

Limited Submissions

Limited Submissions Committee

Tufts University

LIMITED SUBMISSION: NIH Consortia for HIV/AIDS Vaccine Development (CHAVD)

*****PLEASE NOTE: ONE (1) PROPOSAL FROM TUFTS MAY BE NOMINATED*****

DEADLINES:

Tufts Internal Email of Intent Deadline: February 16 *by noon*

Sponsor Deadline: May 28, 2018 (letter of intent)

June 28, 2018 (full application)

For those interested, please send an **email of intent** to the Limited Submissions Team at limitedsubmissions@tufts.edu informing us of an intention to apply. EOI's received after the deadline will not be considered. The email of intent must include:

1. *The name of the solicitation,*
2. *The name of the Principal Investigator, and any co-PI's,*
3. *A 2-3 sentence description of the proposed project.*

Should the number of interested applicants exceed the number allowed by the funder, an internal selection process will be conducted by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, and candidates will be notified to submit internal application materials. All candidates will be notified of results. NB: Successful applications must include official notification from the Limited Submissions Team in order to submit. For more information, please see <http://viceprovost.tufts.edu/resources/funding/limited-submissions/>

PROGRAM INFORMATION: This FOA solicits applications to establish Consortium for HIV Vaccine Development (CHAVD). CHAVDs will support coordinated, multidisciplinary teams of researchers focused on multi-pronged approaches to accelerate HIV vaccine development by iteratively, as well as in parallel, addressing key immunogen design roadblocks to the discovery and development of a safe and effective antibody-mediated preventive HIV vaccine.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: The objective of this FOA is to exploit recent progress in vaccine science by establishing new, large research consortia, the Consortia for HIV/AIDS Vaccine Development (CHAVD), to undertake the next steps in protective antibody-inducing immunogen design research. Over the 7-year period of award, these new research consortia should apply state-of-the-art technologies and immunologic tools to focus on iterative, rational vaccine design. The CHAVD research should elucidate how to elicit antibody response(s) capable of preventing acquisition of HIV infection. Approaches include, for example:

- Identifying the epitopic specificity and other qualities of antibody responses that can provide protective immunity by (1) inducing durable broad-coverage virus neutralizing antibody responses, (2) inducing durable, broad-coverage antibody responses with other specific, protective antiviral function(s) such as antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity (ADCC), antibody-dependent cell-mediated virus inhibition (ADCVI), antibody-mediated phagocytosis, etc., that may have contributed to efficacy in RV144, or (3) both (1) and (2)
- Studying envelope isolates, constructs, modifications, fragments, combinations and sequences to induce broadly protective antibody coverage.
- Exploring vectors/adjuvants/delivery technologies that facilitate the induction of different qualities and specificities of durably protective antibody responses.
- Performing proof-of-concept active and passive protection studies in nonhuman primates or other relevant animal models.
- Designing, performing GMP manufacturing process development, and manufacturing candidate immunogen constructs for iterative phase I clinical studies.

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ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION: There are no restrictions or limits on who may serve as PI.

AWARD INFORMATION: NIAID intends to commit \$34 M in FY 2019 to fund 1-2 awards over a seven-year period.

FURTHER INFORMATION: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-18-001.html>

NOTE: Program announcement instructions supersede instructions delivered in this document.