



2008 Call for Applications

The California HIV/AIDS Research Program is pleased to announce our new grant opportunities for 2008. There are some key differences between the 2008 Call for Applications and those of previous years. Significantly, the award types differ for different field areas: [Basic Biomedical Sciences](#), [Clinical Sciences](#), [Research on Systems of Prevention and Care](#), and [Social and Behavioral Sciences](#). For many of the opportunities, submissions will be limited to high priority thematic areas. **Letters of Intent are required for all award types.** The table below is a summary of our new award types and provides a quick overview.

Key Dates

- **September 3** - Release of the Call for Applications, Instructions for the submission of Letters of Intent posted
- **September 12, 16** - Informational Teleconferences: check the [CHRP Web Site](#) for details
- **September 23** - Letters of Intent due for IDEAs (Innovative, Developmental, Exploratory Award) and Training Awards
- **September 30** - Letters of Intent due for Community Collaborative Research Awards, Collaborative HIV/AIDS Policy Research Center Awards, and California AIDS Multi-Institutional Clinical Studies (CAMICS) Awards
- **November 14** - Applications due before noon, Pacific Time
- **April 1, 2009** - Award Period Start Date

Funding decisions will be made available in late February or early March.

For general inquiries about the Call for Applications, contact CHRP at chrp@ucop.edu or (510) 987-9855

For general information about the California HIV/AIDS Research Program, please visit the [Program Web Site](#).

Summary of 2008 Award Types

BASIC BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES				
Grant Mechanism	Purpose	Priority Topic(s)	Award Amounts/Project Duration	Application Deadline
Innovative Pilot Studies (IDEA, Innovative, Developmental, Exploratory Award)	For pilot studies that explore novel ideas, methods and approaches or challenge existing paradigms in HIV/AIDS research	Open to all basic biomedical science topics (Excludes proposals on any non-HIV/SIV agents, except when studies directly relate to co-infection with HIV or SIV)	Up to \$160,000 total in direct costs for up to 2 years	Letter of Intent: Sept. 23 Application: Nov. 14
Research Training Awards	Dissertation and Postdoctoral Research fellowships under a designated mentor/advisor in a basic biomedical field related to HIV/AIDS	Open to all basic biomedical science topics (Excludes proposals on any non-HIV/SIV agents, except when studies directly relate to co-infection with HIV or SIV)	Dissertation Fellowships: Up to \$25,000 per year in direct costs for up to 2 years. Postdoctoral Fellowships: Up to \$45,000 per year in direct costs for up to 2 years. Up to \$3,000 per year available for health benefits.	Letter of Intent: Sept. 23 Application: Nov. 14
CLINICAL SCIENCES				
Grant Mechanism	Purpose	Priority Topic	Award Amounts/Project Duration	Application Deadline
Innovative Pilot Studies (IDEA)	For pilot studies that apply novel methods and approaches or challenge existing paradigms in HIV/AIDS Research	Limited to studies addressing: <i>1. Complications, Co-Morbidities and Long Term Outcomes</i> <i>2. Therapeutic Strategies for HIV</i>	Up to \$250,000 total in direct costs for up to 2 years	Letter of Intent: Sept. 23 Application: Nov. 14
California Multi-Institutional Clinical Studies (CAMICS)	Multi-site clinical study or studies addressing critical issues in the California HIV epidemic	Open to all clinical science topics	\$500,000 - \$1 million in direct costs per year for three years to support collaborative clinical research studies	Letter of Intent: Sept. 30 Application: Nov. 14

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES				
Grant Mechanism	Purpose	Priority Topic	Award Amounts/Project Duration	Application Deadline
Innovative Pilot Studies (IDEA)	For pilot studies that apply novel methods and approaches or challenge existing paradigms in HIV/AIDS Research	Limited to studies addressing: 1. <i>HIV-Related Disparities in Highly Impacted, Under-researched Populations</i> 2. <i>Contextual, Cultural, and Structural Issues in HIV Prevention and Care</i>	Up to \$200,000 total in direct costs for up to 2 years	Letter of Intent: Sept. 23 Application: Nov. 14
Community Collaborative Awards	HIV/AIDS research collaborations between scientific investigators & community-based, service or policy settings.	Limited to studies addressing: 1. <i>Practice Informed Translational and Interventions Research</i>	Up to \$350,000 total in direct costs for up to 3 years	Letter of Intent: Sept. 30 Application: Nov. 14
SYSTEMS OF PREVENTION AND CARE				
Grant Mechanism	Purpose	Priority Topic	Award Amounts/Project Duration	Application Deadline
Policy Research Center Awards	Multi-disciplinary and collaborative Center-based research addressing policy issues related to systems of HIV care and prevention	Limited to Centers addressing: 1. <i>Policy Issues Related to HIV Systems of Care and Prevention</i>	Up to \$350,000 per year in direct costs for up to three years	Letter of Intent: Sept. 30 Application: Nov. 14
Community Collaborative Awards	HIV/AIDS research collaborations between scientific investigators & community-based, service or policy settings.	Limited to studies addressing: 1. <i>Linkages and Integration in Provision of Prevention and Care</i> 2. <i>Immigrants, Migrant Populations, and Issues in HIV Health Care Access and Continuity</i>	Up to \$350,000 total in direct costs for up to three years	Letter of Intent: Sept. 30 Application: Nov. 14

HIV/AIDS
Research Program

Details of 2008 Award Types

2008 BASIC BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Field Definition

Basic biomedical research involves laboratory studies aimed at understanding the underlying mechanisms of disease at the cellular or subcellular level, or laboratory studies aimed at understanding the mechanism of action or optimization of treatments by conducting research at the cellular or subcellular level. For this purpose, basic biomedical research excludes clinical research conducted with human subjects or on material of human origin for which an investigator directly interacts with human subjects and includes in vitro studies that utilize human tissues that cannot be linked to a living individual.

Disciplines supporting such research include biochemistry, molecular biology, cell biology, microbiology including virology, immunology, structural biology, organic chemistry and others.

2. Innovative, Developmental, Exploratory Awards (IDEAs)

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

These awards support HIV/AIDS-related pilot studies within and across a variety of biomedical, social/behavioral, epidemiological, clinical, health services, policy and prevention research areas. IDEA research awards provide funds for studies that are innovative, creative, intellectually exciting, and show clear promise to yield findings that have a potential for high pay-off within the grant period and that show clear promise to yield findings that could serve as the basis for well-defined future work in a new area of HIV/AIDS research.

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

IDEAs are intended for:

- All non-profit research, academic, and community-based institutions in California.
- New or experienced investigators testing new ideas and/or approaches.
- Grants are one-time, non-renewable awards for a flexible period up to a maximum of 24 months.
- The IDEA Award mechanism is intended both for investigators with experience in HIV-related disease research, as well as for new investigators who are interested in furthering a career path in HIV/AIDS research.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements (including re-submissions)

- Awards may not exceed a total of \$160,000 in direct costs over the entire proposed project period.
- Indirect costs up to 25% of eligible direct costs are provided to non-University of California institutions.

- The applicant must have principal investigator status at a nonprofit institution in California and must commit to the proposed project a minimum of 1.2 person-months of effort for a 12 month appointment or equivalent effort.

D. Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate IDEA applications for:

- Responsiveness: extent to which the proposed work addresses the intent and requirements of the award.
- Significance and potential for advancing science in HIV/AIDS.
- Innovation in concept, approach, and/or methods.
- Clarity of the research problem.
- Strength and feasibility of the conceptual framework, analytical plan and methodology.
- Investigator's demonstrated experience or potential (if new investigator) to conduct the proposed research.
- Attentiveness to the needs of California.

Support is limited to aspects of the proposal that are pilot in nature.

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

Proposals must address topics in the basic biomedical sciences as defined under section-1 (Field Definition) above. In addition, this opportunity excludes proposals on any non-HIV/SIV agents, except when studies directly relate to co-infection with HIV or SIV. Proposals involving non-HIV/SIV viral models will be considered if there is a compelling relevance to HIV or SIV.

F. Program Contact

Anwer Mujeeb, MSc, PhD, Program Officer, (510) 287-3340, anwer.mujeeb@ucop.edu

3. Dissertation and Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

These awards are intended to support individuals with dissertation or postdoctoral research projects in HIV/AIDS-related basic biomedical sciences, and to foster mentoring activities by established HIV/AIDS researchers.

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

The applicant is the awardee of record, and the faculty mentor serves as the institutional sponsor. The proposal must be conceptualized and written by the applicant in consultation with the mentor. The applicant's mentor must be affiliated with a non-profit research or academic institution in California that has appropriate research and training facilities.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements

Dissertation Research Fellowships provide a maximum of \$25,000 per year for up to 2 years. Postdoctoral Research Fellowships provide a maximum of \$45,000 per year for up to 2 years, plus up to \$3,000 per year for health benefits. Applicants must be sponsored by an accredited non-profit research or academic institution located in California. Dissertation students must be enrolled in a doctoral program at a California university or research institution, and must have advanced to candidacy for the doctoral degree by the award period start date. Postdoctoral fellowship applicants must hold a doctoral level research or professional degree and postdoctoral fellow status at a California institution by the award period start date. Postdoctoral fellowship applicants must commit to the proposed project a minimum of 9 person-months of effort for a 12 month appointment or equivalent effort. Dissertation awards may be used for stipends, tuition and fees, and dissertation-related supplies and expenses. Postdoctoral fellowships may be used for salary and research expenses. No indirect costs are available for research training awards. Training award applicants must be U.S. citizens, permanent residents (green card holders), or hold a J1, H1-B, or other valid U.S. visa appropriate for study or conducting research. Previous awardees of CHRP training awards may not apply, except that a prior Dissertation Awardee may apply for a Postdoctoral Fellowship Award. Except under special and compelling circumstances, no more than one Dissertation Award or Postdoctoral Fellowship with the same mentor can be recommended for funding in the same award period. Research Training Awards are intended for specific mentor-trainee relationships, and they may not be transferred to other individuals.

D. Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate applications for strength of concept, approach and methods including the plan for analysis; suitability of the study for research training; relevance to the basic biomedical sciences pertaining to HIV/AIDS; applicant's achievements and potential for a research career; qualifications of the mentor/advisor; suitability of the training environment at the academic institution; and attentiveness to the needs of California.

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

The subject matter of all applications must conform to the field definition for biomedical sciences (see above). This opportunity, however, excludes proposals on any non-HIV/SIV agents, except when studies directly relate to co-infection with HIV or SIV. Proposals involving non-HIV/SIV viral models will be considered if there is a compelling relevance to HIV or SIV.

F. Program Contact

Anwer Mujeeb, MSc, PhD, Program Officer, 510-287-3340, anwer.mujeeb@ucop.edu

4. How to Apply and Required Letter of Intent

A Letter of Intent (LOI) submitted through [proposalCENTRAL](#) is required for all Research Award applications. LOIs will be evaluated by CHRP for responsiveness to the Call for Applications to ensure that all full applications will qualify to be forwarded for peer review. LOIs will not be reviewed for scientific merit. Specific instructions for submitting a Letter of Intent are available for download from [proposalCENTRAL](#). Also, the instructions for [IDEAs](#) and [Training Awards](#) are available from the CHRP web site. *It is important that LOI submissions follow these instructions.* In addition to entries on the HTML pages, the LOI upload, prepared off-line, must include the following: (1) the name and affiliation of the principal investigator/applicant and the mentor/thesis advisor, if applicable; (2) if applicable, the name and affiliation of any subcontractor(s); (3) an abstract of the proposed research with the following sections: (a) Title, (b) Hypothesis(es) or Research Question(s), (c) Specific Aims, (d) Background/Significance, (e) Approach or Methods, (f) Expected Results/Impact; and (4) a brief responsiveness statement clarifying how the proposed research falls within the Basic Biomedical Sciences field area. A clear, concise, abstract will be critical for the initial selection of qualified peer reviewers. LOIs, limited to 1 page, must be submitted electronically before 12 noon Pacific Time (3 p.m. Eastern Time), September 23, 2008. Applicants with approved LOIs will be notified by e-mail, and will then have access on proposalCENTRAL to prepare a full application. *NOTE: Submission of a letter of intent requires that the applicant register as a user at proposalCENTRAL and requires the entry of proposal-related information on line. It is recommended that applicants review the instructions and the LOI submission web pages as soon as possible in order to allocate sufficient time for the completion of the process before the deadline.*

2008 CLINICAL SCIENCES GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Field Definition

Clinical research is intended to understand the effects of medical treatments or methods on disease progression, prevention or diagnosis in patients. Such research includes therapeutic interventions, preventive vaccines, and testing of new technologies, often in a clinical trial format. Clinical research is research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens and cognitive phenomena linked to medical treatments or methods) for which an investigator (or colleague) directly interacts with the study participants. Excluded from this definition are in vitro studies that utilize human tissues that cannot be linked to a living individual.

2. Innovative, Developmental, Exploratory Awards (IDEAs)

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

These awards support HIV/AIDS-related pilot studies within and across a variety of biomedical, social/behavioral, epidemiological, clinical, health services, policy and prevention research areas. IDEA research awards provide funds for studies that are innovative, creative, intellectually exciting, and show clear promise to yield findings that have a potential for high pay-off within the grant period and that show clear promise to yield findings that could serve as the basis for well-defined future work in a new area of HIV/AIDS research.

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

IDEAs are intended for:

- All non-profit research, academic, and community-based institutions in California.
- New or experienced investigators testing new ideas and/or approaches.
- Grants are one-time, non-renewable awards for a flexible period up to a maximum of 24 months.
- The IDEA Award Mechanism is intended both for investigators with experience in HIV-related disease research, as well as for new investigators who are interested in furthering a career path in HIV/AIDS research. In addition, IDEAs in the clinical sciences must propose research that addresses a topic within either of two thematic areas as described below in section E.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements

- Awards may not exceed a total of \$250,000 in direct costs over the entire proposed project period.
- Indirect costs up to 25% of eligible direct costs are provided to non-University of California institutions.
- The applicant must have principal investigator status at a nonprofit institution in California and must commit to the project a minimum of 1.2 person-months of effort for a 12-month appointment or equivalent effort.

D. Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate IDEA applications for:

- Responsiveness: extent to which the proposed work addresses the intent and requirements of the award.
- Significance and potential for advancing science in HIV/AIDS.
- Innovation in concept, approach, and/or methods.
- Clarity of the research problem.
- Strength and feasibility of the conceptual framework, analytical plan and methodology.
- Investigator's demonstrated experience or potential (if new investigator) to conduct the proposed research.
- Attentiveness to the needs of California.

Support is limited to aspects of the proposal that are pilot in nature.

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

Proposals must address topics in the clinical sciences as defined under section-1 (Field Definition) above. In addition, proposals must address topics within these two priority areas:

1. **Complications, Co-morbidities and Long Term Outcomes**

Research addressing this thematic priority should emphasize innovative, creative and targeted research addressing the clinical aspects, according to the above field definition, of complications, co-morbidities, and long term treatment outcomes, particularly in a population or populations most adversely and disproportionately affected by the California HIV epidemic. This area includes clinical research on patients undergoing long term therapy as the California epidemic continues to mature. Long term clinical aspects of untreated HIV+ persons will also be considered. Questions must address topics that complement, but do not duplicate other funding efforts.

2. **Therapeutic Strategies for HIV**

Research addressing this thematic priority should emphasize innovative, creative and targeted research addressing clinical aspects, according to the above field definition, of therapeutic strategies for HIV. This thematic area includes novel therapies and outstanding questions on the clinical management of HIV with existing antiretroviral agents, particularly in a population or populations most adversely and disproportionately affected by the California HIV epidemic. Questions must address topics that complement, but do not duplicate other funding efforts.

F. Program Contact

Melissa Sanchez, MA, PhD, Program Officer, 510-587-6131, melissa.sanchez@ucop.edu

3. California AIDS Multi-Institutional Clinical Studies (CAMICS)

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

The purpose of this initiative is to provide support for one or two multi-institutional clinical collaborations that will address critical issues confronting the HIV epidemic in California, particularly for those populations most adversely and disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS.

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

- I. Applications proposing clinical research, according to the above field definition, on any relevant topic area or areas will be considered.
- II. Research teams will be expected to have the flexibility to reallocate appropriate resources to new and unanticipated clinical research questions that may emerge during the award period in order to provide a coordinated effort to address emerging threats that are deemed highly critical and that warrant a rapid response. CHRP, in collaboration with the CHRP Advisory Council, will make any such determinations and CHRP will negotiate with the grantees to define the nature and scope of any such rapid response effort.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements

CAMICS awards provide from \$500,000 up to \$1,000,000 in direct costs per year for up to 3 years. It is anticipated that approximately \$1,000,000 per year will be allocated to this award type, providing support for 1 or 2 awards depending on merit and the amount requested. The applicant institution must propose partnerships with at least two, but no more than four (3-5 institutions total), other California institutions that have a clear and significant role to play in collaborating to develop a high-impact research effort. The applicant institution will provide the administrative core for the collaboration. All participating institutions must have currently active research programs and a record of peer-reviewed research funding in HIV clinical science. A lead investigator at each participating institution must have principal investigator status at that California institution and must commit to the proposed project a minimum of 1.2 person-months of effort for a 12 month appointment or equivalent effort. Up to 20% of total direct costs may be allocated to support institutional research infrastructure. Research infrastructure embraces funding for those material and human resources that are not ordinarily funded by research grants, but which can help enhance and integrate efforts of the investigative groups as they relate to the proposed research (e.g., scientific consultation; scientific core services and laboratories; and community information exchange forums). All requests to support research infrastructure will be closely reviewed for their relevance to the proposed research and potential to directly strengthen the HIV/AIDS research capability of the state's institutions and organizations. Special attention will be given to potential funding overlap with current grants and contracts and special justification will be required for requests to fund rental and construction costs.

D. Review Criteria

- The strength of the design, methods, and plans for analyses for the proposed research studies
- Likelihood that the proposed studies will make a significant contribution to advancing science in HIV/AIDS and have an impact on the California HIV epidemic
- Qualifications of the investigators who will be conducting the proposed studies
- The extent to which the participating institutions have complementary and substantive roles in the proposed research and appear to have collaborated in the preliminary studies/activities and planning for the proposed studies
- The reasonableness of the proposed budget and duration of the project in relation to the proposed research
- The extent to which the proposed research infrastructure is in alignment with the proposed research
- The extent to which the research addresses a population or populations that are most adversely and disproportionately affected by the California HIV epidemic, and the potential and methods for recruitment and retention of study participants.

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

No specific topic limitations or exclusions for this initiative. Proposed research must directly address critical issues in the California HIV epidemic and must be Clinical Sciences research.

F. Program Contact

Peter Agron, PhD, Program Manager, 510-987-9858, peter.agron@ucop.edu

4. How to Apply and Required Letter of Intent

A Letter of Intent (LOI) submitted through [proposalCENTRAL](#) is required for all Research Award applications. LOIs will be evaluated by CHRP for responsiveness to the Call for Applications to ensure that all full applications will qualify to be forwarded for peer review. LOIs will not be reviewed for scientific merit. Specific instructions for submitting a Letter of Intent are available for download from [proposalCENTRAL](#). Also, the instructions for the [IDEAs](#) and [CAMICS](#) Awards are available from the CHRP web site. It is important that LOI submissions follow the instructions. In addition to entries on the HTML pages, the LOI upload, prepared off-line, must include the following: (1) the name and affiliation of the principal investigator/applicant, and the names and affiliations of the co-principal investigators (CAMICS Awards only); (2) if applicable, the name and affiliation of any subcontractor(s); (3) a project abstract with the following sections: (a) Title, (b) Hypothesis(es) or Research Question(s), (c) Specific Aims, (d) Background/Significance, (e) Approach or Methods, (f) Expected Results/Impact; and (4) a brief responsiveness statement clarifying how the proposed research falls within the Clinical Sciences field area and meets the additional requirement of addressing a specified thematic priority for IDEAs. A clear,

concise, abstract will be critical for the initial selection of qualified peer reviewers. LOIs, limited to 1 page for IDEAs and 2 pages for CAMICS Awards, must be submitted electronically before 12 noon Pacific Time (3 p.m. Eastern Time), on either September 23, 2008 for IDEAs or September 30, 2008 for CAMICS Awards. Applicants with approved LOIs will be notified by e-mail, and will then have access on proposalCENTRAL to prepare a full application. *NOTE: Submission of a letter of intent requires that the applicant register as a user at proposalCENTRAL and requires the entry of proposal-related information on line. It is recommended that applicants review the instructions and the LOI submission web pages as soon as possible in order to allocate sufficient time for the completion of the process before the deadline.*



2008 SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Field Definition

Research proposals in Social and Behavioral Sciences should have a major and explicit focus on understanding of social, structural, cultural or behavioral processes, or on the use of these processes to predict or influence health outcomes or health risk factors. The research may address sociocultural, socioeconomic, and sociodemographic status; biosocial interactions; and/or the various levels of social context from small groups to complex cultural systems and social structures and societal influences. Behavioral research refers to overt actions; underlying psychological processes such as cognition, emotion, temperament, and motivation; and may include biobehavioral interactions. Social and Behavioral research may focus on prevention, care or their intersection. Research findings may have implications for policy, social changes and systems changes.

2. Innovative, Developmental, Exploratory Awards (IDEAs)

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

IDEA awards during this funding cycle must support HIV/AIDS-related pilot studies within and across a variety of social, structural, cultural, behavioral, or social-epidemiological research areas that specifically address one of two thematic priorities specified below (see B. Specific Intent). IDEA research awards provide funds for studies that are innovative, creative, intellectually exciting, and show clear promise to yield findings that have a potential for high pay-off within the grant period and that show clear promise to yield findings that could serve as the basis for well-defined future work in an emergent area of HIV/AIDS research. The IDEA award mechanism is intended for investigators with experience in HIV-related research, and for new investigators who are interested in furthering a career in HIV/AIDS research.

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

During this award cycle, funds for IDEA awards in Social and Behavioral Sciences target two thematic priorities:

- 1. HIV-related disparities in highly-impacted, under-researched populations; and*
- 2. Research advancing theoretical and methodological innovation in social, structural or contextual issues in HIV prevention and care.*

The proposed research must specifically address one of these two thematic priorities. In both cases, research should be directly relevant to addressing the HIV epidemic in California.

1. HIV-Related Disparities in Highly-Impacted, Under-Researched Populations

Research addressing this thematic priority should emphasize innovative, creative and targeted research on inequities and disparities related to HIV risk or disease experienced by those populations most highly-impacted by HIV but for whom, or about which, research has been inadequate. Highly impacted groups may be sub-populations where HIV risk or infection is high as compared to the population group as a whole. Proposed research may have a specific focus on questions related to culture and ethnicity, minority populations, underserved populations, health disparities and social/structural barriers to prevention and care, as examples. Disparities and inequities should be specifically related to HIV risk or infection. Proposals should clearly delineate both the innovative contributions required of IDEA awards, as well as the way in which the research will address deficiencies in scientific knowledge about HIV-related disparities in highly-impacted, under-researched populations.

2. Research Advancing Theoretical and Methodological Innovation in Social, Structural or Contextual Issues in HIV Prevention and Care

Research addressing this thematic priority should emphasize theoretical and methodological innovation to advance HIV prevention and care research in relation to social, structural and/or contextual issues. Multi- or cross-disciplinary research is encouraged and proposals that focus narrowly on behavioral, psychological, or epidemiological theoretical models and/or methodological approaches are discouraged. In general, the intent of this thematic priority is to encourage investigators to examine issues of HIV risk, prevention and care from social and contextual perspectives that emphasize the role of social institutions and barriers, or cultural and contextual processes and practices, rather than from individual behavioral change approaches. Research proposed in this thematic area should address issues or populations where the need for innovative approaches to impact the spread of HIV or improve access to care are clearly justified, and where the application of the proposed approaches to the identified problem must be well-substantiated. The primary emphasis is on the theoretical and methodological advances and innovations proposed and their importance to advancing HIV science related to prevention and care.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements

Awards are up to \$200,000 in direct costs for up to 2 years. These are individual investigator awards. The applicant must have Principal Investigator (PI) status at his/her institution. Eligible institutions must be non-profit charitable, research or educational institutions located in California. Investigators are encouraged to identify opportunities for pre-doctoral or post-doctoral training, particularly if promising students can be engaged in the research in meaningful ways that will help produce a next generation of scientists with skills in one of the two identified thematic areas. The role of the trainee should be clearly delineated in the proposal. The Principal Investigator must commit to the proposed project a minimum of 1.2 person-months of effort for a 12 month appointment or equivalent effort. Grants are one-time, non-renewable awards for a flexible period up to a maximum of 24 months. Indirect costs up to 25% of

eligible direct costs are provided to non-University of California institutions.

D. Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate Research Award applications for:

- Degree to which the proposal directly responds to one of the two identified priority themes in scope and intent
- Theoretical, methodological and conceptual innovation and rigor; extent to which the results will contribute to advancing prevention and care programs in California
- Significance and potential for advancing science in HIV/AIDS; strength and feasibility of concept, approach and methods, including the plan of analysis;
- Investigator qualifications and experience or potential (if a new investigator)
- Attentiveness to the needs of California.

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

Research must specifically address one of the two thematic priorities described above. Applications that do not address the targeted theme will not be forwarded for review. Applicants will be required to identify the intended thematic priority on their application, and to justify the project's relevance to the priority theme. Applicants are required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) briefly outlining the proposed research and stating which thematic focus it will address.

F. Program Contact

Kathleen Erwin, PhD, Program Manager, 510-987-9889, kathleen.erwin@ucop.edu

3. Community Collaborative Research Awards

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

Community Collaborative Research Awards support community-based, applied research undertaken by academic investigators working in partnership with community based organizations, AIDS service organizations, or local health departments. The awards are intended to encourage research collaboration that addresses important and timely research questions, strengthens research and evaluation infrastructure within service settings, and addresses real-world challenges in research translation and application. To address gaps in research, and to meet the challenges of a changing epidemic and the prevention and care needs of people most impacted by HIV, during this award cycle CHRP invites applications for Community Collaborative research addressing the following thematic priority: *Practice Informed Translational & Interventions Research*.

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

Funds for Community Collaborative Research Awards in Social and Behavioral research must target the following specific thematic priority: *Practice Informed Translational & Interventions Research*. This thematic area of research refers to the need for systematic program evaluation of existing prevention interventions that are deployed in community settings. In prevention evaluation research, outcome evaluations alone have proven insufficient for determining what specific intervention components, processes, characteristics, recruitment and retention strategies, staff training levels, and other programmatic infrastructure are critical to intervention effectiveness in real-world settings. Among those interventions already shown to have positive outcomes, it remains unclear in many cases what adaptations and modifications enhance outcomes by effective tailoring to local needs, and what modifications may diminish effectiveness. Addressing these gaps in knowledge is critical for meeting the prevention and service needs of Californians most impacted by HIV. Proposed collaborations must include the scientific guidance of a program evaluator, either as a lead investigator or by subcontract. Community partners must propose evaluation of an existing intervention with the intent to systematically and rigorously identify the program components that support (or diminish) intervention effectiveness among the populations served.

Applications for *Practice Informed Translational & Interventions Research* collaborative awards should propose the programmatic and impact evaluation of a prevention intervention in a community or public health service setting. Ideally the intervention will be one of the following: 1) an existing community-based prevention program for which systematic evaluation data have not been collected and analyzed; 2) the translation of a research-derived intervention into a real-world setting; or 3) the adaptation of an efficacious intervention to a new setting and target population. In each of these three cases, outcome evaluation of the intervention is expected. However, the intent of this priority theme is to **explicitly emphasize program evaluation in its broadest sense**, and analyses may consider organizational and operational feasibility, cost analyses, client and community impact, acceptability of and satisfaction with the intervention on the part of clients and staff. Similarly, the researcher may seek to document successful program adaptations or components, and evaluate the replicability and sustainability of the intervention outside of a research-supported context. The research proposal must include a comprehensive program evaluation component and the scientific contributions to the research design of a program evaluator (as Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator, or by sub-contract). The comprehensive evaluation plan should emphasize the utilization of innovative evaluation methodologies that have the potential to serve as a “best practices” model for program evaluation of community-based HIV interventions. Utilization of program evaluation methods and approaches developed for other health or social service settings, appropriately adapted to HIV prevention, is encouraged.

Proposals must demonstrate the specific contributions that each collaborative partner will make to the research, the roles and contributions of subcontracting experts or partners, and the plans for developing and sustaining the collaboration and community partner organization’s research infrastructure after the research award. Applicants are

encouraged to incorporate a training component for pre- or post-doctoral students to participate meaningfully in the research and enhance their capacity to conduct research and program evaluation in community and health service settings. Likewise, the research proposal should include and describe specific opportunities for the community partner to enhance its organizational capacity for evaluation through participation in the research.

The application must demonstrate that the impetus for the research derives from the community partner, that the community partner plays a strong role in framing the research questions, and that the proposed research will answer questions of primary interest to the community partner. Consequently, the community partner should take an active and demonstrable role in submission of the Letter of Intent (LOI) and the Application, and the community partner must be identified as the lead applicant organization for the purpose of the application. At the same time, the most successful proposals are often those in which the academic partner is actively engaged in formulating the background, theoretical framework and justification, and research plan. Thus, it is not the intent that the application be completed by either partner individually, but rather jointly through shared access to the online application system. Moreover, the collaborators may propose either a single contract or two separate contracts to the lead organizations. CHRP retains the right to make a final determination on whether a single contract or two individual contracts will be awarded for a single project. In no circumstances can more than two agencies receive funding directly from CHRP. All other collaborators must participate through subcontract.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements

Awards are up to \$350,000 total in direct costs for up to 3 years. Indirect costs up to 25% of eligible direct costs are provided to non-University of California institutions.

The community partner must provide evidence of experience and/or capacity to serve as the lead institution and must demonstrate the capacity to administer the award. The academic co-principal investigator must have principal investigator status at a non-profit California research institution. Principal investigators from each of the participating organizations must commit to the CHRP project a minimum of 1.8 person-months (15%) of effort for a 12 month appointment or equivalent effort. One of the principal or co- investigators, or a member of the research team, must have expertise in evaluation of community, health or social service programs.

If funded, each of the two collaborating partners may elect to separately receive funds from CHRP. If appropriate for the research project, other experts or institution(s) may participate through subcontract(s) from one of the two collaborating partners. Community partners will be required to submit recent audited financial statements for fiscal review, and final determination of the contracting arrangements will be determined by CHRP after administrative review.

D. Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate Community Collaborative Research Award applications for:

- degree to which the proposal directly responds to one of the identified theme areas in scope and intent
- extent to which the results will contribute to advancing prevention and care programs in California
- significance and potential for advancing science in HIV/AIDS
- strength and feasibility of concept, approach and methods, including the plan of analysis
- extent to which the proposal addresses the intent and requirements of the mechanism, including the expectation that the community partner be the lead partner
- qualifications and experience of the investigators and the partnering organizations
- strength of the collaboration
- attentiveness to the needs of California

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

Community Collaborative Research Awards in this funding cycle are limited to those that address the targeted thematic priority of *Practice Informed Translational & Interventions Research*. Applications that do not clearly address the priority area will not be forwarded for review.

F. Program Contact

Judith Fitzpatrick, PhD, Program Officer, 510-987-9854, judith.fitzpatrick@ucop.edu

4. How to Apply and Required Letter of Intent

A Letter of Intent (LOI) submitted through [proposalCENTRAL](#) is required for all Research Award applications. LOIs will be evaluated by CHRP for responsiveness to the Call for Applications to ensure that all full applications will qualify to be forwarded for peer review. LOIs will not be reviewed for scientific merit. Specific instructions for submitting a Letter of Intent are available for download from [proposalCENTRAL](#). Also, the instructions for [IDEAs](#) and [Community Collaborative Research Awards](#) are available from the CHRP web site. It is important that LOI submissions follow the instructions.

For IDEA Awards, in addition to entries on the HTML pages, the LOI upload, limited to one page and prepared off-line, must include the following: (1) the name and affiliation of the principal investigator (2) if applicable, the name and affiliation of any subcontractor(s); (3) a project abstract with the following sections: (a) Title, (b) Hypothesis(es) or Research Question(s), (c) Specific Aims, (d) Background/Significance, (e) Approach or Methods, (f) Expected Results/Impact; and (4) a brief responsiveness statement clarifying how the proposed research falls within the Social and Behavioral Sciences field area and meets the additional requirement of addressing a specified thematic priority.

For Community Collaborative Research Awards, in addition to entries on the HTML pages, the LOI upload, limited to two pages and prepared off-line, must include the following: (1) the names of the two collaborating co-principal investigators and their affiliations; (2) if applicable, the name and affiliation of any subcontractor(s); (3) a statement of project purpose with explicit reference to the specified thematic priority; (4) a brief description of the intervention to be studied and the research and evaluation approach; (5) a description of the collaborative arrangements; and (6) current information about experience and/or capacity of the community partner to serve as lead institution, including information about the capacity to manage the CHRP research funds. The LOI must be submitted by the community partner.

A clear, concise, abstract will be critical for the initial selection of qualified peer reviewers. LOIs, limited to 1 page for IDEAs and 2 pages for Community Collaborative Research Awards, must be submitted electronically before 12 noon Pacific Time (3 p.m. Eastern Time), on either September 23, 2008 for IDEAs or September 30, 2008 for Community Collaborative Research Awards. Applicants with approved LOIs will be notified by e-mail, and will then have access on proposalCENTRAL to prepare a full application. *NOTE: Submission of a letter of intent requires that the applicant register as a user at proposalCENTRAL and requires the entry of proposal-related information on line. It is recommended that applicants review the instructions and the LOI submission web pages as soon as possible in order to allocate sufficient time for the completion of the process before the deadline.*

The logo for the California HIV/AIDS Research Program features a circular emblem containing a map of California. Below the emblem, the text "California HIV/AIDS Research Program" is displayed in a serif font.

California HIV/AIDS
Research Program

2008 RESEARCH ON SYSTEMS OF PREVENTION AND CARE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Field Definition

Research on systems of prevention and care encompasses both basic and applied studies that examine access, availability, utilization, costs, quality, delivery, organization, policy, and financing related to organizations and service delivery systems. This research is intended to produce new knowledge that can be applied to improve prevention and care services for affected persons and populations. This research may produce findings that inform the formulation of organizational, governmental, and legislative HIV/AIDS policies at the local, state, and national level.

2. Collaborative HIV/AIDS Policy Research Center Award

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

Collaborative HIV/AIDS Policy Research Center Awards support multi-disciplinary teams of investigators working in partnership with consumers, advocates, and policy-makers to conduct policy-relevant research. The awards are intended to encourage policy research that addresses important and timely research questions and strengthen local, state, and national capacity to enact HIV-relevant policy that is informed by objective and rigorously conducted research. To meet the challenges of a changing HIV policy environment and the prevention and care needs of people most impacted by HIV, CHRP invites applications for Collaborative HIV/AIDS Policy Research Center Awards in the following targeted area:

Policy Research in Systems of HIV Care and Prevention

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

Policy Research in Systems of HIV Care and Prevention may include (but is not limited to) analyses of the impact of policy options likely to affect access to, quality, continuity of services and health outcomes of HIV Care and Prevention services, evaluation of different healthcare delivery and financing models as they are or might be applied to HIV Care and Prevention services, and research on influences and decision making at various levels of the HIV policy formulation and implementation process.

CHRP intends to fund up to two Collaborative HIV/AIDS Policy Research Centers, *of which at least one will have the capacity for rapid response to emerging policy questions (designated a “rapid response policy research core”)*. Funding would extend for a three year period for each Center. All CHRP Policy Research Center applications are to include the following components:

External policy research advisory committee (APPLIES TO ALL APPLICANTS): The applicants must propose an external advisory committee of relevant providers, consumers, advocates, and policy makers and must convene the committee at least twice yearly.

Cross-Sector Institutional Collaboration (APPLIES TO ALL APPLICANTS): The application must represent collaboration between one academic institution and an organization or agency representing HIV service consumers, advocates, or local or state level policy makers.

Substantive policy research studies (APPLIES TO ALL APPLICANTS): The applicants must propose at least two high-impact policy research studies in Systems of HIV Care and Prevention to be conducted by a multi-disciplinary team of investigators. These studies may be proposed as completely concurrent, partially overlapping, or sequential studies based upon the optimal allocation of resources over the three year life of the Center. *For applicants proposing to include a “rapid response policy research core”, this core may replace one of the substantive policy research studies, but at least one high impact policy research study must also be proposed as part of the application.*

Rapid response to emerging policy questions (APPLIES TO APPLICANTS PROPOSING TO INCLUDE A “RAPID RESPONSE POLICY RESEARCH CORE” AS PART OF THE CENTER): All applicants are encouraged to propose a Center mechanism that will support a **rapid response** to emerging HIV policy questions during the three-year grant period. The identification and formulation of emerging policy research questions should be conducted in collaboration with the Center’s external policy research advisory committee. The rapid response process should include developing the data infrastructure and resources necessary to facilitate rapid secondary analyses of relevant large statewide databases. A contingency for subcontracting for appropriate external research expertise in the event that additional investigator capacity is required to address an emerging research question should also be included.

Policy research training (OPTIONAL FOR ALL APPLICANTS): The applicants are encouraged to propose Center mechanisms that will support the training of pre- and/or post-doctoral investigators from diverse backgrounds in HIV/AIDS policy research.

Dissemination strategy (APPLIES TO ALL APPLICANTS): The applicants must propose strategies and activities for the timely dissemination of research findings among HIV policy stakeholders throughout California. As part of this activity, the applicant may propose conducting agency and/or legislative briefings in coordination with CHRP.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements

Awards for CHRP Policy Research Centers are up to \$350,000 per year in direct costs for up to 3 years. Indirect costs up to 25% of eligible direct costs are provided to non-University of California institutions. Grants are one-time, non-renewable awards for a period of 36 months.

While this mechanism is intended for multi-institutional partnerships, one of the principal investigators must take the lead in preparing and submitting all application materials, including the Letter of Intent (LOI). If funded, each of the two collaborating partners may elect to separately receive funds from CHRP. If appropriate for the research project, other experts or institution(s) may participate through subcontract(s) from one of the two collaborating partners.

Principal investigators must have principal investigator status at a non-profit California research institution. Principal investigators from each of the participating organizations must commit to the CHRP project a minimum of 1.2 person-months of effort for a 12 month appointment or equivalent effort.

D. Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate Collaborative Policy Research Center grant applications for: degree to which the proposal directly responds to applied HIV policy problems in California; theoretical, methodological and conceptual innovation and rigor; extent to which the results will contribute to advancing systems of HIV/AIDS prevention and care in California; strength and feasibility of concept, approach and methods, including the plan of analysis; the extent to which the proposal addresses the intent and requirements of the mechanism; qualifications of the investigators; the extent to which the participating institutions have complementary and substantive roles in the proposed research and appear to have collaborated in the preliminary studies/activities and planning for the proposed studies; extent to which the “rapid response policy research core”, if applicable, would be effective in addressing policy issues likely to emerge during the course of the project duration; and reasonableness of the proposed budget and duration of the project in relation to the proposed research and Center activities.

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

CHRP Collaborative Policy Research Center applications must directly address the stated intent of the granting mechanism. Applications that do not clearly address the priority area will not be forwarded for review.

F. Program Contact

Bart Aoki, PhD, Associate Director, (510) 987-9537, bart.aoki@ucop.edu

3. Community Collaborative Research Awards

A. General Overview of Award Mechanism

Community Collaborative Research Awards support community-based, applied research undertaken by academic investigators working in partnership with community based organizations, AIDS service organizations, or local health departments. The awards are intended to encourage research collaboration that addresses important and timely research questions and strengthens research and evaluation infrastructure within service settings. To address gaps in research, and to meet the challenges of a changing epidemic and the prevention and care needs of people most impacted by HIV, CHRP invites applications for Community Collaborative grant awards in the following targeted areas:

1. *Linkages & Integration in Provision of Prevention & Care*
2. *Immigrants, Migrant Populations & Issues of HIV Health Care Access and Continuity*

B. Specific Intent of Award Mechanism

1. Linkages & Integration in Provision of Prevention & Care

This area refers to the need for enhanced integration of prevention and care services in the context of California's growing population of HIV infected persons and shrinking resources. Proposals in this thematic area are likely to include local health departments or other health care service providers as the community partner, although CBO or ASO partners are also encouraged to consider this opportunity either as the primary grantee or through subcontract. Proposals may consider linkages between prevention services and/or care services related to HIV/AIDS specifically; and/or linkages in services between HIV prevention or care and other related diseases (for example, Hepatitis, STDs, and TB, among others). Development and evaluation of protocols, and effectiveness in increasing service utilization or linkages are essential components of proposals in this thematic area.

2. Immigrants, Migrants & Issues of HIV Health Care Access & Continuity

This area refers to the need to address gaps in research knowledge to more effectively ensure access to HIV prevention and care services among both California's large immigrant population, and among mobile populations, as they cross county, state, and even national borders. Proposals addressing this thematic area might consider issues of language, cultures of origin and cultural competency on the part of providers and clinic staff, and mechanisms and challenges related to continuity of care, not only between clients and specific service agencies, but also communication and linkages among service providers across the catchment area, and access to or portability of health information.

For both priority areas, collaborative proposals must have two primary institutions (community and academic). However, applicants may include, through subcontract, partners from multiple service agencies if appropriate for the research. Proposals for either of the two foregoing theme areas must demonstrate the specific contributions that each collaborative partner will make to the research, the roles and contributions of subcontracting experts or partners, and the plans for developing and sustaining the collaboration and community partner organization's research infrastructure after the research award. Applicants are encouraged to incorporate a training component for pre- or post-doctoral students to participate meaningfully in the research.

The application must demonstrate that the impetus for the research derives from the community partner, that the community partner plays a strong role in framing the research questions, and that the proposed research will answer questions of primary interest to the community partner. Consequently, the community partner should take the lead in submission of the Letter of Intent (LOI) and the Application, and the community partner must be identified as the lead applicant organization for the purpose of completing the application. At the same time, the most successful proposals are usually those in which the academic partner is actively engaged in formulating the background, justification and research plan. Thus, it is not the intent that the application be completed by either partner individually, but rather jointly through shared access to the online application system. CHRP retains the right to make a final determination on whether a single contract or two individual contracts will be awarded for a single project. In no circumstances can more than two lead agencies receive funding directly from CHRP. All other partner organizations must participate through subcontract.

C. Award Amounts, Duration, and Requirements

Awards are up to \$350,000 total in direct costs for up to 3 years. Indirect costs up to 25% of eligible direct costs are provided to non-University of California institutions.

The community partner, as the lead applicant, must provide evidence of experience and/or capacity to serve as the lead institution and must demonstrate the capacity to administer the award. If funded, each of the two collaborating partners may elect to separately receive funds from CHRP. If appropriate for the research project, other institution(s) may participate through subcontract(s) from one of the two collaborating partners. Community partners will be required to submit recent audited financial statements for fiscal review, and final determination of the contracting arrangements will be determined by CHRP after administrative review.

The academic co-principal investigator must have principal investigator status at a non-profit California research institution. Principal investigators from each of the participating organizations must commit to the CHRP project a minimum of 1.8 person-months (15%) of effort for a 12 month appointment or equivalent effort.

D. Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate Community Collaborative Research Award applications for:

- degree to which the proposal directly responds to one of the identified theme areas in scope and intent
- extent to which the results will contribute to advancing prevention and care programs in California
- significance and potential for advancing science in HIV/AIDS
- strength and feasibility of concept, approach and methods, including the plan of analysis
- extent to which the proposal addresses the intent and requirements of the mechanism, including the expectation that the community partner be the lead partner
- qualifications and experience of the investigators and the partnering organizations
- strength of the collaboration
- attentiveness to the needs of California

E. Specific Topic Limitations or Exclusions

Community Collaborative Research Awards in Health Systems Research are limited to those that address one of two targeted thematic priorities: *1. Linkages & Integration in Provision of Prevention & Care, 2. Immigrants, Migrants & Issues of HIV Health Care Access & Continuity*. Applications that do not clearly address either of these priorities will not be forwarded for review.

F. Program Contact

Roy McCandless, DrPH, Program Officer, (510) 287-3359, roy.mccandless@ucop.edu

4. How to Apply and Required Letter of Intent

A Letter of Intent (LOI) submitted through [proposalCENTRAL](#) is required for all Research Award applications. LOIs will be evaluated by CHRP for responsiveness to the Call for Applications to ensure that all full applications will qualify to be forwarded for peer review. LOIs will not be reviewed for scientific merit. Specific instructions for submitting a Letter of Intent are available for download from [proposalCENTRAL](#). Also, the instructions for [Collaborative HIV/AIDS Policy Research Center Awards](#) and [Community Collaborative Research Awards](#) are found on the CHRP web site. It is important that LOI submissions follow the instructions.

For Collaborative Policy Research Center Awards, in addition to entries on the HTML pages, the LOI upload, limited to two pages and prepared off-line, must include the following: (1) Center name (2) the names of the two collaborating co-principal investigators and their affiliations; (3) if applicable, the name and affiliation of any subcontractor(s); (4) a statement of the research goals of the Center including methodological approaches (5) a description of the data infrastructure and resources; (6) if applicable, a description of the rapid response capabilities of the proposed Center.

For Community Collaborative Research Awards, in addition to entries on the HTML pages, the LOI upload, limited to two pages and prepared off-line, must include the following: (1) the names of the two collaborating co-principal investigators and their affiliations; (2) if applicable, the name and affiliation of any subcontractor(s); (3) a statement of project purpose with explicit reference to the specified thematic priority; (4) a brief description of the research and the approach; (5) a description of the collaborative arrangements; and (6) current information about experience and/or capacity of the community partner to serve as lead institution, including information about the capacity to manage the CHRP research funds. The LOI must be submitted by the non-academic partner.

A clear, concise, abstract will be critical for the initial selection of qualified peer reviewers. LOIs, limited to 2 pages, must be submitted electronically before 12 noon Pacific Time (3 p.m. Eastern Time), on September 30, 2008. Applicants with approved LOIs will be notified by e-mail, and will then have access on proposalCENTRAL to prepare a full application. *NOTE: Submission of a letter of intent requires that the applicant register as a user at proposalCENTRAL and requires the entry of proposal-related information on line. It is recommended that applicants review the instructions and the LOI submission web pages as soon as possible in order to allocate sufficient time for the completion of the process before the deadline.*

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