

James & Esther King Biomedical Research Program
Competition for Tobacco-related Research Grants

The James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program plans to issue three Special Calls for Grant Applications on or around August 10, 2009. Grants will be awarded to Florida-based universities, established research institutions, and eligible small businesses for the study of tobacco-related diseases, including prevention, diagnoses, treatments, and cures.

These Special Calls are being issued due to a recent decision by the Florida Legislature and Governor Crist to increase Program funding. Beginning in the 2009-2010 fiscal year (FY), the Program will receive 2.5 percent, not to exceed \$25 million, of the revenue deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund from the cigarette fee imposed by section (s.) 210.02, *Florida Statutes (F.S.)*.

There will be three Special Calls as listed below.

1. Special Call for Applications for Florida RC1 Grants

The intent of the Florida RC1 grant mechanism is to provide support for promising tobacco-related research projects that have been highly rated by national panels of peer reviewers in the 2009 NIH RC1 federal competition but were not funded due to budgetary constraints. Investigators at all experience levels may apply. Applications will likely be limited to 10 per institution, the Call for Applications will specify a minimum federal merit score, and tobacco-relatedness must be clear.

2. Special Call for Applications for Shared Instrument Grants (SIG)

The intent of the Shared Instrument Grant mechanism is to support Florida investigators who are conducting tobacco-related research by improving access to state-of-the-art research instruments that can only be justified on a shared-use basis and for which meritorious tobacco-related research projects are described. Applications will likely be limited to 3 per institution.

3. Open Call for Applications for Technology Transfer/Commercialization Partnership (TTCP) Grants

The intent of this grant mechanism is to: encourage the long-term collaboration of investigators at eligible institutions and Florida small businesses; stimulate technology transfer activities for promising research discoveries that could lead to innovations in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or cure of tobacco-related diseases; and/or strengthen a project's economic feasibility and commercialization prospects. TTCP Grants may be used to establish the technical/scientific merit and feasibility of the proposed research and development efforts so that the project may become competitive for further SBIR/STTR-type national-level development funding; it may also be used to develop training materials for the dissemination of new and novel practices or treatments. Applications will be accepted from Florida small businesses AND established Florida research institutions.

National Cancer Institute Designation

The Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program and The James & Esther King Biomedical Research Program have received the National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation as a funding organization with approved peer review and funding systems. This designation means that institutions can include cancer-related Program awards (with the exception of Shared Instrument Grants) in the required research base for Cancer Center Support Grants and the NCI Cancer Center designation. It also provides external validation of our grant awards process.

General Program Information:

The James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program, established in s. 215.5602, *F.S.*, supports research for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure of tobacco-related diseases. Part of Program funding comes from interest earned on a portion of the Lawton Chiles Endowment Fund, a fund established with monies received from the tobacco industry through Florida's tobacco lawsuit settlement agreement. Beginning in FY 2009-2010, the Program will also receive 2.5 percent, not to exceed \$25 million, of the revenue deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund from the increased cigarette user fee imposed by s. 210.02, *F.S.*

The King Program has five long-term goals:

- Improve the health of Floridians by researching the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure of diseases related to tobacco use,
- Expand the foundation of biomedical knowledge relating to the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure of diseases related to tobacco use;
- Improve the quality of the state's academic health centers;
- Increase the state's per capita funding for biomedical research; and
- Stimulate economic activity in the state in areas related to biomedical research.

Other Details:

- All three Special Calls for Grant Applications will be released on or around August 10, 2009, and will be posted on the Program website www.floridabiomed.com. In addition, an announcement will be e-mailed on or around that same day to all original recipients of this e-mail and any new subscribers.
- The application submission deadline for Florida RC1 and Shared Instrument Grant applications is expected to be September 18, 2009. Awarded grants are anticipated to begin on or around January 1, 2010.
- There is no deadline for TTCP Grant applications. Applications may be submitted starting August 10, 2009 and will be accepted until funds are no longer available. Grants will begin January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 of the appropriate year, depending on the date of application submission.

- A question submission timeframe will be available before the application submission deadline. The Special Calls for Grant Applications will provide that timeframe and other important dates.
- Other Program information is available on the Program website at www.floridabiomed.com. We encourage you to bookmark this site for future reference.
- If you know other people who would be interested in the Special Calls for Grant Applications, please please direct them to this information.

Visit www.floridabiomed.com and view News & Publication for success stories and articles about Program grantees.