



## CIAPM Limited Competition for Supplemental Funds: Request for Proposals

Eligibility	Principal investigators of current and completed CIAPM demonstration projects
Request for Proposals announced	July 28, 2017
<b>Proposals deadline</b>	<b>September 5, 2017</b>
Awardees announced	First week of October, 2017
Supplemental work begins	Early November 2017
Supplemental works ends	August 31, 2018
Available Funding	~ 3-4 projects to be funded, up to \$500,000 total per project; no indirect costs

### I. Precision Medicine

Precision medicine holds promise to profoundly transform health, healthcare and biomedical research. As envisioned in the [2011 National Academy of Sciences' \(NAS\) report](#), "Toward Precision Medicine: Building a Knowledge Network for Biomedical Research and a New Taxonomy of Disease," precision medicine aims to use advanced computing tools to aggregate, integrate and analyze vast amounts of data from research, clinical, personal, environmental and population health settings, to better understand diseases and develop and deliver more precise diagnostics, therapeutics, and prevention measures.

### II. California Initiative to Advance Precision Medicine

The [California Initiative to Advance Precision Medicine \(CIAPM\)](#) was established by the State of California to help coordinate public, private, and non-profit partners to advance precision medicine approaches and foster the creation of new technologies and therapies that can improve the health of diverse populations. The initiative brings together state precision medicine leaders and supports projects aimed at demonstrating the power and application of precision medicine to the people of California.

### III. CIAPM Supplemental Funds

#### **Background**

Based on a rigorous peer review process, CIAPM selected eight demonstration projects that aim to illustrate the potential of precision medicine. The projects, awarded at \$1.2 million each, are under contract to be completed in 18-20 months. The CIAPM 2015 projects have been completed and have provided valuable results and insight into hurdles and solutions for precision medicine (their formal evaluation is under way). The six demonstration projects selected in 2016 have completed their first progress report and are achieving early milestones.

## **Objective**

One of the goals of CIAPM, and specifically of the demonstration projects, is to build partnerships, and attract funding and other support from third parties to leverage state funds. Projects have been able to attract matching funds in the form of capital, in kind services, and additional leveraged funds. Funding for this limited RFP will be offered through a competitive process, open to all currently or previously funded CIAPM demonstration projects (parent awards), to expand the capacity of selected teams. Inclusion of additional funds (matching funds) by third parties is highly encouraged. Projects will be rated based on specified review criteria (see Section VI.B and Instruction for Peer Review Process), and approximately three to four of the most competitive projects will be awarded supplemental funding. The scope and funding level for each awarded supplemental project will be determined based on available funds, requested amounts and number of awarded proposals.

## **IV. Guidelines**

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Principal Investigators of all eight CIAPM demonstration projects (current and complete) are eligible to compete for supplemental funding.
- Currently active projects must be in good standing, with progress reports submitted according to agreed upon schedule, and adequate progress on milestones.

### **Principal Investigator / Team**

The principal investigator (PI) of a supplemental funding award has to be the same as the PI on the original award; inclusion of additional team members, particularly new partners, is encouraged to ensure ability to complete additional work proposed.

### **Matching Funds**

For matching funds to be considered for the purposes of this competitive round, the date of matching funds committed must be July 1, 2017 or later (i.e., previous commitments, while viewed favorably, will not be deliberately considered as factor for selection of supplemental award). Any non-State source is eligible to match funds. A dated letter of commitment detailing the amount and nature of the matching funds and funding period must be included and signed by an appropriate official.

### **Additional considerations**

- *As set forth in Section 65058 of the California Government Code*, the awards will be made to “public institutions in both northern and southern California”.
- Maximum of one supplemental funding award is allowed per host institution.
- Successful teams’ host institutions need to commit to contracting timeline, to ensure that work can begin as specified.
- CIAPM may discuss with reviewers any significant issues related to progress on specific projects, if applicable.

## **V. Application process**

Applicants are asked to submit proposals to CIAPM as outlined in this RFP. As was the case for the parent awards, supplemental awards should advance greater understanding in one or more focus areas, significantly enhancing a focus area(s) already addressed in the parent award, or addressing a focus area(s) not yet addressed in a parent award.

*The focus areas are set forth in Sections 65057 and 65058 of the California Government Code as follows:*

- The application of precision medicine to specific disease areas.
- The challenges of system interoperability.
- Economic analysis.
- Standards for sharing data or protocols across institutions.
- The federal and state regulatory environment.
- The clinical environment.
- Challenges relating to data, tools, and infrastructure.
- The protection of privacy and personal health information.
- The potential for reducing health disparities.
- Methods and protocols for patient engagement.

## **A. Proposals**

**Please prepare a maximum five-page proposal; minimum Arial 11 font; 0.5 inch margins; no appendices.** For questions, please contact [ciapm@ucsf.edu](mailto:ciapm@ucsf.edu).

The five-page proposal should cover the following points:

- 1) Accomplishments on parent CIAPM project to date
  - Briefly outline your current or completed CIAPM-funded work, and describe your progress to date in relation to milestones.
  - Explain delays and / or changes, and their anticipated effects on overall project goals and impact.
- 2) Proposed activities, milestones and timeline
  - Describe the components of your proposed CIAPM-funded supplemental project (specific aim(s) and research strategy). If you are including matching funds, clearly indicate what activities are to be conducted with CIAPM funds.
  - If you are including matching funds, identify and describe the activities to be accomplished with those funds.
  - Create a table, listing milestones, timeline and metrics to assess completion of milestones. **Clearly indicate which milestones will be achieved using CIAPM funds.** The end date for CIAPM-funded activities is August 31, 2018. Work supported by third party funds can extend beyond the CIAPM project period.
  - Describe anticipated challenges and proposed solutions.
  - If you propose new or expanded human subject research, describe and justify your approach to protection of human subjects from research risks, and the inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity, as well as the inclusion (exclusion) of children.
- 3) Rationale and impact
  - Provide an explanation of added value, such as addressing RFP 2016 focus areas (see section V. top) not yet covered in the parent project or significant enhancement of an existing aim.
  - Explain how your supplemental work will likely advance precision medicine. Describe the impact your proposed work will likely have on patients/participants, participant engagement,

healthcare costs and/or health disparities, as applicable.

- Emphasize any innovative aspects of your proposed supplemental work.

4) Project team and resources

- Describe existing or added personnel, facilities and access to resources, and their role in achieving the added goal(s) within the CIAPM project period. Cross-institutional partnerships are highly valued.

5) Budget

- Propose a CIAPM supplemental budget of up to \$500,000. If you request more than \$200,000 from CIAPM, indicate what you would do with less. Note: no indirect costs will be provided with CIAPM funds.
- Provide a budget for matching funds, if proposed (spending from matching funds can begin and/or extend beyond the CIAPM project end date, i.e. August 31, 2018.)
- Describe other supportive funding available to your project.
- Briefly outline how CIAPM funds will be used and how other resources will be leveraged.
- Comment on why CIAPM funds are needed as opposed to other funding sources such as federal or philanthropic grants.

Note: CIAPM funds are intended to be used exclusively in California. If the project necessitates the use of CIAPM funds outside of California, provide a brief justification and estimate of the funding that will leave the state. The amount of funds that can leave the state will be subject to the final award agreement.

Submission of additional documents

- Dated letter from third party sponsor(s), if proposed, detailing the amount and nature of the matching funds and funding period and signed by an appropriate official.
- Biographical sketches of additional personnel, not covered in original proposal.
- Updates to biosketch for PI (optional)
- Letters of support from new collaborators / partners.
- Institutional support letter

Note: The parent award proposal and negotiated milestones will be made available to reviewers. For completed projects, the evaluation reports will also be made available to reviewers.

**B. Submission – Proposals must be submitted electronically as a single PDF to [ciapm@ucsf.edu](mailto:ciapm@ucsf.edu) by 5:00pm PT on Tuesday, September 5, 2017.**

**C. Submission of updates prior to review meeting**

Applicants may submit updates 5 days prior to the review meeting (date to be determined).

Allowed submissions:

- Maximum one page of text, minimum Arial 11 font; 0.5 inch margins (additional information may be allowed at discretion of CIAPM)
  - Information provided may include description of matching funding secured, a

milestone reached in parent project, additional partnership or collaboration formed, a manuscript accepted for publication or additional expertise included.

- Letter(s) from new third party sponsor(s), specifying the contributed funds and the commitment to the project.
- Biographical sketches of additional personnel, not covered in original supplemental proposal
- Letters of support from new collaborators / partners.

## VI. Selection

### A. Reviewers

Members of the CIAPM 2016 [Selection Committee](#) will be recruited to review the proposals submitted in response to this RFP. Depending on availability and expertise needs, additional experts may be included.

Reviewers will be screened for conflict of interest consistent with NIH procedures.

### B. Review criteria

The proposals will be rated on the following review criteria:

- 1) Accomplishments on parent CIAPM project to date
- 2) Innovation and potential for impact of added activities
- 3) Rationale and approach
- 4) Demonstrated ability to attract and leverage matching funds
- 5) Ability to achieve expanded CIAPM-funded project within the contract period. (Note: activities funded by third parties may continue beyond the CIAPM funding period.)

The assessment of the projects according to the review criteria will be guided by the following criteria used in selecting the parent awards *as set forth in Section 65057 of the Government Code*:

- The potential for tangible benefit to patients within two to five years, including the likelihood that the study will have an immediate impact on patients.
- The depth and breadth of data available in the disease focus areas across institutions.
- The prospects for efficient and effective data integration and analysis.
- The expertise of potential team members.
- The resources available for the project outside of the initiative, including the potential for leveraging non-state funding.
- The clinical and commercial potential of the project.
- The potential to reduce health disparities.
- The potential to scale and leverage multiple electronic health records systems.
- The potential to develop the use of tools, measurements, and data, including publicly generated and available data.

The reviewers may also consider additional factors in reviewing the proposals such as:

- The potential for positive economic impact of the proposed intervention or platform, if implemented into clinical practice.
- The quality and extent of patient engagement.
- Where the project is located in California to ensure that at least one proposal each from a public institution in northern and in southern California is included.
- The host institution, as a maximum of one supplemental funding award is allowed per host institution.

### C. Review process

Reviewers will be instructed to follow CIAPM-provided procedures for reviewing the proposals and making award recommendations. This process is consistent with NIH practices to ensure proposals are evaluated in a manner that is fair, equitable, timely and free of bias. Reviewers will recommend to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) a number of supplemental projects for funding, based on available funds, merit and guidelines (see section IV). They may adjust budgets to accommodate competitive proposals. OPR will make and announce the final funding decision.

## VII. Applicants of those proposals that are selected for supplemental funding will be asked to amend their existing agreement with CIAPM through the University of California, San Francisco. For completed projects, a new agreement will be negotiated. The amended / new agreement will address project implementation, including the following:

- A. **Indirect Costs:** Due to statutory limits of funding, no indirect costs will be provided with CIAPM funds. Awardees are asked to waive indirect expenses.
- B. **Intellectual Property Agreement:** Agree to terms of previously established patent agreement for existing CIAPM projects.
- C. **Start Date:** Complete contracting such that work can be initiated within 30 days of receiving the award notification.
- D. **Reporting:** Provide progress information on supplemental work as part of the quarterly progress reports scheduled for the parent project. The final progress report for supplemental work is due September 15, 2018. CIAPM is obligated to perform an evaluation of each demonstration project and report the results to the State Legislature. The final progress report will be comprehensive, covering the entire project period, and will be used as a basis for the demonstration project evaluations; any activities and milestones resulting from a supplemental award will be included in the project evaluation process.

Work with CIAPM staff throughout the project, if funded, on milestone and budget development and adjustments, and participate in conference calls and convening activities. If awarded, precise post-award expectations will be specified in amended award agreements.

- E. **Use of Data:** Investigators and demonstration project teams are expected to share data and research findings consistent with academic standards.
- F. **Protection of Privacy and Health Information:** Investigators and demonstration project teams are expected to follow state and federal law to protect privacy and personal health information, and rights of human subjects.