

VA Funding Mechanisms

VA Intranet site

<http://vaww.research.va.gov/funding/>

Why VA Research

- National, integrated healthcare system
- Data, Data, Data
- Potential for rapid, national expansion of successful new models of care
- Terrific career development opportunities

Office of Research & Development (ORD) Services

- BLR&D
 - Biomedical Laboratory
- HSR&D
 - Health Services
- RR&D
 - Rehabilitation
- CSR&D
 - Clinical Science

Types of Research Awards

- Career Development Awards
 - CDA-1 (similar to T32) only Rehab R&D
 - CDA-2 (similar to K series) – all 4 Research services
 - CDEA – Sr level scientist training in new area
- Merit Review (similar to R01)
- Cooperative Studies Program (multi-site clinical trials) – administered through CSR&D
- Research Career Scientist (VA Tenure)

Who Can Apply?

- *Intramural* program – only VA employees can conduct VA-sponsored research
- U.S. citizenship
 - Exception for clinicians on the medical care payroll who make no changes to their existing VA appointment
 - For questions – contact program officer

CDA-1

- Only offered through RR&D
 - (Clinicians and Non-clinicians)
- 2-year award for post-doctoral research
- Should not be more than 2 years beyond completion of training
- Instructor level or below
- Only salary support

CDA-2

- 3 to 5 years of support
- Salary + \$65K/year research funding (RR&D) and \$30K additional start-up (CSR&D, BLR&D)
- HSR&D research budget \$40-50K/year
- Clinicians or Non-Clinicians
- Not more than 5 years beyond end of training
- Assistant Professor or below
- Minimum 75% commitment to research with at least a 5/8 appt

Letter of Intent

- LOI required for CDA applications
- LOI required for CSR&D Merit (clinical trials) and RR&D Merit applications
- Intent to Submit (ITS) required for HSR&D Merit applications
- Non-clinicians must be approved by BLR&D prior to submission

CDA LOI Deadlines and Contacts

SERVICE	LOI SUBMISSION DEADLINES	LOI SUBMISSION ADDRESS	CONTACT
Biomedical Laboratory R&D	June 1 December 1	vhacadereview@va.gov	Kera P. Lawson (10P9B) vhacadereview@va.gov (202) 443-5685
Clinical Science R&D	June 1 December 1	vhacadereview@va.gov	Kera P. Lawson(10P9C) vhacadereview@va.gov (202) 443-5685
Health Services R&D	April 15 October 15	robert.small@va.gov	Robert Small (124D) robert.small@va.gov (202) 443-5743
Rehabilitation R&D	May 1 November 1	rrdreviews@va.gov	Jay Freedman, PhD (122P) jay.freedman@va.gov (202) 443-5760

Merit Review Award

- Deadlines
- BLR&D and CSR&D: Spring and Fall
- RR&D and HSR&D: Summer and Winter

- 4 year awards (competitive renewals for up to 4 yrs)
- Max \$150K per year (does not include non-clinician PI salary) + 50K startup
- Clinician salary not included in Merits

Merit Review Award

- PI must be 5/8 VA
- New non-clinician PI's must be approved by BLR&D and CSR&D
- 15 page limit (1 pg Specific Aims + 14 pgs Research Plan)
- 2 resubmissions allowed

Grant Submission

- eRA commons registration
- Grants.gov submission site
- Local Research & Development committee approval required before submitting
- Grant submission and administration coordinated at local VA research office

Review Criteria

- Significance
- Innovation
- Approach
- Feasibility
- Investigator
- Multiple PI/PD leadership plan (if applicable)
- Environment

Review Process

- Score is 100 – 500 for discussed applications
- Score and percentile given
- Funding line varies – typically need at least 140 – 180
- CDA's may have a separate study section

Clinical Demonstration Funds

- T21 – Transformation of VA Healthcare in the 21st Century
- Office of Rural Health (ORH) awards
- Awards are typically 1 year with possible renewal
- QI projects (not Research)

For More Information

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