

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP)

The CDMRP originated in 1992 via a Congressional appropriation to foster novel approaches to biomedical research in response to the expressed needs of its stakeholders- the American public, the military, and Congress.

Funding for research programs managed by the CDMRP is not included in the DOD's budget request. In response to requests by consumer advocates and disease survivors, Congress adds the CDMRP program appropriations each fiscal year during the budget approval process. Programs and respective funding levels are not guaranteed year-to-year.

The CDMRP fills research gaps by funding high impact, high risk and high gain projects that other agencies may not venture to fund. While individual programs are unique in their focus, all of the programs managed by the CDMRP share the common goal of advancing paradigm shifting research, solutions that will lead to cures or improvements in patient care, or breakthrough technologies and resources for clinical benefit. The CDMRP strives to transform health care for Service Members and the American public through innovative and impactful research.

General Considerations

The CDMRP application submission process requires Principal Investigators and Business Officials to conduct preliminary registration steps in the **electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal eBRAP**, Grants.gov and the System for Award Management prior to executing three steps for successful application submission:

- Step 1: Submitting pre-applications in eBRAP
- Step 2: Submitting full applications in eBRAP or Grants.gov
- Step 3: Verifying application submission in eBRAP

Pre-applications are the first step to applying for funding from the CDMRP. A pre-application requires either a Letter of Intent, LOI, or a pre-proposal. Every funding opportunity from the CDMRP requires a pre-application, though the form and content will vary between funding opportunities.

Letter of Intent: There is no review and selection process for LOIs. The CDMRP uses LOIs for planning purposes only, e.g., reviewer recruitment. The CDMRP does NOT provide an

invitation to submit a full application after LOI submission. The CDMRP encourages applicants to concurrently develop LOI and full application components and to submit a full application AFTER successful submission of the LOI pre-application.

Pre-proposal: Pre-proposals undergo a review and selection process, and applicants will receive an invite/not invite decision. At this stage, applicants will not receive feedback, i.e., no critique of the pre-application's strengths and weaknesses. Full applications are submitted by invitation only.

eBRAP Registration

- Organizations, PIs, BO and AOR must register
- PIs must invite their organization, BO and AOR to register if they do not appear in eBRAP *BEFORE* submitting a pre-application
- PIs must request eBRAP to affiliate them with their organization upon logging in

Submitting Pre-Applications

All CDMRP funding opportunities require submission of a pre-application in eBRAP.

The CDMRP uses two types of pre-application formats, Letter of Intent or Pre-Proposal. The funding opportunity announcement specifies the type of pre-application submission.

- ***Letter of Intent:*** There is no review and selection process for LOIs. The CDMRP uses LOIs for planning purposes only, e.g., reviewer recruitment. ***Applicants will not receive an invitation and may proceed directly to full application submission.***
- ***Pre-Proposal:*** Pre-proposals undergo a review and selection process, and applicants will receive an "invite" or "not invite" decision for full application submission. ***Applicants that receive an invitation may proceed to full application submission.*** Applicants will not receive feedback at this stage, i.e., no critique of the pre-application's strengths and weaknesses.

Submitting Full Applications

- Extramural organizations submit full applications through Grants.gov.
- Intramural DOD organizations submit full applications through eBRAP.