

## NEWS RELEASE

Released: April 16, 2018

### **Defense Health Program Department of Defense Spinal Cord Injury Research Program Funding Opportunities for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18)**

**The FY18 Defense Appropriation provides \$30 million (M) to the Department of Defense Spinal Cord Injury Research Program (SCIRP)** to support innovative, high-impact spinal cord injury research. As directed by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, the Defense Health Agency, J9 Research and Development Directorate manages the Defense Health Program (DHP) Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) appropriation. The managing agent for the anticipated Program Announcements/Funding Opportunities is the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC).

The SCIRP is providing the information in this pre-announcement to allow investigators time to plan and develop applications. FY18 SCIRP Program Announcements and General Application Instructions for the following award mechanisms are anticipated to be posted on the Grants.gov website in May 2018. Pre-application and application deadlines will be available when the Program Announcements are released. This pre-announcement should not be construed as an obligation by the government.

For FY18, SCIRP encourages applications that address the critical needs of SCI research and patient care in one or more of the following FY18 Focus Areas:

- Neuroprotection
- Biomarkers
- Bladder and bowel dysfunction and neuropathic pain
- Psychosocial issues relevant to SCI in individuals with SCI and their caregivers
- Rehabilitation and regeneration

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding
<b>Clinical Trial Award</b>	Independent investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.</i></b></li> <li>• Fund Phase 0, I, or II clinical trials with the potential to have a major impact on treatment or management of spinal cord injury (SCI) and its consequences.</li> <li>• <b><i>Preclinical data required for all clinical trial applications.</i></b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum funding of <b>\$3M</b> for direct costs (plus indirect costs)</li> <li>• Maximum period of performance is <b>4</b> years</li> </ul>
<b>Investigator-Initiated Research Award</b>	Independent investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.</i></b></li> <li>• Fund SCI-related research that has the potential to make an important contribution to SCI research and/or patient care.</li> <li>• <b><i>Preliminary data required.</i></b></li> <li>• Clinical trials not allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum funding of <b>\$500,000</b> for direct costs (plus indirect costs)</li> <li>• Maximum period of performance is <b>3</b> years.</li> </ul>
<b>Qualitative Research Award</b>	Independent investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.</i></b></li> <li>• Fund qualitative research on military Service members and Veterans in the years following SCI.</li> <li>• Qualitative research is defined as a form of social inquiry that focuses on understanding the way that people interpret and make sense of their experiences and the world in which they live (i.e., seek to understand the human experience).</li> <li>• <b><i>Preliminary data encouraged, but not required.</i></b></li> <li>• Clinical trials not allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum funding of <b>\$500,000</b> for direct costs (plus indirect costs)</li> <li>• Maximum period of performance is <b>3</b> years</li> </ul>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding
<b>Translational Research Award</b>	Independent investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.</i></b></li> <li>• Fund studies that accelerate the movement of promising ideas in SCI research into clinical applications.</li> <li>• <b><i>Preliminary data required</i></b></li> <li>• <i>The SCIRP TRA may include a pilot clinical trial as part of the proposed research where limited clinical testing of a novel intervention or device is necessary to inform the next step in the continuum of translational research.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum funding of <b>\$1.25M</b> for direct costs (plus indirect costs)</li> <li>• Maximum period of performance is <b>3 years</b></li> </ul>

A pre-application is required and must be submitted through the electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) at <https://eBRAP.org> prior to the pre-application deadline. All applications must conform to the final Program Announcements and General Application Instructions that will be available for electronic downloading from the Grants.gov website. The application package containing the required forms for each award mechanism will also be found on Grants.gov. A listing of all CDMRP and other USAMRMC extramural funding opportunities can be obtained on the Grants.gov website by performing a basic search using CFDA Number 12.420.

Submission deadlines are not available until the Program Announcements are released. For email notification when Program Announcements are released, subscribe to program-specific news and updates under "Email Subscriptions" on the eBRAP homepage at <https://eBRAP.org>. For more information about the SCIRP or other CDMRP-administered programs, please visit the [CDMRP website \(http://cdmrp.army.mil\)](http://cdmrp.army.mil).

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