicide risk and behaviors to conduct novel secondary analyses aimed at identifying potential biological, experiential, and other predictors, moderators, and mitigators of suicide risk should apply to the companion NIMH Funding Announcement - [RFA-MH-20-307](#)

**Budget:** NIMH intends to commit \$3 million in FY 2021 to fund 4-6 awards. Application budgets are limited to \$500,000 in direct costs (not including consortium F&A) in any project year, and need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 4 years.

### 4. Addressing Suicide Research Gaps: Aggregating and Mining Existing Data Sets for Secondary Analyses (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-MH-20-307](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** February 10, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks to leverage data from existing basic, clinical, and intervention research on suicide risk and behaviors as well as social media and healthcare records data, by encouraging the integration of existing data sets for novel secondary analyses aimed at identifying potential biological, experiential, and other predictors, moderators, and mitigators of suicide risk. The use of dimensional variables and inclusion of multiple levels of analyses are particularly encouraged. A secondary goal of this FOA is to support innovative projects that will generate foundational work for research studies on suicide-related behaviors that inform a Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) approach in this area. Projects supported by this FOA will help address gaps identified in the [2014 Prioritized Research Agenda for Suicide Prevention](#). Applicants seeking to support efforts focused on linking pertinent data from healthcare system records (e.g., suicide attempt events) to mortality data so that a more accurate understanding of the risk factors for, and the burden of, suicide among those seen in structured healthcare settings can be discerned should apply to the companion NIMH Funding Announcement, [RFA-MH-20-305](#).

**Budget:** NIMH intends to commit \$3 million in FY 2021 to fund 4-6 meritorious applications. Application budgets are limited to \$500,000 in direct costs (not including consortium F&A) in any project year, and need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 4 years.

**5. Utilizing Invasive Recording and Stimulating Opportunities in Humans to Advance Neural Circuitry Understanding of Mental Health Disorders (Clinical Trial Optional)**

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-MH-20-350](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** February 10, 2020; October 9, 2020; June 10, 2021. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage applications to pursue invasive neural recording studies focused on mental health-relevant questions. Invasive neural recordings provide an unparalleled window into the human brain to explore the neural circuitry and neural dynamics underlying complex moods, emotions, cognitive functions, and behaviors with high spatial and temporal resolution. Additionally, the ability to stimulate, via the same electrodes, allows for direct causal tests by modulating network dynamics. This funding opportunity aims to target a gap in the scientific knowledge of neural circuit function related to mental health disorders. Researchers should target specific questions suited to invasive recording modalities that have high translational potential. Development of new technologies and therapies is outside the scope of this FOA. This FOA uses the R01 grant mechanism, encouraging longer-term projects, whereas its companion funding opportunity [RFA-MH-20-351](#) seeks R21 grant applications encouraging shorter, higher-risk applications.

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

**6. Small Research Grants for Establishing Basic Science-Clinical Collaborations to Understand Structural Birth Defects (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [PAR-20-065](#)

**Type:** R03

**Application Due Date:** The first standard due date for this FOA is February 16, 2020 then [Standard dates](#) Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to promote initial establishment of basic science-clinical collaborations by providing small grants to teams of basic scientists, physician scientists, and/or clinicians. These interdisciplinary teams may include but are not limited to the following: developmental biologists, cell biologists, geneticists, genomicists, physician-scientists including individuals with DVM/VMD degrees, clinicians, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, and/or bioinformaticists. Applications must include at least one scientist with expertise from the basic science side of the spectrum as well as one from the clinical side. The multiple PD/PI model is strongly encouraged but not required. The goal is to facilitate the gathering of preliminary data to support future, larger research grant applications that will combine expertise and integrate basic, translational, and/or clinical approaches to understanding the developmental biology, genetics, and/or environmental basis of structural birth defects.

**Budget:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

**7. Clinical High Risk for Psychosis Research Network (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-MH-20-340](#)

**Type:** U01

**Application Due Date:** January 31, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to solicit applications to establish research network(s) focused on rapidly recruiting a sufficient number of participants to dissect the heterogeneity of the clinical high risk for psychosis (CHR) syndrome so as to predict differential CHR outcomes. Results from these studies will inform future treatment development efforts.

**Budget:** NIMH intends to commit up to a total of \$11,000,000 in FY20 to fund 1-2 awards under this FOA. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

**8. Effectiveness of Implementing Sustainable Evidence-Based Mental Health Practices in Low-Resource Settings to Achieve Mental Health Equity for Traditionally Underserved Populations (Clinical Trial Optional)**

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-MH-20-400](#)

**Type:** R01

[RFA-MH-20-401](#)

**R34**

**Application Due Date:** February 24, 2020 and August 25, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages studies that develop and test the effectiveness of strategies for implementation and sustainable delivery of evidence-based mental health treatments and services to improve mental health outcomes for underserved populations in under-resourced settings in the United States. Studies should identify and use innovative approaches to remediate barriers to provision, receipt, and/or benefit from evidence-based practices (EBPs) and generate new information about factors integral to achieving equity in mental health outcomes for underserved populations. Research generating new information about factors causing/reducing disparities are strongly encouraged, including due consideration of the needs of individuals across the life span. This FOA is published in parallel to a companion R34 [RFA-MH-20-401](#) that supports pilot studies in preparation for the larger-scale studies described here.

**Budget:** NIMH intends to commit \$2,000,000 in FY 2020 to fund 4-5 awards. **R01** - Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years. **R34** - Direct costs are limited to \$225,000 per year and \$450,000 over the 3-year project period.

#### 9. Laboratories to Optimize Digital Health (Clinical Trial Required)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-MH-20-510](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** March 2, 2020 and November 2, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** NIMH seeks applications for innovative research projects to test strategies to increase the reach, efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of digital mental health interventions which may impact mental health outcomes, including suicide behaviors and serious mental illness. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is intended to support the development of digital health test beds that leverage well-established digital mental health platforms and infrastructure to rapidly refine and optimize existing evidence-based digital health interventions and to conduct clinical trials testing digital mental health interventions that are statistically powered to provide a definitive answer regarding the intervention's effectiveness.

**Budget:** NIMH intends to commit a total of \$2,250,000 in FY 2020 to fund 3 awards. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 4 years.

#### 10. Fine-Mapping Genome-Wide Associated Loci to Identify Proximate Causal Mechanisms of Serious Mental Illness (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-MH-21-100](#)

**Type:** R01

**Application Due Date:** February 28, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) have identified statistical relationships between tens of thousands of common single nucleotide variants and over a thousand traits. Due to the correlated nature of nearby genetic variants, GWAS implicate regions of the genome and do not necessarily pinpoint the causal variant(s), gene(s) or mechanism(s) underlying the trait association. The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to support systematic fine-mapping of genome-wide significant risk loci associated with serious mental illnesses through robust statistical genetic and functional genomic approaches.

**Budget:** NIMH intends to commit a total of \$6.0 million in fiscal year 2020. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

#### 11. Real Time Chromatin Dynamics and Function (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-RM-20-003](#)

**Type:** U01

**Application Due Date:** March 17, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** To support the development and application of tools that would enable the monitoring in real-time of the dynamic three-dimensional structure of mammalian genomes and provide insight into how organizing components of 4D genome architecture affect biological processes in live cells.

**Budget:** A total of \$7 million is available for FY 2020. It is anticipated that 5-7 awards will be made. The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Application budgets are limited to \$800,000 direct costs per year. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

#### 12. 4DN Centers for Data Integration, Modeling and Visualization (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-RM-20-004](#)

**Type:** UM1

**Application Due Date:** March 17, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for research projects to generate reference datasets and to create navigable maps for the study of the spatial and temporal organization of the nucleus, using genomic and imaging data as well as newly developed visualization and integrative analysis tools.

**Budget:** The Office of Strategic Coordination (Common Fund) intends to commit \$7M in FY 2020 to fund 3-4 awards. The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Application budgets must reflect actual needs of the proposed project. Application budgets are limited to \$1.5 million direct costs per year (excluding first-tier subcontract Facilities and Administrative [F&A] costs). The scope of the project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

### 13. 4DN Organization and Function in Human Health and Disease (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Hyperlink:** [RFA-RM-20-005](#)

**Type:** U01

**Application Due Date:** March 2, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement:** To support projects that apply new or existing tools to monitor and/or manipulate the 4D nucleome in the context of human health and disease. Any human disease or biological process relevant to NIH's mission may be proposed including environmental exposures (e.g. addictive substances, toxins, psychosocial stress), or studies across development or lifespan. Other relevant timeframes may include but are not limited to: circadian rhythms, fasting and feeding cycles, reproductive cycles, and sleep/wake cycles.

**Budget:** The Office of Strategic Coordination (Common Fund) intends to commit \$7.5M in FY2020 to fund 10-14 awards Application budgets may not exceed \$400,000 in direct costs for any one year and need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 5 years.

**Brief definitions of some NIH grant mechanisms:** [comprehensive list of extramural grant and cooperative agreement activity codes](#)

Research Development and Support Division (RDSD),  
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Teaching Block, Tygerberg Campus.  
Enquiries: *Christa*  
e: [cdevries@sun.ac.za](mailto:cdevries@sun.ac.za) | t: +27 21 938 9838

Afdeling Navorsingsontwikkeling/Division for Research Development (DRD)  
Stellenbosch University  
2038 Wilcocks Building, Ryneveld Street  
Enquiries: *Lizél*  
e: [lizelk@sun.ac.za](mailto:lizelk@sun.ac.za) | t: +27 21 808 2105