Bridge Support Policy

GENERAL

The Bridge Support Program aims to provide maternal child health researchers up to 1 year of funding to aid in the continuation of independent investigator clinical and translational research projects (NIH R01 or NSF, DOD, or other equivalent award) so that progress may be made to obtain renewed or replacement funding.

All projects must be significantly related to the health of expectant mothers and children. The applicant must be a pediatrician, obstetrician, a child health subspecialist, or scientist who has a focus on, or plans to focus on, child health research.

Applicants pursuing this funding mechanism typically fall into one of the following categories:

- **Unsuccessful first submission of a competitive renewal.** Applicant must clearly address the concerns outlined in the summary statement.
- **Unsuccessful submission of a new R01 proposal if:**
  1. New proposal represents replacement funding for a previous NIH funded line of investigation that has run its course; or
  2. Applicant has completed a K08, K23, K12, or K01 grant or an equivalent NIH K grant intended for transition to independence and has received a priority score on the original R01 submission.
- **Unsuccessful submission of a new R21 proposal** will be considered if the proposal represents replacement funding for a previous NIH funded line of investigation that has run its course.
- **Unsuccessful (A1) resubmission of a competitive renewal or a new R01 (as outlined above)** will be considered if:
  1. Applicant received a strong priority score; and
  2. Applicant describes how the summary statement will guide development of a new application.

ELIGIBILITY

- Only research projects supported (or in progress) by an independent investigator award (NIH R01 or NSF, DOD, or other equivalent award) will be eligible.
- Applicant must hold an appointment in the following lines within SoM or Stanford University: CE/MCL/NTLR/NTLT/UTL.
- All appointees at the rank of Assistant Professor or above can apply
- All applicants must have or plan on having a focus on maternal child health research, or wish to expand their interest in maternal child health research
- All applicants must have legal residence in the United States (Applicants with H or J visas are eligible)

The following are not eligible:

- Visiting scholars to Stanford

IRB Approval (Approved Before Application)

IRB approval of the research project is required prior to application submission. IRB approval letter must be attached with application. For more information, please see: http://humansubjects.stanford.edu/

Pre-Submission Consultations

Project Design/General

CHRI Administration can help identify other Stanford resources (e.g., budgeting, statistics, and informatics) to improve proposal. To request a proposal consultation, contact chri_admin@stanford.edu at least 30 days prior to submission deadline.

Biostatistics Support

As part of a partnership with the Stanford Quantitative Sciences Unit (QSU), CHRI Support Program Applicants may request services that enhance the success of their research project (most services at no charge to the investigator). QSU expertise includes one-time consultations; help with grant proposal development, and as partners in the implementation of funded projects. Click here to

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1 “Children” or “Child” refers to expectant mothers, oocyte, zygote, embryo, fetus, infant, child, and/or adolescent.

2 If you are in the Dept. of Pediatrics, please contact Dr. Suzan Carmichael in the Pediatrics Research and Statistical Unit at scarmicahel@stanford.edu. She will help determine if your project is best supported through the Research and Statistical Unit or the QSU.
submit a request directly to the QSU. In addition, Spectrum also offers resources for biostatics support. Click here to view specific resources.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

**Application must:**
- Be enthusiastically endorsed by the Division Chief
- Letter from the Department Chair indicating, if awarded, the Department will supply $50K in matching funds (see **AWARD**)
- Be submitted prior to the termination of existing funding
- Include the summary statement of the unsuccessful submission
- Include written support of the program project principal investigator (in the case of sub-projects with program projects – P01, P50, SCOR, etc.)

**AWARD**

Total award is up to **$100,000** (50,000 from the CHRI and $50,000 cost shared from the applicant’s department) for one year. **One** proposal per applicant is accepted each cycle.

**Award may be used for:**
- Research personnel
- Supplies and ancillary services necessary for project
- Statistical support

**Award may NOT be used for:**
- PI Salary (Department is required to provide support)
- Travel, conference fees, tuition, classes
- Computer equipment or software
- Capital equipment
- Office supplies, ITSS communication
- Poster presentations, abstract submissions
- Any other indirect research costs

**Performance Period**

CHRI Bridge Support is for **no longer than 12 months**. Should renewed or replacement funding be awarded prior to bridge funding end date, the awardee is required to notify CHRI Administration and return any unexpended funds. The start date can be no later than three months after the award announcement date.

**Review Timeline**

- Three grant cycles are offered annually (January & May)
- Proposals are reviewed within 8-10 weeks of the submission deadline
- Awards are announced approximately 12 weeks from the submission deadline

**No-Cost Extensions (NCX)**

All unexpended funds must be returned to CHRI Administration after the 12-month performance period or if funding is obtained whichever comes first. A NCX will not be granted for the CHRI Bridge Support Program.

**Child Health Research Resources**

The award may be applied towards Research Coordinator Services to assist with any or all of the following: IRB applications, regulatory document completion, identification of eligible subjects, recruitment, enrollment, clinical data collection or sample acquisition, specimen handling/shipping, quality control, adverse event reporting, data entry, oversight of regulatory compliance, etc. Contact Child Health Research Support to request coordinator services.

**REVIEW CRITERIA**

Review is based on (1) relevance to maternal child health and (2) NIH Investigator-initiated Review Criteria:

1. **Significance.** Does this study address an important [child health] problem? If the aims are achieved, how will scientific knowledge or clinical practice be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventions that drive this field?

2. **Approach.** Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well-reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

3. **Innovation.** Is the project original and innovative? For example: Does it challenge existing paradigms, clinical practice, address an innovative hypothesis, or critical barrier to progress in the field? Does the project develop or use novel concepts, approaches, methods, tools, or technologies?

4. **Investigators.** Are the investigators appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers? Does the investigative team bring complementary and integrated expertise to the project (if applicable)?

5. **Environment.** Does the scientific environment contribute to the probability of success? Do the studies benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or use useful collaborative arrangements? Is there evidence of institutional support?
SELECTION PROCESS

Proposals will be reviewed by the CHRI Director, the applicant's Department Chair (or designee), Departmental Research Director (if applicable) and two reviewers who have expertise in the applicants field of study.

Successful proposals should demonstrate the potential to meet the following criteria:

- Significance of the research and maternal child health relevance
- Project's past productivity, external review assessment, track record in area, and appropriateness of the budget; and
- Project's likelihood of funding within the next appropriate funding cycle.

Reviewer Comments
All applicants will receive reviewer comments regardless of award and have the opportunity to address reviewer comments.

AWARDEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The PI will take responsibility for the research idea, development methods, IRB approval, supervision and conduct of the study in addition to the following:

- The PI will also list in their proposal a minimum of two external funding agencies to which an application for subsequent funding will be submitted
- Submit reports in a timely manner, including a Progress Report within 30 days of the award end date
- Provide updates in all Progress Reports on funding status from external and/or internal sources
- Submit progress reports for up to 3 years following the award end date that will include information about grants submitted, publications, employment, and new external funding resulting from this award
- Acknowledge research support in all publications, abstracts, and presentations as follows:

  "The project described in this publication was supported by the by the Child Health Research Institute."

Award recipients who have not acknowledged their work, as indicated above, are not eligible for future awards sponsored by the CHRI.

CONTACT

CHRI Administration:
chri_admin@stanford.edu
650-724-6891