Program Announcement

for the

Department of Defense

Defense Health Program

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Prostate Cancer Research Program

Impact Award

Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-15-PCRP-IA

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 12.420

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW DATES AND TIMES

- **Pre-Application Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), June 25, 2015
- **Invitation to Submit an Application:** July 2015
- **Application Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, September 24, 2015
- **End of Application Verification Period:** 5:00 p.m. ET, September 29, 2015
- **Peer Review:** November 2015
- **Programmatic Review:** February 2016

The CDMRP eReceipt System has been replaced with the electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP). Principal Investigators and organizational representatives should register in eBRAP as soon as possible. All pre-applications must be submitted through eBRAP. In addition, applications submitted through Grants.gov will now be available for viewing, modification, and verification in eBRAP prior to the end of the application verification period.

This Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity is one of two documents with instructions to prepare and submit an application for this funding opportunity. The second document, the General Application Instructions, is available for downloading from Grants.gov.

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I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Program Description

Applications to the Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) are being solicited for the Defense Health Agency, Research, Development, and Acquisition (DHA RDA) Directorate, by the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA). As directed by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, the DHA RDA Directorate manages and executes the Defense Health Program (DHP) Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) appropriation. The executing agent for this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity is the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP). The PCRP was initiated in 1997 to promote innovative research focused on eradicating prostate cancer. Appropriations for the PCRP from FY97 through FY14 totaled $1.37 billion. The FY15 appropriation is $80 million (M).

The mission of the FY15 PCRP is to find and fund research that will lead to the elimination of death from prostate cancer and enhance the well-being of men experiencing the impact of the disease. Specifically, the PCRP seeks to promote highly innovative, groundbreaking research; high-impact research with near-term clinical relevance; multidisciplinary, synergistic research; translational studies to support the fluid transfer of knowledge between bedside and bench; research on patient survivorship and quality of life; the next generation of prostate cancer investigators through mentored research; and research on disparities in the incidence and mortality of prostate cancer.

The FY15 funding opportunities offered by the PCRP seek to address these priorities with a reduced number of award mechanisms. The PCRP has consolidated many of the discipline-specific mechanisms that have been offered in prior fiscal years to provide a more simplified funding approach focused around the program's priorities of innovation, impact, and training. Specific mechanisms also incorporate options to support both individual awards and team-based awards. All mechanisms continue to maintain the program's focus toward meeting the PCRP mission.

PCRP Overarching Challenges

Consistent with the program's mission to eliminate death from prostate cancer and enhance the well-being of men experiencing the impact of the disease, including those from disproportionately affected populations, each PCRP funding opportunity either requires or encourages (see Section I.C., Award Information) applications to address one of the following four PCRP overarching challenges:

- Develop better tools for early detection of clinically relevant disease
- Distinguish aggressive from indolent disease in men newly diagnosed with prostate cancer
- Develop effective treatments and address mechanisms of resistance for men with high-risk or metastatic prostate cancer
- Develop strategies to optimize the physical and mental health of men with prostate cancer

B. FY15 PCRP Focus Areas *(revised for FY15)*

All applications for the FY15 PCRP funding opportunities are also expected to address at least one of the following PCRP focus areas:

- **Biomarker Development:** Validation and qualification of biomarkers for early detection of clinically relevant disease or for prognosis or prediction and assessment of response to therapies.
- **Genetics:** Understanding host or tumor genetics and epigenetics responsible for susceptibility, disease progression, and treatment outcomes for clinically relevant prostate cancer.
- **Imaging:** Development of new anatomic, functional, and molecular imaging approaches for the detection and management of clinically relevant prostate cancer
- **Mechanisms of Resistance and Response:** Understanding primary and acquired resistance as well as exceptional response to therapy.
- **Survivorship and Palliative Care:** Improving the quality of life and well-being of prostate cancer patients and their families.
- **Therapy:** Identification of targets and pathways and optimization (including sequencing and combination therapies) of therapeutic modalities, including metastatic prostate cancer.
- **Tumor and Microenvironment Biology:** Understanding the intrinsic and extrinsic mechanisms contributing to tumor development and the progression of prostate cancer.

C. Award Information

The PCRP Impact Award mechanism was first offered in FY10. Since then, 42 Impact Award applications have been received, and 5 have been recommended for funding.

The FY15 PCRP Impact Award encourages applications that support the full spectrum of research projects or ideas that specifically focus on scientific and clinical prostate cancer issues, which, if successfully addressed, have the potential to make a major impact in eliminating death from prostate cancer and enhancing the well-being of men experiencing the impact of the disease.

The critical components of this award mechanism are:

Impact: The Impact Award is intended to support research that demonstrates the potential to have a major impact on an area of paramount importance in prostate cancer. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator (PI) to clearly and explicitly describe the potential impact on prostate cancer and to convey its level of significance. ***Applicants are highly encouraged to address one of the PCRP overarching challenges, and are expected to address at least one of the PCRP focus areas.*** If the proposed project does not address any of the overarching challenges, the application should include a description to justify how the project will nevertheless address a critical need in the field of prostate cancer research and/or patient care. The Impact Award is intended to support the full spectrum of research ideas from basic to

clinical research. Therefore, the potential impact of the proposed research may be near-term or long-term, but it must be significant and non-incremental. Applications must articulate the pathway to making a clinical impact for individuals with, or at risk for, prostate cancer, even if clinical impact is not an immediate outcome.

To maximize the potential for impact, investigators are strongly encouraged to incorporate the following components into their study design where appropriate: authentication of proposed cell lines; statistical rigor of preclinical animal experiments; incorporation of experiments to assess clinical relevance and translatability of findings. As such, the PCRP-funded Prostate Cancer Biorepository Network (PCBN) (http://www.prostatebiorepository.org) and/or the North Carolina – Louisiana Prostate Cancer Project (PCaP) (http://www.ncla-pcap.org) are important resources to consider if retrospectively collected human anatomical substances or correlated data are critical to the proposed studies. Studies utilizing data derived from large patient studies that include long-term health records, biospecimen repositories, and pre-existing research and that apply state-of-the art genomic and/or proteomic analysis, bioinformatics, and/or mathematical models to such data are also encouraged.

Research Scope: The PCRP seeks applications from investigators from a wide spectrum of disciplines including, but not limited to, basic science, engineering, bioinformatics, population science, translational research, and clinical research, including clinical trials. Projects that incorporate population science-based approaches are particularly encouraged. Applications must include preliminary data to support feasibility of the study. Any unpublished, preliminary data provided should originate from the laboratory of the PI or a member(s) of the research team.

Data- and Research Resource-Sharing Plan: It is the intent of the PCRP Impact Award that data and research resources generated by funded research activities be made available to the research community (which includes both scientific and consumer advocacy communities) and to the public at large. Each proposal should include a data- and/or research resource-sharing plan describing how unique and/or final research data will be shared, along with any resulting research resources. This information should be provided as the Data- and Research Resource-Sharing Plan as described in Section II.C., Application Submission Content and Form, of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. Refer also to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, for more information.

Partnering PI Option: The FY15 Impact Award is offering a Partnering PI Option with a higher level of funding to support synergistic partnerships. The Partnering PI Option is structured to accommodate up to a total of three PIs. One PI will be identified as the Initiating PI and will be responsible for the majority of the administrative tasks associated with application submission. The other PI(s) will be referred to as the Partnering PI(s). Initiating and Partnering PIs each have different submission requirements as described in Section II; however, all PIs should contribute significantly to the development of the proposed research project. The PIs may have expertise in similar or disparate scientific disciplines. It is the responsibility of the collaborating investigators to describe how their combined expertise will combine and synergize to maximize the project's outcomes. If recommended for funding, each PI will receive his or her own award. ***To justify the higher funding level, the research project must be supported by the unique expertise, experience, and abilities of each PI, and the application must clearly define the synergistic components that will facilitate and accelerate progress in a way that could not***

be accomplished through independent efforts. Multidisciplinary projects are encouraged, and multi-institutional projects are allowed. Each proposed study must include clearly stated plans for interactions among all PIs and organizations involved. The plans must include communication, coordination of research progress and results, and data transfer. Additionally, multi-institutional applications must provide an intellectual property plan to resolve potential intellectual and material property issues and to remove institutional barriers that might interfere with achieving high levels of cooperation to ensure the successful completion of this award.

Research Involving Human Anatomical Substances, Human Subjects, or Human Cadavers: All Department of Defense (DoD)-funded research involving new and ongoing research with human anatomical substances, human subjects, or human cadavers must be reviewed and approved by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) Office of Research Protections (ORP), Human Research Protection Office (HRPO), in addition to the local Institutional Review Board (IRB) of record. Local IRB approval at the time of submission is ***not*** required. The HRPO is mandated to comply with specific laws and requirements governing all research involving human anatomical substances, human subjects, or human cadavers that is supported by the DoD. These laws and requirements will necessitate information in addition to that supplied to the IRB. ***Allow a minimum of 2 to 3 months for HRPO regulatory review and approval processes***. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, and the Human Subject Resource Document available on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) for additional information.

Guidelines for Animal Research: All projects should adhere to a core set of standards for rigorous study design and reporting to maximize the reproducibility and translational potential of preclinical research. The standards are described in Landis, S.C., et al. A call for transparent reporting to optimize the predictive value of preclinical research. Nature 2012, 490:187-191 (www.nature.com/nature/journal/v490/n7419/full/nature11556.html). While these standards are written for preclinical studies, the basic principles of randomization, blinding, sample-size estimation, and data handling derive from well-established best practices in clinical studies. Applicants should consult the ARRIVE (Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments) guidelines to ensure relevant aspects of rigorous animal research are adequately planned for and, ultimately, reported. The ARRIVE guidelines can be found at http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/page.asp?id=1357.

All Department of Defense (DoD)-funded research involving new and ongoing research with animals must be reviewed and approved by the USAMRMC ORP Animal Care and Use Review Office (ACURO), in addition to the local Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) of record. IACUC approval at the time of submission is not required. Specific documents relating to the use of animals in the proposed research will be requested if the application is selected for funding. The ACURO must review and approve all animal use prior to the start of working with animals. PIs must submit the institutional animal use protocol, IACUC approval of that protocol, and a version of the animal use appendix titled "Research Involving Animals." ***Allow at least 3 to 4 months for regulatory review and approval processes for animal studies.*** Refer to General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, for additional information.

The CDMRP intends that information, data, and research resources generated under awards funded by this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity be made available to the research community (which includes both scientific and consumer advocacy communities) and to the public at large. For additional guidance, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, Section L.

D. Eligibility Information

- Independent investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent) are eligible to submit an application.
- **Partnering PI Option**
  - Independent investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent) are eligible to submit an application as Initiating or Partnering PIs under the Partnering PI Option.
- Cost sharing/matching is not an eligibility requirement.
- Eligible investigators must apply through an organization. Organizations eligible to apply include national, international, for-profit, nonprofit, public, and private organizations.
- Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for general eligibility information.

E. Funding

- The maximum period of performance is **3** years.
- The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance will not exceed **$750,000**. Associated indirect costs can be budgeted in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate. No budget will be approved by the Government exceeding **$750,000** direct costs or use an indirect rate exceeding the organization's negotiated rate.
- **Partnering PI Option:**
  - The anticipated combined direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI(s) applications will not exceed **$2M**. The combined total direct costs of Initiating PI and the Partnering PI(s) awards will not exceed **$2M** direct costs. If the Initiating PI's or Partnering PI's budgets contain a subaward (or multiple subawards), all direct and indirect costs of the subaward(s) must be included in the direct costs of the primary award. Collaborating organizations should budget associated indirect costs in accordance with each organization's negotiated rate. The combined budgeted direct costs approved by the Government will not exceed **$2M** or use an indirect rate exceeding each organization's negotiated rate.
  - A separate award will be made to each PI's organization.
  - The PIs are expected to be equal partners in the research, and direct cost funding should be divided accordingly, unless otherwise warranted and clearly justified.

- All direct and indirect costs of any subaward (subgrant or subcontract) must be included in the total direct costs of the primary award.
- The applicant may request the entire maximum funding amount for a project that may have a period of performance less than the maximum **3** years.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.5., for budget regulations and instructions for the Research & Related Budget. ***For all Federal agencies or organizations collaborating with Federal agencies, budget restrictions apply as are noted in Section II.C.5. of the General Application Instructions***.

For this award mechanism, direct costs may be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Salary
- Research supplies
- Equipment
- Research-related subject costs
- Clinical research costs
- Support for multidisciplinary collaborations
- Travel between collaborating organizations
- Travel costs to attend scientific/technical meetings. ***The Government reserves the right to direct the selection of one of these meetings, should a PCRP-sponsored meeting be convened during the award period of performance.***

Intramural (DoD), other Federal agency, and extramural investigators are encouraged to apply to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. An intramural investigator is defined as a DoD military or civilian employee working within a DoD laboratory or medical treatment facility, or working in a DoD activity embedded within a civilian medical center. Intramural applicants and collaborators are reminded to coordinate receipt and commitment of funds through their respective resource managers. It is permissible for an intramural investigator to be named as a collaborator on an application submitted by an extramural investigator. ***In such cases, the extramural investigator must include a letter from the intramural collaborator's Commander or Commanding Officer that authorizes the involvement of the intramural collaborator.***

As required of all applicants to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity, if PIs from Federal agencies submit applications, they must submit through Grants.gov. Therefore, Federal applicants must be familiar with Grants.gov requirements, including the need for an active System for Award Management (SAM) registration and a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. Refer to Section II.A. of the General Application Instructions for further information regarding Grants.gov requirements.

Awards to extramural organizations will consist solely of assistance agreements (Cooperative Agreements and Grants). Awards to intramural agencies and other Federal agencies may be executed through a direct fund transfer (e.g., the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request

[MIPR] or Funding Authorization Document [FAD] process). Direct transfer of funds from the recipient to a Federal agency is not allowed except under very limited circumstances. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.5. Research & Related Budget, for additional information on budget considerations for applications involving Federal agencies.

The CDMRP expects to allot approximately $11.2M of the $80M FY15 PCRP appropriation to fund approximately 6 Impact Award applications, depending on the quality and number of applications received. Funding of applications received in response to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity is contingent upon the availability of Federal funds for this program.

II. SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Submission of applications that are essentially identical or propose essentially the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year is prohibited and will result in administrative withdrawal of the duplicative application.

Submission is a two-step process requiring both (1) pre-application submission through the electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) (https://eBRAP.org/) and (2) application submission through Grants.gov (http://www.grants.gov/). Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.A. for registration and submission requirements for eBRAP and Grants.gov.

eBRAP is a multifunctional web-based system that allows PIs to submit their pre-applications electronically through a secure connection, to view and edit the content of their pre-applications and full applications, to receive communications from the CDMRP, and to submit documentation during award negotiations and period of performance. A key feature of eBRAP is the ability of an organization's representatives and PIs to view and modify the Grants.gov application submissions associated with them. eBRAP will validate Grants.gov application files against the specific Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity requirements and discrepancies will be noted in an email to the PI and in the Full Application Files tab in eBRAP. It is the applicant's responsibility to review all application components for accuracy as well as ensure proper ordering as specified in this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

PIs should ensure that their name and email address are the same as the name and email address that will be provided on the SF-424 Form of the Grants.gov application package submitted to Grants.gov. The organization, Business Officials, PI(s), and eBRAP log number named in the full application submitted to Grants.gov must match those named in the pre-application in eBRAP.

Application viewing, modification, and verification in eBRAP is strongly recommended, but not required. The Project Narrative and Budget cannot be changed after the application submission deadline. Any other application component cannot be changed after the end of the application verification period.

Partnering PI Option: The Impact Award mechanism is structured to accommodate up to a total of three PIs. One PI will be identified as the Initiating PI and will be responsible for the

majority of the administrative tasks associated with application submission. The other PI(s) will be identified as Partnering PI(s). Initiating and Partnering PIs each have different submission requirements; however, all PIs should contribute significantly to the development of the proposed research project including the Project Narrative, Statement of Work, and other required components. The Initiating PI must complete the pre-application submission process and submit the contact information for each Partnering PI. The Partnering PI(s) will then be notified of the pre-application submission separately by email. ***The Partnering PI(s) must follow the link in this email and register with eBRAP in order to associate his/her Grants.gov application package with that of the Initiating PI.*** Do not delay completing these steps. If this is not completed, the Partnering PI(s) will not be able to view and modify his/her application submission in eBRAP.

A. Where to Obtain the Grants.gov Application Package

To obtain the Grants.gov application package, including all required forms, perform a basic search using the Funding Opportunity Number W81XWH-15-PCRP-IA in Grants.gov (http://www.grants.gov/).

B. Pre-Application Submission Content

All pre-application components must be submitted by the Initiating PI through eBRAP (https://eBRAP.org/). Because the invitation to submit an application is based on the contents of the pre-application, investigators should not change the title or research objectives after the pre-application is submitted.

PIs and organizations identified in the pre-application should be the same as those intended for the subsequent application submission. A change in PI or organization after submission of the pre-application may be allowed after review of a submitted written appeal (contact the CDMRP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507) and at the discretion of the USAMRAA Grants Officer.

The pre-application consists of the following components, which are organized in eBRAP by separate tabs (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.B., for additional information on pre-application submission):

- **Application Information – Tab 1**
- **Application Contacts – Tab 2**
    - Enter contact information for the PI. Enter the organization's Business Official responsible for sponsored program administration (the "person to be contacted on matters involving this application" in Block 5 of the Grants.gov SF-424 form). The Business Official must either be selected from the eBRAP list or invited in order for the pre-application to be submitted.
    - It is recommended that PIs identify an Alternate Submitter in the event that assistance with pre-application submission is needed.

- **Collaborators and Key Personnel – Tab 3**
  - Enter the name, organization, and role of all collaborators and key personnel associated with the application.
  - FY15 PCRP IP members should not be involved in any pre-application or application. A list of FY15 PCRP IP members can be found at http://cdmrp.army.mil/pcrp/panels/panel15. For questions related to IP members and pre-applications or applications, refer to Section IV.C., Withdrawal, or contact the CDMRP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507.
  - **Partnering PI Option:** The Initiating PI must enter the contact information for each Partnering PI in the Partnering PI section. This Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity allows a ***maximum of two*** Partnering PIs.
- **Conflicts of Interest (COIs) – Tab 4**
  - List all individuals other than collaborators and key personnel who may have a COI in the review of the application (including those with whom the PI has a personal or professional relationship).
- **Pre-Application Files – Tab 5**

  Note: Upload document(s) as individual PDF files unless otherwise noted. eBRAP will not allow a file to be uploaded if the number of pages exceeds the limit specified below.

  Preproposal Narrative (3-page limit): The Preproposal Narrative page limit applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings, etc.) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Preproposal Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application.

  The Preproposal Narrative should include the following:

  - **Background/Rationale:** Present the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed research, to include relevant literature citations.
  - **Hypothesis or Objective:** State the hypothesis to be tested or the objective to be reached.
  - **Research Approach:** State the project's specific aims and briefly describe the experimental approach to accomplishing the aims. Describe the preliminary power analysis that reflects sample size projections that will address the hypothesis and/or objective(s) of the proposed project (if applicable). Describe the availability of the necessary research resources as determined by the preliminary power analysis, and a brief summary of the plan for acquiring these research resources. If the proposed research includes a clinical trial, briefly state the clinical intervention, subject populations(s), and phase of the clinical trial.
  - **Research Team:** Describe the composition, expertise and organization of the research team and each team member's role in the project(s). Briefly describe how

these features will facilitate the success of the key aspects the project(s). Include evidence of sufficient clinical and/or statistical expertise, if applicable.

- **Partnering PI Option:** Identify the Initiating and Partnering PI(s) and describe the expertise each will bring to the project. Described how the combined expertise and efforts will provide synergy and enhance the research effort to produce an outcome greater than any that could be achieved by independent efforts. Include a description of how the combined efforts are centered on a unified objective and how the PIs will work together to achieve that objective from different perspectives.
- **Impact:** Describe the intended outcome of the proposed research, and how it will make a ***major impact*** in eliminating death from prostate cancer and enhancing the well-being of men experiencing the impact of the disease. Also, state how the project is responsive to at least one of the PCRP overarching challenges and at least one of the PCRP focus areas. If the proposed project does not address any of the overarching challenges, provide a description to justify how the project will nevertheless significantly address a critical need in the field of prostate cancer research and/or patient care.

Pre-Application Supporting Documentation: The items to be included as supporting documentation for the pre-application ***must be uploaded as individual documents*** and are limited to:

- **References Cited (one-page limit)**: List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the Preproposal Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, title of reference, source of reference, volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
- **List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols**: Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols used in the Preproposal Narrative.
- **Key Personnel Biographical Sketches** (five-page limit per individual).

- **Submit Pre-Application – Tab 6**
  - This tab must be completed for the pre-application to be accepted and processed.

Pre-Application Screening

- **Pre-Application Screening Criteria**

  To determine the technical merits of the pre-application and the relevance to the mission of the DHP and the PCRP, pre-applications will be screened by the PCRP IP based on the following criteria:

  - **Intent of the Award Mechanism:** To what degree the proposed research project will make a ***major impact*** in eliminating death from prostate cancer and enhancing the well-being of men experiencing the impact of the disease.
  - **Research Approach:** How well the rationale and specific aims support the project's objective(s). How the necessary research resources, as determined by the preliminary power analysis, are available to and accessible by the PI(s).

- **Research Team:** To what degree the research team's background is appropriate with respect to its ability to successfully complete the proposed work, including whether there is evidence of sufficient clinical and/or statistical expertise, if applicable.
- **Synergy *(Partnering PI Option only)*:** How well the proposed study represents a synergistic collaboration that will produce results greater than what could be accomplished through individual efforts. To what degree it is evident that all PIs have provided appropriate levels of intellectual input into the proposed project.

- **Notification of Pre-Application Screening Results**
  - Following the pre-application screening, PIs (or Initiating PIs, if applying under the Partnering PI Option) will be notified as to whether or not they are invited to submit applications; however, they will not receive feedback (e.g., a critique of strengths and weaknesses) on their pre-application. The estimated timeframe for notification of invitation to submit an application is indicated on the title page of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

C. Full Application Submission Content

Applications will not be accepted unless the PI or Initiating PI has received notification of invitation.

The CDMRP cannot make allowances/exceptions to its policies for submission problems encountered by the applicant organization using system-to-system interfaces with Grants.gov.

Each application submission must include the completed Grants.gov application package provided in Grants.gov for this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. The Grants.gov application package is submitted by the Authorized Organizational Representative through the Grants.gov portal (http://www.grants.gov/).

Note: The Project Narrative and Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline. If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or if the Project Narrative or Budget Form needs to be modified, an updated Grants.gov application package must be submitted via Grants.gov as a "Changed/Corrected Application" with the previous Grants.gov Tracking ID ***prior to the application submission deadline***.

Partnering PI Option: The CDMRP requires separate Grants.gov application package submissions for the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI(s), even if the PIs are located within the same organization. Initiating and Partnering PIs will each be assigned unique log numbers by eBRAP. Each Grants.gov application package must be submitted using the unique log number. ***Note: All associated applications (Initiating and each Partnering PI) must be submitted by the Grants.gov deadline.***

Application Components for the PI (for Single PI applicants) or the Initiating PI (if applying under the Partnering PI Option):

Grants.gov application package components: For the FY15 PCRP Impact Award, the Grants.gov application package includes the following components (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for additional information on application submission):

1. **SF-424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

2. **Attachments Form**

   Each attachment to the Grants.gov application forms must be uploaded as an individual PDF file in accordance with the formatting guidelines listed in Appendix 2 of the General Application Instructions. For all attachments, ensure that the file names are consistent with the guidance. Grants.gov will reject attachments with file names longer than 50 characters or incorrect file names that contain characters other than the following: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore, hyphen, space, and period. In addition, Grants.gov has file size limits that may apply in some circumstances. Individual attachments may not exceed 20 MB and the file size for the entire Grants.gov application package may not exceed 200 MB.

   - **Attachment 1: Project Narrative (15-page limit): Upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf."** The page limit of the Project Narrative applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings, etc.) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Project Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

     Outline for Project Narrative: Describe the project in detail using the outline below.

     - **Background/Rationale:** Briefly describe the ideas and reasoning on which the proposed work is based. Provide sufficient preliminary data to support the feasibility of work proposed. Demonstrate logical reasoning and provide a sound scientific rationale for the proposed project as established through a critical review and analysis of published literature. If proposing translational or clinical research, it is important to describe the studies showing proof of concept and clinical relevance.
     - **Hypothesis or Objective:** State the hypothesis to be tested or the objective to be reached.
     - **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project's specific aims to be funded by this award.

- **Research Strategy:**
  - Describe the experimental design, methods, and analyses including appropriate controls and endpoints to be tested (if applicable) in sufficient detail for analysis.
  - Explain how this research strategy will meet the research goals and milestones. Address potential pitfalls and problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches.
  - Clearly identify the source of any proposed cell lines, and whether they were recently authenticated and/or tested for mycoplasma contamination, if applicable.
  - If the methodology is new or unusual, provide sufficient details for evaluation.
  - Describe the availability of the necessary resources, including human subjects or human anatomical samples; include a detailed plan for the recruitment of subjects or the acquisition of samples. Address any potential ethical concerns. Outline how approvals from local IRBs will be obtained and how the informed consent process will be initiated, as applicable.
  - Describe the statistical plan including power analysis that reflects sample size projections that will address the hypothesis and/or the objectives of the project. If animal studies are proposed, describe how they will be conducted in accordance with the ARRIVE guidelines (http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/page.asp?id=1357).
  - Describe how the clinical relevance of the anticipated findings will be determined, if applicable.
  - Provide an overall strategic plan for completing the proposed project. If the entire project will not be completed during the performance period of the award, provide evidence that sufficient funds will be available to complete the project. For prospective clinical studies, describe and/or provide evidence that the research can be initiated within the first year of the award.
- **Research Team:** Discuss the qualifications of the research team, each individual's specific contributions to the project, including how the appropriate expertise is incorporated to address the research question and enable the success of the proposed project. If prospective clinical studies are included, the PI(s) or research team must demonstrate appropriate expertise in conducting clinical studies.
- **Clinical Trial (if applicable):** ***Only small-scale (e.g., up to and including Phase II or equivalent) clinical trials are allowed.*** Provide detailed plans for initiating and conducting the clinical trial during the course of this award. As appropriate, outline a plan for applying for and obtaining Investigational New Drug/Investigational Device Exemption (IND/IDE) status (or other Food and Drug Administration [FDA] approvals). Describe the rationale for the trial and summarize the previous work that led to the development of the proposed

clinical trial. Describe the type of clinical trial to be performed (e.g., prospective, randomized, controlled) and outline the proposed methodology in sufficient detail to show a clear course of action. Describe potential challenges and alternative strategies where appropriate.

- Identify the intervention to be tested and describe the projected outcomes.
- Define the study variables and describe how they will be measured. Include a description of appropriate controls and the endpoints to be tested.
- Describe the methods that will be used to recruit a sample of human subjects from the accessible population (e.g., convenience, simple random, stratified random). Provide information on the inclusion and exclusion criteria, the availability of and access to the appropriate patient population(s), as well as the ability to accrue a sufficient number of subjects for the clinical trial.
- Describe the human subject-to-group assignment process (e.g., randomization, block randomization, stratified randomization, age-matched controls, alternating group, or other procedures), if applicable. Explain the specific actions to accomplish the group assignment (e.g., computer assignment, use of table of random numbers).
- Describe the statistical model and data analysis plan with respect to the study objectives. Specify the number of human subjects that will be enrolled. If multiple study sites are involved, state the approximate number to be enrolled at each site. Include a complete power analysis to demonstrate that the sample size is appropriate to meet the objectives of the study.
- Describe the composition of the clinical trial team. Provide details on how the team (including investigator(s), study coordinator, statistician) possesses the appropriate expertise in conducting clinical trials.

- **Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation.** Start each document on a new page. Combine and upload as a single file named "Support.pdf." If documents are scanned to pdf, the lowest resolution (100 to 150 dpi) should be used. ***There are no page limits for any of these components unless otherwise noted. Include only those components described below; inclusion of items not requested will result in the removal of those items or may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.***
  - References Cited : List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the Project Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, title of reference, source of reference, volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
  - List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols: Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols.
  - Facilities, Existing Equipment, and Other Resources: Describe the facilities and equipment available for performance of the proposed project and any additional facilities or equipment proposed for acquisition at no cost to the award. Indicate

whether or not Government-furnished facilities or equipment are proposed for use. If so, reference should be made to the original or present Government award under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is no form for this information.

- Publications and/or Patent Abstracts: Include a list of relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If publications are not publicly available, then copies of up to five published manuscripts may be included in Attachment 2. Extra items will not be reviewed.
- Letters of Organizational Support: Provide a letter (or letters, if applicable), signed by the Department Chair or appropriate organization official, confirming the laboratory space, equipment, and other resources available for the project. Letters of support not requested in the Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity, such as those from members of Congress, do not impact application review or funding decisions.
- Letters of Collaboration (if applicable): Provide a signed letter from each collaborating individual or organization that will demonstrate that the PI has the support or resources necessary for the proposed work.
- Intellectual Property
  - Background and Proprietary Information: All software and data first produced under the award are subject to a Federal purpose license. Provide a list of all background intellectual property to be used in the project or provide a statement that none will be used. If applicable, state and identify the proprietary information that will be provided to the Government and indicate whether the applicant will require a waiver of the Federal purpose license.
  - Intellectual and Material Property Plan (if applicable): Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.

- **Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "TechAbs.pdf."** Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

  The technical abstract is used by all reviewers. Of particular importance, programmatic reviewers typically do not have access to the full application and therefore rely on the technical abstract for appropriate description of the project's key aspects. Therefore, clarity and completeness within the space limits of the technical abstract are highly important.

  Use the outline below.

  - Background: Present the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed work.
  - Objective: State the objective to be reached. Provide evidence or rationale that supports the objective/hypothesis.

- Specific Aims: State the specific aims of the study.
- Study Design: Briefly describe the study design, including appropriate controls.
- Impact: Summarize the impact of the proposed research, if successful, on the PCRP overarching challenges or other critical issues in prostate cancer.

- **Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "LayAbs.pdf."** Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

  The lay abstract is used by all reviewers. Of particular importance, programmatic reviewers typically do not have access to the full application and therefore rely on the lay abstract for appropriate description of the project's key aspects.

  - Clearly describe, in a manner readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine, the rationale, objective, and aims of the application.
    - Do not duplicate the technical abstract.
  - Describe the ultimate applicability of the research.
    - What types of patients will it help and how will it help them?
    - What are the potential clinical applications, benefits, and risks?
    - What is the projected time it may take to achieve a patient-related outcome?
    - What is the likely impact of this study on addressing a central question or problem in prostate cancer?

- **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (SOW) (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf."** The suggested SOW format and examples specific to different types of research projects are available on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm). For the Impact Award mechanism, use the SOW format example titled ""SOW (Statement of Work) Generic Format.". The SOW must be in PDF format prior to attaching. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.3., for detailed guidance on creating the SOW.

  Partnering PI Option: Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW. The contributions of the Initiating PI and Partnering PI(s) should be noted for each task. For investigators applying under this option, PIs are encouraged to use the SOW format example titled "SOW for Collaborative PI projects."

- **Attachment 6: Impact Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Impact.pdf."**

  Explain in detail why the proposed research project is important, as follows:

  Describe the short-term impact: Detail the anticipated outcome(s)/product(s) that will be directly attributed to the results of the proposed research, including any clinically relevant results.

Describe the long-term impact: Explain the anticipated long-term gains from the proposed research, and how the outcomes or products will be translated to prostate cancer patients, ultimately making a ***major impact*** on the goal of elimination of death from prostate cancer and enhancing the well-being of men experiencing the impact of the disease.

PCRP overarching challenges and focus areas: Summarize how the proposed project addresses one of the PCRP overarching challenges and at least one of the focus areas. If the project does not address any of the overarching challenges, provide a description to justify how the project will nevertheless significantly address a critical need in the field of prostate cancer research and/or patient care.

- **Attachment 7: Synergy Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Synergy.pdf."** ***(Attachment 7 is only applicable and required for applications submitted under the Partnering PI Option.)***
    - Discuss in detail the advantages of addressing this problem through the combined expertise of the PIs and how this contributes to the synergy of the application. Include each PI's history of synergistic and collaborative study with one another and/or with other investigators.
    - Describe the elements of interdependence in the proposed work and the contributions of each PI to the overall synergy of the project. Describe how the combined efforts of the PIs will result in a level of productivity that is greater than that achievable by each PI working independently.
    - Describe plans for communication, decision-making, allocation of resources, coordination of research progress and results, and sharing of data among all PIs and organizations participating in the project.

- **Attachment 8: Data- and Research Resource-Sharing Plan (one-page limit): Upload as "Sharing.pdf."**
    - Describe how unique and/or final research data will be shared with the wider prostate cancer research and consumer communities, along with any resulting research resources. This includes cases where pre-existing data or research resources will be utilized and/or modified during the course of the proposed project. If there are limitations associated with a pre-existing agreement for the original data or research resources that preclude subsequent sharing, the applicant should explain this in the data- and/or research resource-sharing plan.
    - Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section K, for additional information.
    - In preparing requested budgets, applicants may include anticipated costs associated with data- and research resource-sharing (i.e., making a large dataset available to the public or developing an important resource for the scientific community).

- **Attachment 9: Collaborating DoD Military Facility Budget Form(s), if applicable: Upload as "MFBudget.pdf."**

  If a Military Facility (military health system facility, research laboratory, treatment facility, dental treatment facility, or a DoD activity embedded with a civilian medical center) will be a collaborator in performance of the project, complete the Collaborating DoD Military Facility Budget Form (available for download on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page), including a budget justification, for each Military Facility as instructed. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.8., for detailed information.

3. **Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.4., for detailed information. Note: Some of the items in this attachment may be made available for programmatic review.

   - PI Biographical Sketch (five-page limit): Upload as "Biosketch_LastName.pdf." The suggested biographical sketch format is available on the "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) in eBRAP. The five-page National Institutes of Health Biographical Sketch may also be used.
   - PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support_LastName.pdf."
   - Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (five-page limit each): Upload as "Biosketch_LastName.pdf."
     - Include biographical sketches for the Partnering PI(s), if applying under the Partnering PI Option.
   - Key Personnel Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support_LastName.pdf."
     - Include previous/current/pending support for the Partnering PI(s), if applying under the Partnering PI Option.

4. **Research & Related Budget:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.5., for detailed information.

   - **Budget Justification (no page limit): Upload as "BudgetJustification.pdf."** The budget justification for the entire period of performance must be uploaded to the Research & Related Budget after completion of the budget for Period 1.
   - **Partnering PI Option:** Initiating and Partnering PIs must each submit a budget and justification specific to their own portion of the efforts as part of their separate Grants.gov application packages. The Research & Related Budget for the Initiating PI should not include budget information for Partnering PI(s), even if they are located within the same organization. The anticipated combined direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI(s) applications will not exceed **$2M**. The combined total direct costs of Initiating PI and the Partnering PI(s) awards will not exceed **$2M** direct costs. If

the Initiating PI's or Partnering PI's budgets contain a subawad (or multiple subawards), all direct and indirect costs of the subaward(s) must be included in the direct costs of the primary award. Collaborating organizations should budget associated indirect costs in accordance with each organization's negotiated rate. The combined budgeted direct costs approved by the Government will not exceed **$2M** or use an indirect rate exceeding each organization's negotiated rate.

5. **Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.6., for detailed information.

6. **R & R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.7., for detailed information.

Application Components for the Partnering PI(s) if applying under the Partnering PI Option:

Each Partnering PI MUST follow the link in the email from eBRAP and complete the registration process prior to the application submission deadline in order to associate his/her Grants.gov application package with that of the Initiating PI.

The application submission process for Partnering PI(s) uses an abbreviated Grants.gov application package that includes:

1. **SF-424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance Form**

2. **Attachments Form**

   - **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (SOW) (three-page limit):** Upload as "SOW.pdf." Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.3., for detailed information on completing the SOW. ***Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW. The contributions of the Initiating PI and Partnering PI(s) should be noted for each task.***

3. **Research & Related Budget:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.5., for detailed information.

   - Budget Justification (no page limit): Upload as "BudgetJustification.pdf."

   - **Partnering PI Option:** Initiating and Partnering PIs must each submit a budget and justification specific to their own portion of the efforts as part of their separate Grants.gov application packages. The Research & Related Budget for the Partnering PI(s) should not include budget information for the Initiating PI, even if they are at the same organization. The anticipated combined direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI(s) applications will not exceed **$2M**. The combined total direct costs of Initiating PI and the Partnering PI(s) awards will not exceed **$2M** direct costs. If the Initiating PI's or Partnering PI's budgets contain a subaward (or multiple subawards), all direct and indirect costs of the subaward(s) must be included in the direct costs of the primary award. Collaborating organizations should budget associated indirect costs in accordance with each organization's negotiated rate. The combined

budgeted direct costs approved by the Government will not exceed **$2M** or use an indirect rate exceeding each organization's negotiated rate.

4. **Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.6., for detailed information.

5. **R & R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C.7., for detailed information.

D. Applicant Verification of Grants.gov Submission in eBRAP

Prior to the end of the application verification period, PIs and organizational representatives can review and modify in eBRAP certain components of an application submitted to Grants.gov. Following retrieval and processing of the Grants.gov application, eBRAP will notify the organizational representatives and PI by email to log into eBRAP to review, modify, and verify the Grants.gov application submission. eBRAP will validate retrieved files against the specific Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity requirements and discrepancies will be noted in both the email and in the Full Application Files tab in eBRAP. eBRAP does not confirm the accuracy of file content. It is the applicant's responsibility to review all application components and ensure proper ordering as specified in the Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. ***If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation, an updated Grants.gov application package must be submitted via Grants.gov as a "Changed/Corrected Application" with the previous Grants.gov Tracking ID prior to the application submission deadline.*** The Project Narrative and Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline.

E. Submission Dates and Times

All submission dates and times are indicated on the title page of this Program Announcement/ Funding Opportunity. Pre-application and application submissions are required. Failure to meet either of these deadlines will result in application rejection.

F. Other Submission Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for detailed formatting guidelines.

All applications must be submitted through Grants.gov. Applicant organizations and all subrecipient organizations must have a DUNS number to submit applications to Grants.gov. The applicant organization must also be registered in the Entity Management functional area of the SAM with an "Active" status to submit applications through the Grants.gov portal. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.A., for information on Grants.gov registration requirements.

III. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Application Review and Selection Process

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and consumer advocates using a two-tier review process. The first tier is peer review of applications against established criteria for

determining technical merit. The second tier is a programmatic review that makes recommendations for funding to the DHA RDA Directorate and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, based on (a) technical merit and (b) the relevance to the mission of the DHP and PCRP, and to the specific intent of the award mechanism. The highestscoring applications from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Additional information about the two-tier process used by the CDMRP can be found at http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/fundingprocess.

All CDMRP review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the merit-based selection process. Panel members sign a nondisclosure statement that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the panel. Violations of confidentiality can result in the dissolving of a panel(s) and other corrective actions. In addition, personnel at the applicant or collaborating organizations are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process. Violations of these prohibitions will result in the administrative withdrawal of the organization's application. Violations by panel members or applicants that compromise the confidentiality of the review process may also result in suspension or debarment from Federal awards. Furthermore, the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information of one party to another third party is a crime in accordance with Title 18 United States Code 1905.

B. Application Review Process

1. **Peer Review:** To determine technical merit, all applications will be evaluated according to the following scored criteria, which are of equal importance:
    - **Impact**
        - To what degree the proposed research, whether in the short term or long term, would make a ***major impact*** toward the elimination of death from prostate cancer and enhance the well-being of men experiencing the impact of the disease.
        - How well the proposed research addresses one of the PCRP overarching challenges and at least one of the PCRP focus areas. If the project does not address any of the overarching challenges, provide a description to justify how the project will nevertheless significantly address a critical need in the field of prostate cancer research and/or patient care.
    - **Research Strategy and Feasibility**
        - How well the scientific rationale supports the research and its feasibility, as demonstrated by a critical review and analysis of the literature, the presentation of preliminary data, and logical reasoning.
        - How well the hypotheses or objectives, aims, experimental design, methods, and analyses are developed and integrated into the project.
        - How well the PI acknowledges potential problems and addresses alternative approaches.

- Whether the application includes an appropriate statistical plan with power analysis (if applicable).
- Whether the PI has provided sufficient evidence to support availability of and access to the populations/samples required for the study, and whether the plan for acquiring the necessary research resources is sufficient for the proposed research project (if applicable).
- How well the animal study (or studies) is designed to achieve the objectives and achieve reproducible and rigorous results (if applicable).
- Whether experiments to address the clinical relevance of the anticipated findings have been incorporated into the study design (if applicable).
- Whether appropriate measures have been taken or are in place to authenticate or verify any cell lines proposed for use in the study (if applicable).
- Whether the PI has provided sufficient evidence that resources will be available to complete longitudinal follow-up beyond the period of performance (if applicable).

- **Clinical Strategy** ***(for applications <u>with</u> a clinical trial)***
  - How the type of clinical trial (e.g., prospective, randomized, controlled) proposed is appropriate to meet the project's objectives.
  - How the clinical trial is designed with appropriate study variables, controls, and endpoints.
  - How the application demonstrates the availability of and access to the appropriate patient population(s), as well as the ability to accrue a sufficient number of subjects.
  - Whether the clinical trial design, methods, and analysis plan meet the requirements for applying for and obtaining IND/IDE status (or other FDA approvals), if appropriate.
  - Whether the PI has sufficiently demonstrated that the clinical trial can be initiated in the first year of the award.
  - Whether potential challenges and alternative strategies are appropriately identified.
- **Personnel**
  - To what degree the research team's background is appropriate with respect to its ability to perform the proposed work, including whether there is evidence of sufficient clinical and/or statistical expertise (if applicable).
  - To what degree the levels of effort are appropriate for successful conduct of the proposed work.

- **Synergy *(Partnering PI Option only)***
    - How the proposed partnership between the PIs is likely to result in a level of productivity that is greater than that achievable by each PI working independently.
    - To what degree the contributions of each PI to the project are appropriate and balanced.
    - How well the application addresses processes for ongoing communication, decision-making, allocation of resources, coordination of research progress and results, and sharing of data among all participating PIs and organizations.

In addition, the following unscored criteria will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application:

- **Ethics and/or Regulatory Issues**
    - Whether potential problems regarding ethics, information privacy, and assessment of risk versus benefit of participation have been adequately considered (if applicable).
- **Environment**
    - To what degree the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed research.
    - How well the research requirements are supported by the availability of and access to facilities and resources (including patient populations, samples, and collaborative arrangements).
    - To what degree the quality and extent of institutional support are appropriate for the proposed research.
    - If applicable, to what degree the intellectual and material property plan is appropriate.
- **Data and Resource Sharing**
    - To what degree the plan for sharing of project data and research resources is appropriate and reasonable to facilitate use by the wider prostate cancer research community.
- **Budget**
    - Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research and within the limitations of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.
- **Application Presentation**
    - To what extent the writing, clarity, and presentation of the application components influence the review.

2. **Programmatic Review:** To make funding recommendations and select the application(s) that, individually or collectively, will best achieve the program objectives, the following equally considered criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

   a. **Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers**

   b. **Relevance to the mission of the DHP and FY15 PCRP, as evidenced by the following:**

      - Adherence to the intent of the award mechanism
      - Programmatic relevance in relation to the PCRP overarching challenges and focus areas
      - Relative impact
      - Program portfolio composition

C. Recipient Qualification

For general information on required qualifications for award recipients, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1.

D. Application Review Dates

All application review dates and times are indicated on the title page of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

E. Notification of Application Review Results

Each PI and organization will receive email notification of posting of the funding recommendation in eBRAP. Each PI will receive a peer review summary statement on the strengths and weaknesses of the application.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

After receipt of pre-applications from eBRAP or applications from Grants.gov, the following administrative actions may occur:

A. Rejection

The following will result in administrative rejection of the pre-application:

- Preproposal Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Preproposal Narrative is missing.

The following will result in administrative rejection of the application:

- Submission of an application for which a letter of invitation was not received.
- Pre-application was not submitted.

- Project Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Partnering PI Option: Both associated (Initiating and Partnering PI) applications are not submitted by the deadline.
- Project Narrative is missing.
- Budget is missing.
- Submission of the same research project to different Funding Opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.

B. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specific limits will be removed prior to review for all documents other than the Preproposal Narrative and Project Narrative.
- Documents not requested will be removed.

C. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application or application:

- A FY15 PCRP IP member is named as being involved in the research proposed or is found to have assisted in the pre-application or application processes including, but not limited to, concept design, application development, budget preparation, and the development of any supporting documentation. A list of the FY15 PCRP IP members can be found at http://cdmrp.army.mil/pcrp/panels/panel15.
- The application fails to conform to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity description to the extent that appropriate review cannot be conducted.
- Inclusion of URLs, with the exception of links in References Cited and Publication and/or Patent Abstract sections.
- Page size is larger than 8.5 inches x 11.0 inches (approximately 21.59 cm x 27.94 cm).
- Inclusion of any employee of CDMRP review contractors in applications for funding without adequate plans to mitigate conflicts of interest. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.B., for detailed information.
- Personnel from applicant or collaborating organizations are found to have contacted persons involved in the review process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process.
- The invited application does not propose the same research project described in the pre-application.
- An application submitted by a PI who does not meet the eligibility criteria will be withdrawn.

D. Withhold

Applications that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending institutional investigation. The institution will be required to

provide the findings of the investigation to the USAMRAA Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

V. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Award Notice

Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2016. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, for additional award administration information.

Any assistance instrument awarded under this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity will be governed by the award terms and conditions, which conform to DoD's implementation of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars applicable to financial assistance. Terms and conditions of new awards made after December 26, 2014 may include revisions to reflect DoD implementation of new OMB guidance in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 2, Part 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" (2 CFR part 200).

B. Administrative Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3 for general information regarding administrative requirements.

C. National Policy Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4 for general information regarding national policy requirements.

D. Reporting

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, Section I, for general information on reporting requirements.

If employing the Partnering PI Option, each PI, whether the Initiating or a Partnering PI, must submit individual progress reports as required by his/her individual assistance agreement.

For all awards including prospective accrual of human subjects, quarterly technical progress reports will be required.

In addition to written progress reports, in-person presentations may be requested.

E. Award Transfers

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, Section M, for general information on organization or PI changes.

F. Pre-Award Meeting

At the Government's discretion, the PI or other personnel (such as the Clinical Study Coordinator for studies including clinical trials) may be requested to participate in a pre-award meeting at the Government's expense.

VI. AGENCY CONTACTS

A. CDMRP Help Desk

Questions related to Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity content or submission requirements as well as questions related to the submission of the pre-application through eBRAP should be directed to the CDMRP Help Desk, which is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. Response times may vary depending upon the volume of inquiries.

Phone: 301-682-5507

Email: help@eBRAP.org

B. Grants.gov Contact Center

Questions related to application submission through Grants.gov portal should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed on U.S. Federal holidays). Note that the CDMRP Help Desk is unable to provide technical assistance with Grants.gov submission.

Phone: 800-518-4726

Email: support@grants.gov

Sign up on Grants.gov for "send me change notification emails" by following the link on the Synopsis page for the Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity or by responding to the prompt provided by Grants.gov when first downloading the Grants.gov application package. If the Grants.gov application package is updated or changed, the original version of the application package may not be accepted by Grants.gov.

VII. APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Grants.gov Application Components	Upload Order	Action	Initiating PI Completed	Partnering PI Completed
SF-424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance		Complete form as instructed.		
Attachments Form	1	Project Narrative: Upload as Attachment 1 with file name "ProjectNarrative.pdf."		
	2	Supporting Documentation: Upload as Attachment 2 with file name "Support.pdf."		
	3	Technical Abstract: Upload as Attachment 3 with file name "TechAbs.pdf."		
	4	Lay Abstract: Upload as Attachment 4 with file name "LayAbs.pdf."		
	5	Statement of Work: Upload as Attachment 5 with file name "SOW.pdf."		
	6	Impact Statement: Upload as Attachment 6 with file name "Impact.pdf."		
	7	***(Partnering PI Only, if applicable)*** Synergy Statement: Upload as Attachment 7 with file name "Synergy.pdf," if applicable.		
	8	Data- and Resource-Sharing Plan: Upload as Attachment 8 with file name "Sharing.pdf," if applicable.		
	9	Collaborating DoD Military Facility Budget Form(s): Upload as Attachment 9 with file name "MFBudget.pdf," if applicable.		
Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)		Attach PI Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field.		
		Attach PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field.		
		Attach Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field.		
		Attach Previous/Current/Pending (Support_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field.		
Research & Related Budget		Complete form as instructed. Attach Budget Justification (BudgetJustification.pdf) to the appropriate field.		
Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form		Complete form as instructed.		
R & R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form		Complete form as instructed.		