

## **NATIONAL CENTERS FOR NEUROFIBROMATOSIS RESEARCH: PAR-04-018**

**Purpose:** The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) and the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders invite qualified investigators to submit grant applications for the establishment of National Centers for Neurofibromatosis Research. Recent discoveries have created important opportunities for basic, translational, and clinical research on the neurofibromatoses. The purpose of this program announcement (PA) is to encourage the formation and development of research centers that can capitalize on these opportunities and ultimately develop therapeutic interventions for neurofibromatosis patients. These centers are intended to provide focused expertise and resources and establish a multidisciplinary environment that will accelerate research progress.

**Term/Amount:** The mechanism of support for this solicitation will be the research center grant (P50). Because the nature and scope of the research proposed in response to this PA may vary, it is anticipated that the size of the award may also vary. NINDS P50 grants are generally limited to \$1 million per year direct costs for 5 years. However, high-quality patient-oriented research requires resources devoted to training personnel, ensuring appropriate inclusion and follow-up of subjects, monitoring patient safety, and coordinating activities among participating sites. Therefore, NINDS recently published a notice raising the budget ceiling for specific solicited P50 applications to \$1.5 million per year direct costs. This increased ceiling will also apply to center applications received through this PA that have significant clinical components. Applicants requesting additional funds must explain clearly why they are required for the proposed clinical studies.

**Deadlines:** Application deadlines are February 1, 2006, June 1, 2006, and October 1, 2006.

Complete details are available at <<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-04-018.html>>.

## **WEIGHT LOSS IN OBESE ADULTS WITH CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FACTORS: CLINICAL INTERVENTIONS: RFA-HL-06-007**

**Purpose:** The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the National Institutes of Health invites applications for cooperative agreements to conduct randomized clinical trials (RCTs) to test the effectiveness of interventions delivered in routine clinical practice on achieving weight loss in obese patients who have other cardiovascular risk factors. Routine clinical practice, for the purpose of this request for applications (RFA), is defined as outpatient clinical care delivery and includes primary care settings and relevant specialty settings, such as general internal medicine or cardiology practices. Effectiveness studies focus on interventions that can be

easily adapted and adopted in routine clinical practice settings. The results of the studies are expected to be widely disseminated to improve the scientific basis of care for affected individuals.

**Term/Amount:** The NHLBI intends to commit up to \$3 million in FY 2006 to fund three to five RCTs in response to this RFA. The maximum amount for each RCT for 5 years will be \$3,550,000 in direct costs. Each applicant may request a project period of 5 years and a budget for direct costs of up to \$500,000 for the first year, \$850,000 for the second year, \$850,000 for the third year, \$850,000 for the fourth year, and \$500,000 for the fifth year. Because the nature and scope of the proposed research will vary from application to application, it is anticipated that the size and duration of each award will also vary. Although the financial plans of the NHLBI provide support for this program, awards pursuant to this RFA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the receipt of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. A total of up to \$20 million is available from NHLBI over the 5-year period for the project. It is anticipated that the maximum award for the resource and coordination functions will be approximately \$675,000 in direct costs, including direct costs of up to \$150,000 for the first year, \$125,000 for the second year, \$125,000 for the third year, \$125,000 for the fourth year, and \$150,000 for the fifth year. The RCF costs are in addition to the RCT costs.

**Deadlines:** Letter of intent receipt date: January 17, 2006; application receipt date: February 15, 2006.

Complete details are available at <<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-06-007.html>>.

## **TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH GRANTS FOR BRAIN TUMORS**

**Purpose:** The American Brain Tumor Association is seeking outstanding young brain tumor researchers to begin a fellowship July 1, 2006, for studies to be conducted in the United States or Canada. All such research will be given serious consideration, including pediatric brain tumor research. Eligibility requirements for pediatric applicants may vary from other applicants, depending on their training programs. Additionally, we are interested in receiving innovative research proposals—those that incorporate new or original concepts and have the potential to make a difference.

**Term/Amount:** The fellowship is intended to provide salary support of \$60,000 to a postdoctorate who has demonstrated the motivation and potential to conduct this research. The remaining \$10,000 is to be expended at the discretion of the researcher for equipment/supplies or travel to an appropriate meeting, including a trip to Chicago in May 2008 to present research results.

**Deadlines:** Applications must be received by January 5, 2006.

Complete details are available at <<http://www.abta.org/abtaresearchfunding.htm>>.