

Program Announcement

Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Bone Marrow Failure Research Program

Postdoctoral Fellowship Award

Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-11-BMFRP-POSTDOC

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 12.420

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW DATES AND TIMES

- **Pre-application Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), June 21, 2011
- **Invitation to Submit an Application:** July 2011
- **Application Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, September 14, 2011
- **Scientific Peer Review:** November 2011
- **Programmatic Review:** February 2012

New for fiscal year 2011 (FY11): The Grants.gov Research & Related Budget form is a mandatory component of all Grants.gov application packages.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----------|
| I. Funding Opportunity Description..... | 3 |
| A. Program Description | 3 |
| B. Award Information..... | 3 |
| C. Eligibility Information | 5 |
| D. Funding | 5 |
| II. Submission Information | 6 |
| A. Where to Obtain the Application Package..... | 6 |
| B. Pre-Application Submission Content and Form | 6 |
| C. Application Submission Content and Form | 9 |
| D. Submission Dates and Times | 13 |
| E. Other Submission Requirements..... | 13 |
| III. Application Review Information | 13 |
| A. Application Review and Selection Process | 13 |
| B. Application Review Criteria | 14 |
| C. Recipient Qualification | 15 |
| D. Application Review Dates | 15 |
| E. Notification of Application Review Results | 15 |
| IV. Administrative Actions..... | 16 |
| A. Rejection..... | 16 |
| B. Modification | 16 |
| C. Withdrawal | 16 |
| D. Withhold..... | 17 |
| V. Award Administration Information..... | 17 |
| A. Award Notice | 17 |
| B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements | 17 |
| C. Reporting | 17 |
| D. Award Transfers | 17 |
| VI. Agency Contacts..... | 18 |
| A. CDMRP Help Desk..... | 18 |
| B. Grants.gov Contact Center..... | 18 |
| VII. Application Submission Checklist | 19 |

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Program Description

The Bone Marrow Failure Research Program (BMFRP) was established in Fiscal Year 2008 (FY08) to promote innovative research focused on bone marrow failure (BMF). Appropriations for the BMFRP from FY08 through FY10 totaled \$9.75 million (M). The FY11 appropriation is \$4M.

The vision of the BMFRP is to understand and cure BMF disease. Toward that end, the program challenges the scientific community to design innovative research that will advance the understanding of inherited and acquired BMF diseases to improve the health and life of individuals living with these diseases, with the ultimate goals of prevention and/or cure.

FY11 BMFRP Objectives: The objectives of the BMFRP are to fund scientifically meritorious research focused on BMF syndromes and their long-term sequelae. Studies that primarily focus on myeloproliferative neoplasms, leukemia, or other malignancies are discouraged. However, studies investigating BMF syndromes and their progression to other malignancies, such as leukemia, are acceptable. Proposals involving therapeutics, including but not limited to bone marrow transplantation, are strongly encouraged to address issues unique to BMF syndromes.

B. Award Information

The BMFRP Postdoctoral Fellowship Award supports exceptionally talented recent doctoral graduates (medical or other) in their pursuit of innovative, potentially high-impact BMF research during their postdoctoral training, and allows them to obtain the necessary experience for an independent career at the forefront of BMF research.

The intent of this award is to move the field of BMF research forward toward accomplishing the vision of the BMFRP through supporting outstanding postdoctoral scientists in their career development and research efforts.

The following are significant features of this award mechanism:

- 1. Principal Investigator:** For applications submitted to this award mechanism, *the postdoctoral fellow is considered the Principal Investigator* (PI) and therefore should develop all appropriate pre-application and application components (e.g., preproposal and project narratives). The PI should be an exceptionally talented scientist who has a strong desire to pursue a career in BMF research. Although previous experience in BMF research is not required, the PI should demonstrate a personal commitment to pursuing an independent career in BMF research and becoming a leader in the BMF research community.

The PI's qualifications, characteristics, achievements, and letters of recommendation should indicate his/her potential for success in becoming an independent BMF researcher.

- 2. Mentor:** The PI's postdoctoral mentor should possess expertise and experience as a BMF researcher to include BMF funding and peer-reviewed publications. The mentor

should demonstrate a clear commitment to guiding the PI's training, research, and career development as a BMF researcher.

3. **Training Program and Environment:** The PI's overall training plan, including the research project, should be suitable for attaining the goals of this award mechanism. The quality of the training program and environment should facilitate the PI's career development as a BMF researcher.
4. **Research:** The proposed research project should include innovative ideas and potentially high-impact approaches to BMF research.
 - **Innovation:** Innovative research may introduce a new paradigm, challenge existing paradigms, look at existing problems from new perspectives, or exhibit other uniquely creative qualities. This may include high-risk, potentially high-gain, approaches to BMF research, provided that there is the potential for significant impact on the field of research and/or patient care. Research that is merely an incremental advance is not considered innovative and will not be considered for funding under this award mechanism.
 - **Impact:** Proposed research projects should address a central critical issue or question in BMF research. High-impact research will, if successful, significantly advance current methods and concepts for the prevention, detection, diagnosis, and/or treatment of BMF.
 - **Preliminary Data:** Preliminary data, unpublished results from the laboratory of the PI, Mentor, or collaborators named on this application, and/or data from the published literature, that are relevant to BMF and the proposed research project should be included.
 - **Use of human subjects and human anatomical substances:** All Department of Defense (DOD)-funded research projects (new and ongoing) involving human subjects and/or human anatomical substances must be reviewed and approved by the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) Office of Research Protections (ORP), Human Research Protection Office (HRPO), and the local Institutional Review Board of record. The HRPO is mandated to comply with specific laws and directives governing all research involving human subjects that is conducted or supported by the DOD. Refer to General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, for general regulatory requirements. ***Clinical trials are not allowed.*** A clinical trial is defined as a prospective accrual of patients where an intervention (e.g., device, drug, biologic, surgical procedure, rehabilitative modality, behavioral intervention or other) is tested on a human subject for a measurable outcome with respect to exploratory information, safety, effectiveness and/or efficacy. This outcome represents a direct effect on the subject of that intervention or interaction. The FY11 BMFRP is not offering an award mechanism that will support clinical trials; PIs requesting funding for a clinical trial are encouraged investigate other funding agencies for support.

C. Eligibility Information

- To be eligible to submit an application, each PI must have:
 - Successfully completed the requirements for a doctoral degree as of the application submission deadline,
 - A total of less than 4 years of postdoctoral research experience (excluding clinical residency or clinical fellowship training) as of the application submission deadline, and
 - At least 75% protected time for research.
- Cost sharing/matching is not an eligibility requirement.
- Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for general eligibility information.

D. Funding

- The maximum period of performance is **3** years.
The maximum allowable direct costs for the entire period of performance is **\$300,000** plus indirect costs. Up to a maximum of \$50,000 of the direct costs per year may be requested for non-salary expenses.
- All direct and indirect costs of any subaward (subgrant or subcontract) must be included in the total direct costs of the primary award.
- The applicant may request the entire maximum funding amount for a project that may have a period of performance less than the maximum **3** years.
- Regardless of the period of performance proposed, the applicant may not exceed the maximum allowable direct costs. Indirect costs shall be proposed in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate agreement.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for budget regulations and instructions for the Research & Related Budget form. In addition, for this award mechanism, direct costs:

May be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Salary/stipend (PI only)
- Health insurance
- Research Supplies
- Research-related subject costs
- Equipment
- Tuition
- Workshops, seminars, and courses
- Travel between collaborating organizations
- Travel costs of up to \$1,800 per year to attend scientific/technical meetings

Must not be requested for:

- Mentor salary

The Office of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) expects to allot approximately \$1.35M of the \$4M FY11 BMFRP appropriation to fund approximately 3 Postdoctoral Fellowship Award applications, depending on the quality and number of applications received. Funding of applications received in response to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity is contingent upon the availability of Federal funds for this program.

II. SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Submission is a multi-step process requiring both (1) pre-application submission through the CDMRP eReceipt System (<https://cdmrp.org/>) and (2) application submission through Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov/>).

Submission of the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year is discouraged. The Government reserves the right to reject duplicative applications.

A. Where to Obtain the Application Package

To obtain the complete application package, including all required forms, perform a Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov/>) basic search using the Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-11-BMFRP- POSTDOC.

B. Pre-Application Submission Content and Form

All pre-application components must be submitted by the PI through the CDMRP eReceipt system (<https://cdmrp.org/>). Because the invitation to submit an application is based on the contents of the pre-application, investigators should not change the title or research objectives after the pre-application is submitted.

PIs and organizations identified in the application should be the same as those identified in the pre-application. No change in PI will be allowed after the pre-application deadline. If a change in organization is necessary after submission of the pre-application, the PI must contact the CDMRP Help Desk at help@cdmrp.org or 301-682-5507.

The pre-application consists of the following components, which are organized in the CDMRP eReceipt system by separate tabs (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.B., for additional information on pre-application submission):

- **Application Information – Tab 1**
- **Application Contacts – Tab 2**
- **Collaborators and Conflicts of Interest (COI) – Tab 3**

- **Required Files – Tab 4**

Preproposal Narrative (two-page limit): The Preproposal Narrative page limit applies to text and any figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, pictures, pictorials, and cartoons.

The Preproposal Narrative should describe briefly the proposed research project and include the following:

- **Rationale:** Clearly articulate the rationale for the project by presenting the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed research; include relevant literature citations.
- **Hypothesis or Objective:** State the hypothesis to be tested or the objective to be reached.
- **Research:** State the project's specific aims.
- **Innovation:** Describe how the proposed research project is innovative, and how the research represents more than an incremental advance on published data.
- **Impact:** Explain the potential impact of the proposed research project and how it will, if successful, move the research field toward achieving the BMFRP's vision: To understand and cure BMF disease.

Pre-Application Supporting Documentation: The items to be included as supporting documentation for the pre-application are limited to:

- **References Cited (one-page limit):** List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the preproposal narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, title of reference, source of reference, volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
- **List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols:** Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols.
- **PI and Mentor Biographical Sketches (four-page limit per individual):** Include biographical sketches for the PI and Mentor.
- **Letter of recommendation from the Mentor (two-page limit recommended):**

The Mentor's letter of recommendation should include the:

- PI's potential to become a successful and independent researcher in the field of BMF
 - Mentor's commitment to the training, research, and career development, and mentorship of the PI, including details of the mentor's proposed interactions with the PI during the PI's tenure as a postdoctoral fellow.
 - Mentor's experience in conducting innovative research, evidence of current funding for BMF research, and record of training other postdoctoral fellows.
 - Relevance of the proposed research project to training the PI as a BMF researcher.
- **Two Additional Letters of Recommendation (one-page limit recommended for each):** Each letter of recommendation should describe the PI's unique

qualifications, characteristics, and achievements; the PI's potential for productivity, and the PI's desire for establishing a successful career at in BMF research.

- **Letter of Organizational Support:** Provide a letter, signed by the appropriate organization official, indicating the amount of protected time the PI will have for conducting BMF research for the duration of this award.

Training Plan and Career Goals (two-page limit): Describe the PI's career goals and how the proposed training and research experience will promote achieving these goals.

The Training Plan and Career Goals document should include the following elements:

- **Training Program and Environment:** Clearly outline the training program and environment including a timeline, coursework, laboratory techniques, conferences, seminars, journal clubs, and/or teaching responsibilities. Indicate specifically how the training program and environment will advance the PI's development as a BMF researcher. Also, although not required, describe any multidisciplinary aspects of the training plan (if applicable). Describe how the mentor will participate in the PI's postdoctoral training program.
- **Commitment to Bone Marrow Failure Research:** Clearly articulate the PI's commitment to a research career conducting innovative BMF research. Include qualifications, characteristics, and achievements of the PI. Describe the PI's long-term research career goals after the completion of this award.

- **Submit Pre-application – Tab 5**

- **Other Documents Tab**

No additional documents are required.

Pre-Application Screening

- **Pre-Application Screening Criteria**

To determine the technical merits of the pre-application and the relevance to the mission of the DOD and CDMRP, pre-applications will be screened based on the following criteria:

- **Adherence to the intent of the award mechanism**
- **Principal Investigator**
 - Whether the PI meets the eligibility requirements.
 - To what extent the PI's qualifications, characteristics and achievements indicate a potential for a successful career in BMF research.
 - To what extent the PI's stated career goals demonstrate a commitment to pursuing an independent career as a BMF researcher.
 - To what extent the letters of recommendation from the mentor and others support the PI's potential for a successful career in BMF research.

- **Mentor**
 - Whether the mentor is an established BMF researcher, as evidenced by a record of funding and publications in this area.
 - To what extent the mentor's experience indicates the potential for successful training of the PI as a BMF researcher.
 - To what extent the mentor's research experience, research program, committed resources, and level of effort are appropriate for the proposed training program.
- **Training Program and Environment**
 - To what extent the training program is described in sufficient detail to judge its merit and ability to augment the PI's expertise.
 - How well the training will prepare the PI for an independent career in BMF research.
 - Whether the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed training.
 - To what extent the training requirements are adequately supported by the availability of facilities and resources (including collaborative arrangements).
- **Research**
 - **Research Idea:** How well the proposed project addresses a central critical problem or question in BMF research.
 - **Innovation:** How well the research proposes new paradigms, challenges existing paradigms, looks at existing problems from new perspectives, or exhibits other uniquely creative qualities.
 - **Impact:** To what degree the proposed research, if successful, will make an important contribution that significantly advances current methods and concepts toward the BMFRP vision of understanding and curing BMF disease.
- **Notification of Pre-Application Screening Results**

Following the pre-application screening, PIs will be notified of whether or not they are invited to submit an application; however, they will not receive feedback (e.g., a critique of strengths and weaknesses) on their pre-application. Pre-application notification dates are indicated on the [title page](#) of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

C. Application Submission Content and Form

Applications will not be accepted unless the PI has received a letter of invitation.

Each application submission must include the completed application package of forms and attachments provided in Grants.gov for this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. The application package is submitted by the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) through the Grants.gov portal (<http://www.grants.gov/>).

Grants.gov application package components: For the Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, the Grants.gov application package includes the following components (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for additional information on application submission):

1. **SF 424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

2. **Attachments Form**

- **Attachment 1: Project Narrative (six-page limit):** Upload as “ProjectNarrative.pdf.”

Describe the proposed project in detail using the outline below.

- **Background:** Present the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed research; include relevant literature citations. Describe previous experience most pertinent to this application. Preliminary data, unpublished results from the laboratory of the PI or collaborators named on this application, and/or data from the published literature that is relevant to the proposed research project should be included.
- **Hypothesis or Objective:** State the hypothesis to be tested or the objective to be reached.
- **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project’s specific aims to be funded by this award.
- **Research Strategy:** Describe the experimental design, methods, and analyses, including appropriate controls and statistical plan, in sufficient detail for evaluation. Include specific examples of innovative elements incorporated into the research design. Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches. If human subjects or human anatomical samples will be used, include a plan for the recruitment of subjects or the acquisition of samples, and document the experience of the PI, Mentor, and/or key collaborators in recruiting human subjects for similar projects.
- **Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation.** Start each document on a new page. Combine and upload as a single file named “Support.pdf.” If documents are scanned to pdf, the lowest resolution (100 to 150 dpi) should be used. *Each component has no page limit unless otherwise noted.*
 - **References Cited :** List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the project narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, title of reference, source of reference, volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
 - **List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols:** Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols.
 - **Facilities, Existing Equipment, and Other Resources:** Describe the facilities and equipment available for performance of the proposed project, and any additional facilities or equipment proposed for acquisition at no cost to the USAMRMC.

Indicate if Government-owned facilities or equipment are proposed for use. Reference should be made to the original or present contract under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is no form for this information.

- Publications and/or Patent Abstracts (five-document limit): Include relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If publications are not publicly available, then they must be included. Extra items will not be reviewed.
- Letters of Organizational Support: Provide a letter (or letters if applicable), signed by the Department Chair or appropriate organization official, reflecting the laboratory space, equipment, and other resources available for the project.
- Letters of Collaboration (if applicable): Provide a signed letter from each collaborating individual or organization that will demonstrate that the PI has the support or resources necessary for the proposed work.
- Intellectual and Material Property Plan (if applicable): Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.

- **Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit):** Upload as “TechAbs.pdf.”

Describe the proposed research project including the following elements: background, hypothesis or objective, study design, innovative aspects of the proposed research project and the potential impact of the anticipated research results. Explain how the proposed research project is appropriate as part of an overall postdoctoral training plan and will assist in the career development as an independent BMF researcher.

- **Attachment 4: Public Abstract (one-page limit):** Upload as “PublicAbs.pdf.”

Include in a manner that can be readily understood by lay persons an overview of the proposed research project, the postdoctoral training plan, and long term goals for a career in BMF research. For the proposed research project, clearly describe the central critical problem or question to be addressed by the proposed research project, the innovative aspect of the research, and the impact that the project results might have on the field of BMF research and/or patient care. Do not duplicate the technical abstract.

- **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (SOW) (three-page limit):** Upload as “SOW.pdf.” Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

- **Attachment 6: Innovation Statement (one-page limit):** Upload as “Innovation.pdf.”

Summarize how the proposed work is innovative. Investigating the next logical step or an incremental advancement on published data is not considered innovative.

Although not all-inclusive, the following examples are ways in which proposed work may be innovative; these examples are intended to help PIs frame the innovative features of the research proposed:

- Study concept – Investigation of a novel idea and/or research question
- Research method or technology – Use of novel research methods or new technologies, including technology development, to address a research question
- Novel method or technology – Development of a novel method or technology for prevention, detection, diagnosis, or treatment
- Existing methods or technologies – Application or adaptation of existing methods or technologies for novel research or clinical purposes, or for research or clinical purposes that differ fundamentally from those originally intended
- **Attachment 7: Impact Statement (one-page limit):** Upload as “Impact.pdf.”

Describe why the proposed research project is important to understanding the causes and progression of BMF, and/or improvements in patient care and/or quality of life.

Describe the short-term impact: Detail the anticipated outcome(s)/product(s) (intellectual and/or tangible) that will be directly attributed to the results of the proposed research.

Describe the long-term impact: Explain the potential long-term impact of this study on the field of research and/or patient care. Describe the anticipated long-term gains from this research course, and compare these to BMF information/products currently available, if applicable.

- **Attachment 8: Eligibility Statement (one-page limit):** Upload as “Eligibility.pdf.”

Complete the Eligibility Statement (available for download on the Full Announcement page in Grants.gov).

3. Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Form: Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

- PI Biographical Sketch (four-page limit): Upload as “Biosketch_LastName.pdf.”
- PI Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as “Support_LastName.pdf.”
- Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (four-page limit each): Upload as “Biosketch_LastName.pdf.”
- Key Personnel Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as “Support_LastName.pdf.”

4. Research & Related Budget: Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

- Budget Justification (no page limit): Upload as “BudgetJustification.pdf.”

5. Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form: Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

- 6. R & R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

D. Submission Dates and Times

All submission dates and times are indicated on the [title page](#) of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. Pre-application and application submissions are required. Failure to meet any one of the deadlines shall result in application rejection.

E. Other Submission Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for detailed formatting guidelines.

All applications must be submitted through Grants.gov. Organizations are required to provide a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number and register with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) to submit applications through the Grants.gov portal. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, for information on Grants.gov requirements.

III. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Application Review and Selection Process

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and consumer advocates using a two-tier review process. The first tier is a peer review of applications against established criteria for determining technical merit. The second tier is a programmatic review that compares applications to each other and makes recommendations for funding to the Commanding General, USAMRMC, based on technical merit, the relevance to the mission of the DOD and CDMRP, and the specific intent of the award mechanism. The highest scoring applications from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Additional information about the two-tier review process used by the CDMRP can be found at <http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/fundingprocess>.

All CDMRP review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the merit-based selection process. Each level of review requires panelists to sign a non-disclosure statement attesting that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the panel. Violations of the non-disclosure statement can result in the dissolving of a panel(s) and other corrective actions. Organizational personnel and PIs are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process. Violations of these prohibitions will result in the administrative withdrawal of the organization's application. Violations by panelists or PIs that compromise the confidentiality of the review process may also result in suspension or debarment of their employing organizations from Federal awards. Furthermore, it is a crime for Federal officials to disclose confidential information of one party to another third party (Title 18 United States Code 1905).

B. Application Review Criteria

1. **Peer Review:** To determine technical merit, all applications will be evaluated according to the following scored criteria, which are of equal importance:

- **Impact**

- How the research project, if successful, will make an important contribution that significantly advances our understanding of the causes and the progression of BMF, and/or improves the patient care and/or quality of life.
- How well the anticipated short-term outcome(s)/product(s) (intellectual and/or tangible) are described.
- How well the anticipated long-term gains from this research course are described and compared to information/products currently available, if applicable.

- **Innovation**

- How well the research proposes new paradigms or challenges existing paradigms in one or more of the following ways: Concept or question, research methods or technologies, adaptations of existing methods or technologies, or other ways.
- How the proposed research project is a new research idea and not the next logical step or continuation of a previous research project.
- How the proposed research represents more than an incremental advance upon published data.

- **Research Strategy and Feasibility**

- How the scientific rationale supports the project and its feasibility, as demonstrated by a critical review and analysis of the literature, BMF-relevant preliminary data, or logical reasoning.
- How well the hypotheses or objectives, specific aims, experimental design, methods, and analyses are developed and integrated into the project.
- How well the PI identifies potential problems and addresses alternative approaches.
- Whether the proposal includes an appropriate statistical plan with power analysis, if applicable.

In addition, the following unscored criteria will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application:

- **Personnel**

- Whether the PI meets the eligibility requirements.
- Whether the BMF-related expertise is appropriate to accomplish the proposed work.

- To what degree the levels of effort are appropriate for successful conduct of the proposed work.
- Whether the PI has at least a 75% level of effort for the proposed research project.
- **Environment**
 - How the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed research.
 - How the research requirements are supported by the availability of and accessibility to facilities and resources (including collaborative arrangements).
 - How the quality and extent of institutional support are appropriate for the proposed research.
- **Budget**
 - Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research and within the limitations of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.
- **Application Presentation**
 - To what extent the writing, clarity, and presentation of the application components influenced the review.

2. Programmatic Review: To determine the application's relevance to the mission of the DOD and CDMRP, as well as to make funding recommendations, the following equally considered criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

- Adherence to the intent of the award mechanism
- Program portfolio composition
- Programmatic relevance
- Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers
- Relative innovation and impact

C. Recipient Qualification

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for additional information on organization and Government agency requirements.

D. Application Review Dates

All application review dates and times are indicated on the [title page](#) of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

E. Notification of Application Review Results

Each PI and organization will receive notification of the funding recommendation. PIs will receive a scientific peer review summary statement on the strengths and weaknesses of the application.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

After receipt of pre-applications from CDMRP eReceipt or applications from Grants.gov, the following administrative actions may occur:

A. Rejection

The following will result in administrative rejection of the pre-application:

- Preproposal Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Preproposal Narrative is missing.
- Training Plan and Career Goals document is missing. The following will result in

administrative rejection of the application:

- Project Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Project Narrative is missing.
- Budget is missing.
- Submission of an application for which a letter of invitation was not received.

B. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specified limits will be removed prior to review for all documents other than the Project Narrative and Preproposal Narrative.
- Documents not requested will be removed.
- Following the application deadline, you may be contacted by CDMRP via email with a request to provide certain missing supporting documents (excluding those listed in Section IV.A., Rejection). The missing documents must be provided by 5:00 p.m. ET on the second full business day following the date the email was sent. Otherwise, the application will be reviewed as submitted.

C. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application or application:

- FY11 BMFRP Integration Panel (IP) member is found to be involved in the preapplication or application processes including, but not limited to, concept design, application development, budget preparation, and the development of any supporting document. A list of the FY11 BMFRP IP members may be found at <http://cdmrp.army.mil/bmfrp/panels/panel11>.
- Submission of the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.
- The application does not conform to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity description to an extent that precludes appropriate review.

- Direct costs as shown on the Research and Related Budget form exceed the maximum allowed by this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.
- Inclusion of URLs with the exception of links to published references.
- Page size is larger than 8.5 inches x 11.0 inches (approximately 21.59 cm x 27.94 cm).
- The proposed research is, or requests funding for, a clinical trial.
- The PI does not meet the eligibility criteria.
- The PI of the application is not the PI proposed in the pre-application.

D. Withhold

Applications that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending institutional investigation. The institution will be required to provide the findings of the investigation to the US Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) Contracting/Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

V. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Award Notice

Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2012. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, for additional award administration information.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section C, for general information regarding administrative and national policy requirements.

C. Reporting

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section D, for general information on reporting requirements.

D. Award Transfers

Changes in the PI or Mentor are not allowed for the Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, except under extenuating circumstances that will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the USAMRAA Contracting/Grants Officer.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section E, for general information on organization changes.

VI. AGENCY CONTACTS

A. CDMRP Help Desk

Questions related to Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity content or submission requirements and questions related to the submission of the pre-application through the CDMRP eReceipt System should be directed to the CDMRP Help Desk, which is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. Response times may vary depending upon the volume of inquiries.

Phone: 1-301-682-5507

Email: help@cdmrp.org

B. Grants.gov Contact Center

Questions related to application submission through the Grants.gov portal should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed on U.S. Federal holidays). Note that the CDMRP Help Desk is unable to provide technical assistance with Grants.gov submission.

Phone: 1-800-518-4726

Email: support@grants.gov

Sign up on Grants.gov for “send me change notification emails” by following the link on the Synopsis page for the Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. If the application package is updated or changed, the original version of the application package may not be accepted by Grants.gov.

VII. APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

| Grants.gov Application Components | Action | Completed |
|---|--|-----------|
| SF-424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance Form | Complete form as instructed. | |
| Attachments Form | Upload Project Narrative (ProjectNarrative.pdf) as Attachment 1. | |
| | Upload Supporting Documentation (Support.pdf) as Attachment 2. | |
| | Upload Technical Abstract (TechAbs.pdf) as Attachment 3. | |
| | Upload Public Abstract (PublicAbs.pdf) as Attachment 4. | |
| | Upload Statement of Work (SOW.pdf) as Attachment 5. | |
| | Upload Innovation Statement (Innovation.pdf) as Attachment 6. | |
| | Upload Impact Statement (Impact.pdf) as Attachment 7. | |
| | Upload Eligibility Statement (Eligibility.pdf) as Attachment 8. | |
| Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) | Attach PI Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field. | |
| | Attach PI Current & Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field. | |
| | Attach Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field. | |
| | Attach Current & Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field. | |
| Research & Related Budget | Complete form as instructed. Attach Budget Justification (BudgetJustification.pdf) to the appropriate field. | |
| Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form | Complete form as instructed. | |
| R & R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form | Complete form as instructed. | |