The University’s internal deadline to coordinate applications for the National Cancer Institute (NCI), Outstanding Investigator Award (R35) (PAR-15-342) is 9/21/15 by 12 PM. If you are interested, please read on for details.


- **Purpose:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites grant applications for the Outstanding Investigator Award (R35) in any area of cancer research.

  The objective of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Outstanding Investigator Award (OIA) is to provide long-term support to accomplished investigators with outstanding records of cancer research productivity who propose to conduct exceptional research. The OIA is intended to allow investigators the opportunity to take greater risks, be more adventurous in their lines of inquiry, or take the time to develop new techniques. The OIA would allow an Institution to submit applications nominating established Program Directors/Principal Investigators (PDs/PIs) for 7-year grants.

  It is expected that the OIA would provide extended funding stability and encourage investigators to embark on projects of unusual potential in cancer research. The research projects should break new ground or extend previous discoveries toward new directions or applications that may lead to a breakthrough that will advance biomedical, behavioral, or clinical cancer research.

- **Eligibility:**
  - *Eligible Individuals (Program Director/Principal Investigator):* Only single PD/PI applications are allowed. Applications with multiple PD(s)/PI(s) will not be accepted.

  **Additional Eligibility Requirements:**
  - Applications must be submitted by Institutions who have nominated a Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) with outstanding cancer research productivity for at least the last 5 consecutive calendar years.
  - The Institution-nominated PD/PI must have been a PD/PI or Project Leader of a research project (excluding cores) on an eligible NCI research grant(s) continuously since September 2010. The continuous support cannot include supplements or no cost extensions. Examples of eligible research grant mechanisms are R01, R37, P01, P50, U01, U54, DP1, DP2, and DP5.
  - Due to the nature of this award, applicants are required to devote at least 50% (6 calendar months) of their total effort to the direct conduct of biomedical research (excluding patient and clinical responsibilities) to the OIA. Applicants with administrative responsibilities or other duties inconsistent with this time commitment, excluding clinical or patient responsibilities, may apply but must reduce those other commitments to accept the award.
- PDs/PIs with effort on other NIH grants will be expected to provide, as part of the Just-in-Time information, a detailed explanation describing how effort on his/her other NIH grants will be adjusted, if necessary, to permit 50% effort (6 calendar months) on the OIA.
- PD/PIs will need to renegotiate their time and effort on other grants, including NIH grants, in order to accommodate the OIA level of effort.

In addition, grantee Institutions are expected to: 1) provide clear and continuing substantial commitment to the PD/PI, for example providing at least 20% salary support for the duration of the award; 2) agree to relinquish the PD/PI's existing individual NCI research grants to allow them to be consolidated into the OIA.

**Individuals are NOT eligible for the Outstanding Investigator Award if:**

- Their only continuous NCI support since September 2010 is as a PD/PI is on Research Training and Fellowships (T & F series) and Career Development Awards (K series).
- Their only continuous NCI support as a PD/PI is on a R03, R15, R21, P30 Project Leader, R13, SBIR/STTR, Clinical Trials grant.

**Number of Applications:** Applicant organizations may submit more than one application, provided that each application is scientifically distinct. The NIH will not accept duplicate or highly overlapping applications under review at the same time. This means that the NIH will not accept:

- A new (A0) application that is submitted before issuance of the summary statement from the review of an overlapping new (A0) or resubmission (A1) application.
- A resubmission (A1) application that is submitted before issuance of the summary statement from the review of the previous new (A0) application.
- An application that has substantial overlap with another application pending appeal of initial peer review (see NOT-OD-11-101).

**Funds Available & Anticipated Number of Awards:** The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

**Budget & Project Period:** Awards will be for $600,000 Direct Costs each year for seven years, plus applicable Facilities and Administrative (F&A) costs to be determined at the time of award. The total project period cannot exceed seven (7) years.

**Application Details:** Since the University of Miami may submit an unlimited number of proposal(s) without scientific overlap, this opportunity is to coordinate applications. An expert panel will internally review our candidates to make sure there is no scientific overlap and that applicants meet the eligibility criteria for the R35 application. Approved applications will be submitted for competition by the NCI deadline on November 23, 2015 by 5:00 pm local time of applicant organization.

To apply, please send the following materials to Karen Lamper at klamper@miami.edu by 9/21/15 by 12 PM:

- Title of Proposal
- Your biosketch; including current and pending grant support.
A brief summary of your project (no more than two pages).

Please be cognizant that requested information above is required for the reviewers to make an informed decision/ranking regarding your research proposal for consideration as an internal award applicant. Failure to address each numbered sub-heading above can impact the ranking of your proposal.

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