

Funding Opportunity: DOD CDMRP Releases FY 2021 Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program Solicitations

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC – March 16, 2021

The Department of Defense (DOD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) released its fiscal year (FY) 2021 Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) solicitations. For FY 2021, Congress has allocated \$370 million for PRMRP in 42 topic areas.

Information on each of the funding mechanisms and a list of the FY 2021 topic areas is listed below. Those interested should carefully review the submission requirements for each funding mechanism. Additionally, interested applicants should review the “Areas of Encouragement,” in the appendix of each solicitation, for details on DOD interests in the listed topic areas. Lewis-Burke Associates LLC (Lewis-Burke) is available to speak with those interested to provide details on best practices for successful submissions, especially as they pertain to addressing military relevancy and the review processes.

Funding Mechanisms:

- The **Discovery Award** supports the exploration of a highly innovative new concept or untested theory in the topic area(s) of interest. Postdoctoral or clinical fellow and above are eligible.
 - **Pre-Application Deadline:** April 29, 2021; 5:00 PM Eastern Time (ET)
 - Solicitation details are available at www.grants.gov under solicitation number “W81XWH-21-PRMRP-DA” or [here](#).

- The **Focused Program Award** supports multidisciplinary research with multiple investigators, addressing an overarching goal in the topic area(s) of interest. Projects may range from exploratory/hypothesis development through small-scale clinical trials.
 - **Pre-Application Deadline:** May 13, 2021; 5:00 PM ET
 - Solicitation details are available at www.grants.gov under solicitation number “W81XWH-21-PRMRP-FPA” or [here](#).

- The **Investigator-Initiated Research Award** supports novel research focused on patient care and allows for partnering of primary investigators.
 - **Pre-Application Deadline:** April 28, 2021; 5:00 PM ET
 - Solicitation details are available at www.grants.gov under solicitation number “W81XWH-21-PRMRP-IIRA” or [here](#).

- The **Technology/Therapeutic Development Award** supports the translation of preclinical findings into clinical applications for prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or quality of life in the topics area(s) of interest. This is a product-oriented award.
 - **Pre-Application Deadline:** April 28, 2021; 5:00 PM ET
 - Solicitation details are available at www.grants.gov under solicitation number “W81XWH-21-PRMRP-TTDA” or [here](#).

- The **Clinical Trial Award** supports the implementation of clinical trials to evaluate products, pharmacologic agents, devices, clinical guidance and emerging approaches and technologies that may significantly impact one of the diseases listed under the FY 2021 PRMRP topic areas.
 - **Pre-Application Deadline:** May 13, 2021; 5:00 PM ET
 - Solicitation details are available at www.grants.gov under solicitation number “W81XWH-21-PRMRP-CTA” or [here](#).

Topic Areas: (* denotes new topics for FY 2021)

Arthritis	Malaria*
Burn Pit Exposure	Metals Toxicology
Cardiomyopathy*	Mitochondrial Disease
Congenital Heart Disease	Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
Diabetes	Myotonic Dystrophy
Dystonia	Non-Opioid Therapy for Pain Management*
Eating Disorders	Nutrition Optimization
Emerging Viral Diseases	Pathogen-Inactivated Blood Products
Endometriosis	Peripheral Neuropathy*
Epidermolysis Bullosa	Plant-Based Vaccines
Familial Hypercholesterolemia	Platelet-Like Cell Production*
Fibrous Dysplasia	Polycystic Kidney Disease
Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis	Pressure Ulcers
Food Allergies	Pulmonary Fibrosis
Fragile X	Respiratory Health
Frontotemporal Degeneration	Rheumatoid Arthritis
Hemorrhage Control	Sleep Disorders and Restriction
Hepatitis B	Suicide Prevention*
Hydrocephalus	Sustained Release Drug Delivery
Hypertension*	Vascular Malformations
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Women’s Heart Disease

Review Process:

Although Congress decides which topic areas are funded, DOD program managers and Joint Program Committees (JPCs) retain authority in program directions and are influential in shaping the direction of CDMRP programs. CDMRP employs a rigorous two-tier review process: scientific, peer review and programmatic review. The programmatic review is intended to address the relevance of the proposed research to DOD’s needs; therefore, it is important for both the pre-application and the full proposal to consider the topic area in relation to the mission of DOD and the “Areas of Encouragement” described in the appendix of each solicitation. Additional information about the two-tier review process is available [here](#).

Sources and Additional Background:

- The FY 2021 PRMRP funding opportunities can be found at <https://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/prmrp>.

- A reference table for the award mechanisms and submission requirements can be found at <https://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/pdf/21prmrpreftable.pdf>.
- Additional information on PRMRP is available at <https://cdmrp.army.mil/prmrp/default>.