I. OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Program Announcement for the Department of Defense

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Military Burn Research Program

Technology/Therapeutic Development Award

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-22-MBRP-TTDA

Assistance Listing Number: 12.420 Military Medical Research and Development

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW DATES AND TIMES

- Pre-Application Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), June 27, 2022
- Invitation to Submit an Application: August 12, 2022
- Application Submission Deadline: 11:59 p.m. ET, October 11, 2022
- End of Application Verification Period: 5:00 p.m. ET, October 14, 2022
- Peer Review: December 2022
- Programmatic Review: March 2023

This program announcement must be read in conjunction with the General Application Instructions, version 702. The General Application Instructions document is available for downloading from the Grants.gov funding opportunity announcement by selecting the “Package” tab, clicking “Preview,” and then selecting “Download Instructions.”
II. DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

II.A. Program Description

Applications to the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Military Burn Research Program (MBRP) are being solicited by the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) using delegated authority provided by United States Code, Title 10, Section 4001 (10 USC 4001). The execution management agent for this program announcement is the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC). The MBRP was initiated in 2011 to address combat-related and trauma-induced burn injuries as well as to improve health and performance outcomes for Service Members and the general public. Appropriations for the MBRP from FY11 through FY21 totaled $90 million (M). The FY22 appropriation is $10M.

The proposed research must be relevant to active-duty Service Members, Veterans, military beneficiaries, and/or the American public.

Burn injuries sustained by military Service Members while in the line of duty, whether on the battlefield, or in a military training environment, represent a continuous health burden on both the injured Service Member and the Department of Defense health care systems in which they receive care. Historically, burn injuries afflicted some 5% to 20% of casualties during post-World War II conflicts.1 In recent years, burns sustained during Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom affected nearly 9% of combat-related casualties.2 While thermal burns represent the most common mechanism of burn injury, atypical burns such as frostbite, high-voltage electrical, chemical, directed energy, and nuclear represent additional formidable threats to the health and well-being of Service Members. The Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division reports an increased number of cold related injuries in recent years; high-voltage accidents occur on and off the battlefield; and the threat of chemical, nuclear, or directed energy weapons is an ever-present danger. Regardless of mechanism, combat-associated burn injuries are devastating due, in part, to the high incidence of concurrent severe traumatic injuries. In addition, burns sustained in a deployed environment more often lead to severe burns than those sustained in the civilian setting. The majority of combat burns in recent conflicts resulted from explosive device detonation, leading to a greater Injury Severity Score, an increase in inhalation injuries, and a larger, full-thickness burn size.3 It is anticipated that in future conflicts the explosive weaponry used against U.S. forces will be more powerful than that seen in the past, likely resulting in a higher number of casualties with significant injuries and larger, more severe burns. Irrespective of the injury mechanism, assessment and treatment of burn wounds at or close to the point-of-injury remains a challenge to medical and non-medical first responders.

alike. The time is long past for the burn care community to develop, refine, or test novel therapies or technologies that would allow for better provision of care and improved patient outcomes.

II.A.1. FY22 MBRP Focus Areas

In order to meet the MBRP mission “to identify and address gaps in burn trauma care through military focused research,” the program seeks to fund research that enhances the ability to prevent burn complications, assess burn injuries, and/or treat burns and burn-associated complications which ultimately facilitates the improvement of health and performance outcomes of burn-injured Service Members, Veterans, military beneficiaries, and/or the American public. Within this context, the MBRP is interested in research proposals that address specific gaps in the area of military-relevant burns; therefore, the proposed research must address at least one of the following FY22 MBRP Focus Areas:

- **Atypical Burns:** Development and/or validation of methods to prevent, triage, and/or treat burns resulting from exposure to cold, radiation, directed energy, or high voltage (especially military duty-related) electrical injuries. Novel interventions that focus on technology or therapeutics other than topical agents or dressings are of particular interest.

- **Burn Injury During Mass Casualty:** Development and/or validation of methods/techniques to improve triage, delivery of care, or capacity capabilities after burn mass casualty events. Methods/techniques must be specific to events where large numbers of burn casualties are expected.

- **Burn Injury-Related Complications:** Development and/or validation of methods to prevent, assess, and/or treat burn injury related complications. Studies must address at least one of the following burn injury complications:
  - Over/under fluid resuscitation to include limited- or low-volume resuscitation
  - Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
  - Sepsis
  - Inhalation injuries

II.A.2. Award History

The MBRP Technology/Therapeutic Development Award (TTDA) mechanism is being offered for the first time in FY22.

II.B. Award Information

The MBRP Technology/Therapeutic Development Award is a product-driven award mechanism intended to provide support for the translation of promising preclinical findings into products for clinical application that address one or more of the critical gaps included in the FY22 MBRP
TTDA Focus Areas. Products under development **must** be relevant to military application and address the needs of military Service Members, Veterans, and/or beneficiaries.

The product(s) to be developed may be a tangible item such as a pharmacologic agent (including, but not limited to, drugs or biologics); or device-focused. Knowledge products may be considered, provided that the knowledge is applicable to a technology or therapeutic under development. (A “knowledge product” is a non-materiel product that addresses an identified need in one or more of the FY22 MBRP TTDA Focus Areas, is based on current evidence and research, aims to transition into medical practice, training, tools, or to support materiel solutions [systems to develop, acquire, provide, and sustain medical solutions and capabilities], and educates or impacts behavior throughout the continuum of care, including primary prevention of negative outcomes.) The Principal Investigator (PI) must provide a transition plan (including potential funding and resources; see **Attachment 7: Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy**) showing how the product will progress to the next level of development (e.g., clinical trials, delivery to the military or civilian market) after the completion of the MBRP award. At the time of pre-application submission the proposed product must be at a minimum technology readiness level (TRL) or knowledge readiness level (KRL) of 3 (**Appendix 2**).

Proof-of-concept and prototype/preliminary version of the proposed product demonstrating the potential utility of the proposed product must be established at the time of pre-application submission. **Applications must include relevant data that support the rationale for the proposed study.** These data may be unpublished and/or from the published literature.

This award mechanism is intended to facilitate progression of research that is supported by significant preliminary data but has not yet advanced to the level of clinical use. Examples of the types of research that may be supported include, but are not limited to:

- Testing new therapeutic or technologic modalities (ex: agents, delivery systems, chemical modification of lead compounds, device testing and/or validation) using established or validated preclinical systems

- Designing pilot or full-scale Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) production of therapeutics and/or technologies for use in advanced preclinical studies

- Developing pharmacologic agents through absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity studies

- Investigational New Drug (IND) or Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) enabling studies

The types of awards made under the program announcement will be assistance agreements. An assistance agreement is appropriate when the federal government transfers a “thing of value” to a “state, local government,” or “other recipient” to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States instead of acquiring property or service for the direct benefit and use of the U.S. government. An assistance agreement can take the form of a grant or cooperative agreement. The level of involvement on the part of the Department of Defense (DOD) during project performance is the key factor in determining whether to award a grant or cooperative agreement. If “no substantial involvement” on the part of the funding agency is anticipated, a grant award will be made (31 USC 6304). Conversely, if substantial
involvement on the part of the funding agency is anticipated, a cooperative agreement will be made (31 USC 6305), and the award will identify the specific substantial involvement. Substantial involvement may include, but is not limited to, collaboration, participation, or intervention in the research to be performed under the award. The award type, along with the start date, will be determined during the negotiation process.

The anticipated total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY22 MBRP TTDA Award will not exceed $2.21M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2023. For additional information refer to Section II.F.1, Federal Award Notices.

The CDMRP expects to allot approximately $4.42M to fund approximately two Technology/Therapeutic Development Award applications. Funding of applications received is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for this program as well as the number of applications received, the quality and merit of the applications as evaluated by scientific and programmatic review, and the requirements of the government. Funds to be obligated on any award resulting from this funding opportunity will be available for use for a limited time period based on the fiscal year of the funds. It is anticipated that awards made from this FY22 funding opportunity will be funded with FY22 funds, which will expire for use on September 30, 2028.

Impact: The overall impact of the proposed product is a key component of this award mechanism. The applicability to one of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas should be clearly described. Investigators must describe the potential impact of the research, both short-term and long-term, on the lives of burn-injured individuals. High-impact research will, if successful, lead to the development and translation of therapeutic or technologic advances for clinical application in the care of burn-injured casualties, such as prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or standards of care, and promoting positive long-term outcomes for military health and medicine, as well as the general public.

Relevance to Military Health: Relevance to the healthcare needs of military Service Members, Veterans, military beneficiaries, and/or the American public is a key feature of this award. Investigators are encouraged to consider the following characteristics as examples of how a project may demonstrate relevance to military health:

- Explanation of how the project addresses an aspect of burn injuries relevant to the military
- Description of how the therapy, technology, or knowledge gained from the proposed research could be implemented to address a military need

Use of DOD or Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Resources: If the proposed research involves access to active-duty military or VA patient populations and/or DOD or VA resources or databases, the application must describe the access at the time of submission and include a plan for maintaining access as needed throughout the proposed research. Refer to Section II.D.2.b.ii, Full Application Submission Components, for detailed information. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for additional information.
Applicants are encouraged to integrate and/or align their research projects with DOD and/or VA research laboratories and programs. Collaboration with DOD or VA investigators is also encouraged. A list of websites that may be useful in identifying additional information about ongoing DOD and VA areas of research interest or potential opportunities for collaboration can be found in Appendix 3.

**Clinical trials and clinical research studies are not permitted under this award mechanism. Projects involving the use of human anatomical specimens are permitted, provided that the use of such specimens is necessary for device validation, or in vitro or ex vivo studies. Applicants proposing clinical research should consider submitting to the FY22 MBRP Clinical Translational Research Award mechanism.**

**A clinical trial is defined** as a research study in which one or more human subjects are prospectively assigned to one or more interventions (which may include placebo or other control) to evaluate the effects of the interventions on biomedical or behavioral health-related outcomes.

**Clinical research is defined** as: (1) Patient-oriented research. Research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens, and cognitive phenomena) for which an investigator (or colleague) directly interacts with human subjects. Excluded from this definition are in vitro studies that utilize human tissues that cannot be linked to a living individual. Patient-oriented research includes: (a) mechanisms of human disease, (b) therapeutic interventions, (c) clinical trials, and (d) development of new technologies. (2) Epidemiologic and behavioral studies. (3) Outcomes research and health services research. **Note:** Studies that meet the requirements for Institutional Review Board (IRB) Exemption 4 are not considered CDMRP-defined clinical research. IRB Exemption 4 refers to research involving the collection or study of existing de-identified specimens or data, if these sources are publicly available.

**Rigor of Experimental Design:** All projects should adhere to accepted standards for rigorous study design and reporting to maximize the reproducibility and translational potential of preclinical research. Core standards are described in Landis, S.C., et al., A call for transparent reporting to optimize the predictive value of preclinical research, Nature 2012, 490:187-191 (https://www.nature.com/articles/nature11556). While these standards were written for preclinical studies, the basic principles of randomization, blinding, sample-size estimation, and data handling derive from well-established best practices in research and should be applied consistently across translational studies. Projects that include research on animal models are required to submit Attachment 8, Animal Research Plan, as part of the proposal/application package to describe how these standards will be addressed. Applicants should consult the Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) guidelines 2.0 to ensure relevant aspects of rigorous animal research are adequately planned for and, ultimately, reported. The ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 can be found at https://arriveguidelines.org/arrive-guidelines.

**Research Involving Human Anatomical Substances, Human Subjects, or Human Cadavers:** All DOD-funded research involving new and ongoing research with human anatomical substances, human subjects, or human cadavers must be reviewed and approved by the USAMRDC Office of Research Protections (ORP), Human Research Protection Office (HRPO), prior to research implementation. This administrative review requirement is in addition...
to the local IRB or Ethics Committee (EC) review. Local IRB/EC approval at the time of submission is not required. Allow up to 3 months to complete the HRPO regulatory review and approval process following submission of all required and complete documents to the HRPO. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, and the Human Research Protections Office Resources and Overview document available on the electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) “Funding Opportunities & Forms” web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) for additional information.

If the proposed research involves more than one institution, a written plan for single IRB review arrangements must be provided at the time of application submission or award negotiation. The lead institution responsible for developing the master protocol and master consent form should be identified and should be the single point of contact for regulatory submissions and requirements.

**Research Involving Animals:** All research funded by the FY22 MBRP TTDA involving new and ongoing research with animals must be reviewed and approved by the USAMRDC ORP Animal Care and Use Review Office (ACURO), in addition to the local Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) of record. IACUC approval at the time of submission is not required. Allow at least 3 to 4 months for ACURO regulatory review and approval processes for animal studies. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for additional information.

**II.C. Eligibility Information**

**II.C.1. Eligible Applicants**

**II.C.1.a. Organization:** All organizations, including foreign organizations, foreign public entities, and international organizations, are eligible to apply.

**Government Agencies Within the United States:** Local, state, and federal government agencies are eligible to the extent that applications do not overlap with their fully funded internal programs. Such agencies are required to explain how their applications do not overlap with their internal programs.

As applications for this program announcement may be submitted by extramural and intramural organizations, these terms are defined below.

**Extramural Organization:** An eligible non-DOD organization. Examples of extramural organizations include academic institutions, biotechnology companies, foundations, federal government organizations other than the DOD, and research institutes.

**Intramural DOD Organization:** A DOD laboratory, DOD military treatment facility, and/or DOD activity embedded within a civilian medical center. **Intramural Submission:** An application submitted by a DOD organization for an intramural investigator working within a DOD laboratory or military treatment facility or in a DOD activity embedded within a civilian medical center.

The USAMRAA makes awards to eligible organizations, not to individuals.
II.C.1.b. Principal Investigator

PIs at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent) may be named by the organization as the PI on the application.

There are no limitations on the number of applications for which an investigator may be named as a PI.

An eligible PI, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, or citizenship status, must be employed by, or affiliated with, an eligible organization.

The CDMRP strongly encourages all PIs to participate in a digital identifier initiative through Open Researcher and Contributor ID, Inc. (ORCID). Registration for a unique ORCID identifier can be done online at https://orcid.org/.

II.C.2. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing/matching is not an eligibility requirement.

II.C.3. Other

Organizations must be able to access .gov and .mil websites in order to fulfill the financial and technical deliverable requirements of the award and submit invoices for payment.

For general information on required qualifications for award recipients, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3.

Refer to Section II.H.2, Administrative Actions, for a list of administrative actions that may be taken if a pre-application or application does not meet the administrative, eligibility, or ethical requirements defined in this program announcement.

II.D. Application and Submission Information

Submission of applications that are essentially identical or propose essentially the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year is prohibited and will result in administrative withdrawal of the duplicative application(s).

II.D.1. eBRAP and Grants.gov

eBRAP (https://ebrap.org) is a secure web-based system that allows PIs to submit their pre-applications, view and verify extramural full applications submitted to Grants.gov (https://grants.gov), receive communications from the CDMRP, and submit documentation during award negotiations and throughout the period of performance. eBRAP also allows intramural organizations to submit full applications following pre-application submission.

Grants.gov is a federal system required to be utilized by agencies to receive and process extramural grant applications. Full applications may only be submitted to Grants.gov after submission of a pre-application through eBRAP.
Contact information for the eBRAP Help Desk and the Grants.gov Contact Center can be found in Section II.G, Federal Awarding Agency Contacts.

**Extramural Submission:**

- Pre-application content and forms must be accessed and submitted at eBRAP.org.
- Full application packages must be accessed and submitted at Grants.gov.

**Intramural DOD Submission:**

- Pre-application content and forms must be accessed and submitted at eBRAP.org.
- Full application packages must be accessed and submitted at eBRAP.org.

*Note: Applications from an intramural DOD organization or from an extramural federal government organization may be submitted to Grants.gov through a research foundation.*

**II.D.2. Content and Form of the Application Submission**

Submission is a two-step process requiring both *pre-application* (eBRAP.org) and *full application* (eBRAP.org or Grants.gov) as indicated below. The submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. There are no grace periods. Full application submission guidelines differ for extramural (Grants.gov) and intramural (eBRAP.org) organizations (refer to Table 1, Full Application Guidelines).

*The application title, eBRAP log number, and all information for the PI, Business Official(s), performing organization, and contracting organization must be consistent throughout the entire pre-application and full application submission process.* Inconsistencies may delay application processing and limit or negate the ability to view, modify, and verify the application in eBRAP. If any changes need to be made, the applicant should contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507 prior to the application submission deadline.

**II.D.2.a. Step 1: Pre-Application Submission Content**

*During the pre-application process, eBRAP assigns each submission a unique log number. This unique eBRAP log number is required during the full application submission process.*

To begin the pre-application process, first select whether the submitting organization is extramural or intramural, then confirm your selection or cancel. **Incorrect selection of extramural or intramural submission type will delay processing.**

If an error has been made in the selection of extramural versus intramural and the pre-application submission deadline has passed, the PI or Business Official must contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507 to request a change in designation.

All pre-application components must be submitted by the PI through eBRAP (https://eBRAP.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.

The applicant organization and associated PI identified in the pre-application should be the same
as those intended for the subsequent application submission. If any changes are necessary after
submission of the pre-application, the applicant must contact the eBRAP Help Desk at
help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507.

A change in PI or organization after submission of the pre-application may be allowed after
review of a submitted written appeal (contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or
301-682-5507) and at the discretion of the USAMRAA Grants Officer.

PIs with an ORCID identifier should enter that information in the appropriate field in the “My
Profile” tab in the “Account Information” section of eBRAP.

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

- **Tab 1 – Application Information**

  Submission of application information includes assignment of primary and secondary
  research classification codes, which may be found at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/
  Program.htm. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review and confirm the codes prior to
  making their selection.

- **Tab 2 – Application Contacts**

  Enter contact information for the PI. Enter the organization’s Business Official responsible
  for sponsored program administration (the “person to be contacted on matters involving this
  application” in Block 5 of the Grants.gov SF424 Research & Related Form). The Business
  Official must be either selected from the eBRAP list or invited in order for the pre-
  application to be submitted.

  Select the performing organization (site at which the PI will perform the proposed work) and
  the contracting organization (organization submitting on behalf of the PI, which corresponds
to Block 5 on the Grants.gov SF424 Research & Related Form), and click on “Add
Organizations to this Pre-application.” The organization(s) must be either selected from the
eBRAP drop-down list or invited in order for the pre-application to be submitted.

  It is recommended that PIs identify an Alternate Submitter in the event that assistance with
  pre-application submission is needed.

- **Tab 3 – Collaborators and Key Personnel**

  Enter the name, organization, and role of all collaborators and key personnel associated with
  the application.
FY22 MBRP Programmatic Panel members should not be involved in any pre-application or application. For questions related to panel members and pre-applications or applications, refer to Section II.H.2.c, Withdrawal, or contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507.

- **Tab 4 – Conflicts of Interest**

  List all individuals other than collaborators and key personnel who may have a conflict of interest in the review of the application (including those with whom the PI has a personal or professional relationship).

- **Tab 5 – Pre-Application Files**

  *Note: Upload documents as individual PDF files unless otherwise noted. eBRAP will not allow a file to be uploaded if the number of pages exceeds the limit specified below.*

  - **Preproposal Narrative (two-page limit):** The Preproposal Narrative page limit applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of uniform resource locators (URLs) that provide additional information to expand the Preproposal Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application.

  - **Focus Area:** Describe how the proposed project addresses at least one of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas.

  - **Technology/Therapeutic Development Product:** Describe the proposed product that will address an unmet need and briefly compare it to existing technologies/therapeutics. Explain how the product meets the needs and requirements for prevention, triage, and/or treatment of military burn injuries; particular emphasis should be stated if products address burn injuries sustained in a combat/battlefield setting. Concisely state the scientific rationale, the preclinical findings that support the continued development of the proposed product, and a description of how proof of concept has been demonstrated.

  - **Transition Plan and Research Strategy:** State the hypothesis to be tested and/or the objective(s) to be reached. State the project’s specific aims. Briefly describe the experimental design and methodology to include animal models or human anatomical specimens to be used, if applicable. If applicable, to what degree is the study plan appropriate and feasible and whether the application provides evidence of availability of and access to the necessary study resources. Describe how the anticipated outcomes will support the translation of promising preclinical findings into a product for clinical application. Describe how the data will be appropriately reported and documented to support a regulatory filing with the FDA, or international regulatory agency, if applicable.

  - **Personnel:** Briefly state the expertise of the PI and key personnel to perform the described research project.
○ **Impact:** Describe how the research will result to the development and eventual translation of therapeutic or technologic advances for clinical application in the care of burn injuries, such as prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or quality of life. Describe the potential short-term and long-term impact of the results of the proposed study on the research field and the patient population(s) relevant to one or more of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas. Describe how the proposed project, if successful, will represent an improvement over currently available preventive therapies, diagnostics, treatments, interventions, and/or standards of care.

○ **Relevance to Military Health:** Describe how the project demonstrates relevance to military health, including how the project addresses an aspect of burn injuries relevant to the military; a description of how the therapy, technology, or knowledge gained from the proposed research could be implemented to address a military need; and integration and/or alignment of the research project with DOD and/or VA research laboratories and programs (if applicable).

○ **Pre-Application Supporting Documentation:** The items to be included as supporting documentation for the pre-application must be uploaded as individual files and are limited to the following:

  - **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, reference title, and reference source, including volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).

  - **List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols:** Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols used in the Preproposal Narrative.

  - **Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (six-page limit per individual):** All biographical sketches should be uploaded as a single combined file. Biographical sketches should be used to demonstrate background and expertise through education, positions, publications, and previous work accomplished.

- **Tab 6 – Submit Pre-Application**

  This tab must be completed for the pre-application to be accepted and processed.

**Pre-Application Screening**

- **Pre-Application Screening Criteria**

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

  - **Technology/Therapeutic Development Product:** How well the proposed project addresses at least one of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas. How well the pre-application defines a product (e.g., drug, device) that will address an unmet need. Whether the
project is based on promising preclinical findings, sound scientific rationale, and demonstrated proof of concept.

- **Research Strategy**: How well the specific aims and proposed methodology support the research hypothesis and/or objectives and the development of the product.

- **Personnel**: Whether the background and expertise of the personnel are appropriate to accomplish the proposed research.

- **Impact**: Whether the research will result in a product for clinical application in the care of burn injuries, such as prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or quality of life. Whether the potential short- and long-term outcomes (knowledge and/or materiel) of the proposed research, if successful, will impact a critical problem or question in the field of research and/or patient care within one or more of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas.

- **Military Relevance**: How well the research will address burn injuries relevant to military Service Members and Veterans.

### Notification of Pre-Application Screening Results

Following the pre-application screening, PIs will be notified as to whether or not they are invited to submit applications; however, they will not receive feedback (e.g., a critique of strengths and weaknesses) on their pre-application. The estimated timeframe for notification of invitation to submit an application is indicated in Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity. Invitations to submit a full application are based on the Pre-Application Screening Criteria listed above.

### II.D.2.b. Step 2: Full Application Submission Content

Applications will not be accepted unless notification of invitation has been received.

*The CDMRP cannot make allowances/exceptions to its policies for submission problems encountered by the applicant organization using system-to-system interfaces with Grants.gov.*

Each application submission must include the completed full application package for this program announcement. The full application package is submitted by the Authorized Organizational Representative through Grants.gov (https://grants.gov/) for extramural organizations or through eBRAP (https://ebrap.org/) for intramural organizations. See Table 1 below for more specific guidelines.

#### II.D.2.b.i. Full Application Guidelines

Extramural organizations must submit full applications through Grants.gov. Applicants must create a Grants.gov Workspace for submission, which allows the application components to be completed online and routed through the applicant organization for review prior to submission. Applicants may choose to download and save individual PDF forms rather than filling out webforms in Workspace. A compatible version of Adobe Reader must be used to view, complete, and submit an application package consisting of PDF forms. If more than one person
is entering text into an application package, the same version of Adobe Reader software should be used by each person. Check the version number of the Adobe software on each user’s computer to make sure the versions match. Using different versions of Adobe Reader may cause submission and/or save errors – even if each version is individually compatible with Grants.gov. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, and the “Apply For Grants” page of Grants.gov ([https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html)) for further information about the Grants.gov Workspace submission process. Submissions of extramural applications through eBRAP may be withdrawn.

*Do not password protect any files of the application package, including the Project Narrative.*

Table 1. Full Application Submission Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extramural Submissions</th>
<th>Intramural DOD Submissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application Package Location</strong></td>
<td><strong>Download application package components for W81XWH-22-MBRP-TTDA from Grants.gov (<a href="https://grants.gov">https://grants.gov</a>) and create a Grants.gov Workspace. Workspace allows online completion of the application components and routing of the application package through the applicant organization for review prior to submission.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Full Application Package Components</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tab 1 – Summary:</strong> Provide a summary of the application information. <strong>Tab 2 – Application Contacts:</strong> This tab will be pre-populated by eBRAP; add Authorized Organizational Representative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SF424 Research &amp; Related Application for Federal Assistance Form:</strong> Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.1, for detailed information.</td>
<td><strong>Tab 3 – Full Application Files:</strong> Upload files under each Application Component in eBRAP. Descriptions of each required file can be found under Full Application Submission Components:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Descriptions of each required file can be found under Full Application Submission Components: | - Attachments  
- Research & Related Personal Data  
- Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)  
- Research & Related Budget  
- Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form  
- Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form | - Attachments  
- Key Personnel  
- Budget  
- Performance Sites |
<p>| <strong>Tab 4 – Application and Budget Data:</strong> Review and edit proposed project start date, proposed end date, and budget data pre-populated from the Budget Form. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extramural Submissions</th>
<th>Intramural DOD Submissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application Package Submission</strong></td>
<td><strong>Submit package components to eBRAP (<a href="https://ebrap.org">https://ebrap.org</a>).</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Create a Grants.gov Workspace.</strong> Add participants (investigators and Business Officials) to Workspace, complete all required forms, and check for errors before submission.</td>
<td><strong>Tab 5 – Submit/Request Approval Full Application:</strong> After all components are uploaded and prior to the full application submission deadline, enter your password in the space provided next to “Enter Your Password Here” and press the “Submit Full Application” button. eBRAP will notify your Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official by email. <strong>Do not password protect any files of the application package, including the Project Narrative.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Submit a Grants.gov Workspace Package.</strong> An application may be submitted through Workspace by clicking the “Sign and Submit” button on the “Manage Workspace” page, under the “Forms” tab. Grants.gov recommends submission of the application package at least <strong>24-48 hours prior to the close date</strong> to allow time to correct any potential technical issues that may disrupt the application submission.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or needs to be modified, an updated Grants.gov application package must be submitted via Grants.gov as a “Changed/Corrected Application” with the previous Grants.gov Tracking ID <strong>prior to</strong> the application submission deadline. <strong>Do not password protect any files of the application package, including the Project Narrative.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application Verification Period</strong></td>
<td><strong>After eBRAP has processed the full application, the organizational Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official and PI will receive email notification of this status and will be able to view and modify application components in eBRAP. During the application verification period, the full application package may be modified with the exception of the Project Narrative and Research &amp; Related Budget Form.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The full application package submitted to Grants.gov may be viewed and modified in eBRAP until the end of the application verification period. During the application verification period, the full application package may be modified with the exception of the Project Narrative and Research &amp; Related Budget Form.</td>
<td><strong>Your Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official should log into eBRAP to review and to approve prior to the application verification deadline.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Further Information</strong></td>
<td><strong>Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV, for further information regarding eBRAP requirements.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tracking a Grants.gov Workspace Package.</strong> After successfully submitting a Workspace package, a Grants.gov Tracking Number is</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The full application package must be submitted using the unique eBRAP log number to avoid delays in application processing.

II.D.2.b.ii. Full Application Submission Components

- Extramural Applications Only

  **SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.1, for detailed information.

- Extramural and Intramural Applications

  **Attachments:**

  *Each attachment to the full application components must be uploaded as an individual file in the format specified and in accordance with the formatting guidelines listed in the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4.*

  For all attachments, ensure that the file names are consistent with the guidance. Attachments will be rejected if the file names are longer than 50 characters or have incorrect file names that contain characters other than the following: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore, hyphen, space, and period. In addition, there are file size limits that may apply in some circumstances. Individual attachments may not exceed 20 megabytes (MB), and the file size for the entire full application package may not exceed 200 MB.

  - **Attachment 1: Project Narrative (15-page limit): Upload as “ProjectNarrative.pdf”**. The page limit of the Project Narrative applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Project Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

    - **Background**: Describe how the proposed research project addresses at least one of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas. Describe the product to be developed. Present the scientific rationale behind the proposed work. Cite relevant literature. Describe previous experience most pertinent to the project. Include relevant preliminary data and/or promising preclinical findings that demonstrate proof of concept of the product.
or prototype/preliminary version of the product; these data may be unpublished or from the published literature.

- **Hypothesis/Objective:** Clearly state the hypothesis to be tested (if applicable), a purpose statement, and/or the objective(s) to be reached.

- **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project’s specific aims. These aims should agree with the primary aims and associated tasks described in the Statement of Work (SOW). If the proposed work is part of a larger study, present only aims that this DOD award would fund.

- **Research Strategy and Feasibility:** Describe the study design (ex: experimental, quasi-experimental, etc.), methods, and analyses, including appropriate controls, in sufficient detail for analysis and which support the specific aims. Provide a well-developed, well-integrated research strategy that supports the translational feasibility, appropriateness, and promise of the approach. Define the specific study outcomes and how they will be measured. Describe the availability of and access to the necessary study resources. Explain how the study is designed to achieve reproducible and rigorous results, including (if applicable) controls, sample size estimation, blinding, randomization, and data handling. Address potential problems and present alternative methods and approaches. Describe how data will be collected and handled, including rules for stopping data collection, criteria for inclusion and exclusion of data, how outliers will be defined and handled, and identification of primary endpoints/outcomes. Describe how data will be reported and how it will be assured that the documentation will support a regulatory filing with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), or international regulatory agency, if applicable.

- If animal studies are proposed, briefly describe the key elements of the study/studies as they relate to the overall project. Explain how and why the animal species, strain, and model(s) being used can address the scientific objectives and how it is optimal for addressing the study aims and facilitates rapid development and translation of solutions for the Warfighter. Describe how animal research will be conducted in accordance with the ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 ([https://arriveguidelines.org/arrive-guidelines](https://arriveguidelines.org/arrive-guidelines)). Further details of research involving animals will be required in Attachment 8, Animal Research Plan, as applicable. If human-derived biological specimens will be used, describe the sourcing and/or acquisition of samples. If human-derived specimens will be obtained from military Service Members, military families, and/or Veteran population(s) or datasets, describe the feasibility of accessing the samples/dataset(s). **Clinical research (including Clinical Trials) is not allowed under the Technology/Therapeutic Development Award.**

- Describe how the research project will be completed within the proposed period of performance.
o **Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation:** Combine and upload as a single file named “Support.pdf”. Start each document on a new page. If documents are scanned to PDF, the lowest resolution (100 to 150 dpi) should be used. The Supporting Documentation attachment should not include additional information such as figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, or drawings. These items should be included in the Project Narrative.

*There are no page limits for any of these components unless otherwise noted. Include only those components described below; inclusion of items not requested or viewed as an extension of the Project Narrative will result in the removal of those items or may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.*

- **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 award. Indicate whether or not government-furnished facilities or equipment are proposed for use. If so, reference should be made to the original or present government award under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is no form for this information.

- **Publications and/or Patents:** Include a list of relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If articles are not publicly available, then copies of up to five published manuscripts may be included in Attachment 2. Extra items will not be reviewed.

- **Letters of Organizational Support (1-page limit per letter):** Provide a letter (or letters, if applicable) signed by the Department Chair or appropriate organization official, confirming the laboratory space, equipment, and other resources available for the project. Letters of support not requested in the program announcement, such as those from members of Congress, do not impact application review or funding decisions.

- **Letters of Collaboration (if applicable) (1-page limit per letter):** Provide a signed letter from each collaborating individual or organization that demonstrates that the PI has the support or resources necessary for the proposed work. If an investigator at an intramural organization is named as a collaborator on an application submitted through an extramural organization, the application must include a letter from the collaborator’s Commander or Commanding Officer at the intramural organization that authorizes the collaborator’s involvement.
- **Intellectual Property:** Information can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 2, Part 200.315 (2 CFR 200.315), “Intangible Property.”

- **Intellectual and Material Property Plan (if applicable):** Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.

- **Commercialization Strategy (if applicable):** Describe the commercialization plan. The plan should include intellectual property, market size, financial analysis, strengths and weaknesses, barriers to the market, competitors, and management team. Discuss the significance of this development effort, when it can be anticipated, and the potential commercial use for the technology being developed.

- **Data and Research Resources Sharing Plan:** Describe how data and resources generated during the performance of the project will be shared with the research community. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section K, for more information about the CDMRP expectations for making data and research resources publicly available.

- **Use of DOD Resources (if applicable):** Provide a letter of support signed by the lowest-ranking person with approval authority confirming access to active-duty military populations and/or DOD resources or databases.

- **Use of VA Resources (if applicable):** Provide a letter of support from the VA Facility Director(s) or individual designated by the VA Facility Director(s), such as the Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development (ACOS/R&D) or Clinical Service Chief, confirming access to VA patients, resources, and/or VA research space. For VA PIs, if the VA non-profit corporation is not identified as the applicant institution for administering the funds, include a letter from the VA ACOS/R&D confirming this arrangement and identifying the institution that will administer the funds associated with the proposed research.

- **Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit):** Upload as “TechAbs.pdf”. The technical abstract is used by all reviewers. Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly. *Do not include proprietary or confidential information.* Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

  The clarity and completeness within the space limits of the technical abstract are highly important for review of the application.

  Technical abstracts should be written using the outline below.

  - **Background:** Present the ideas and rationale behind the proposed research, including how it addresses one or more FY22 MBRP Focus Areas.
- **Objective/Hypothesis:** State the objective to be reached and/or hypothesis to be tested.

- **Specific Aims:** State the specific aims of the study.

- **Study Design:** Briefly describe the study design, including appropriate controls.

- **Impact and Military Benefit:** State briefly how the proposed project, if successful, will have an impact on the burn research field and/or the care of burn-injured patients and how the research will ultimately improve the lives of burn patients. State the role(s) of care within which the proposed study intervention or product is intended (e.g., prolonged field care, pre-hospital, emergency department, full-service hospital). Note any DOD or VA collaborations.

  ○ **Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit):** Upload as “LayAbs.pdf”. The lay abstract is used by all reviewers. Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly. *Do not include proprietary or confidential information. Do not duplicate the technical abstract.* Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

  Lay abstracts should be written using the outline below.

  - Describe the objectives and rationale for the proposed study in a manner *readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine.*

  - Clearly describe the critical problem or question to be addressed and the ultimate applicability and impact of the research. *Do not duplicate the technical abstract.* Consider the following:

    - How will one or more of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas be addressed?

    - Describe how the results of the proposed project will ultimately benefit burn-injured Service Members, Veterans, and/or the general public.

  ○ **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit):** Upload as “SOW.pdf”. The suggested SOW format and examples specific to different types of research projects are available on the eBRAP “Funding Opportunities & Forms” web page ([https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm](https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm)). Recommended strategies for assembling the SOW can be found at [https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm](https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm).

  For the MBRP TTDA mechanism, refer to the “*Suggested SOW Strategy Generic Research*” document for guidance on preparing the SOW and use the blank SOW format titled “Suggested SOW Format”. The SOW must be in PDF format prior to attaching.
  
  – Describe the short- and long-term impact of this project and how it will make an impact on the lives of individuals who sustain military-relevant burn injuries.
  
  – Describe how the proposed product will lead to the development and eventual translation of therapeutic or technologic advances in the care of burn-injured casualties such as prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or quality of life.
  
  – Indicate whether the proposed burn care product will require minimal, moderate, or substantial training for use.
  
  – If available and applicable, provide military-specific information about the incidence and/or prevalence of the problem to be addressed, as well as the incidence in the general population.
  
  – Describe how the product or intervention represents an improvement over currently available preventive therapies, diagnostics, treatments, interventions and/or standards of care.
  
  – Describe the ways the proposed studies, if successful may demonstrate military benefit for burn injuries to include potential to change existing paradigms in patient care, clinical practice guidelines, or evidence-based policy for patient evaluation.
  
  – Identify where along the military (and civilian) pathways of care the proposed product or intervention is anticipated to be applied (ex: pre-hospital, emergency department, long-term care, etc.).

○ Attachment 7: Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy (three-page limit): Upload as “Transition.pdf”.

Describe the methods and strategies proposed to move the product or knowledge outcomes to the next phase of development (e.g., clinical trials, partnership with DOD advanced developers, commercialization, and/or delivery to the civilian or military market) after successful completion of the award. Demonstrate how the proposed product or knowledge outcome is currently at a minimum TRL or KRL of 3, and estimate the target TRL/KRL level upon completion of the proposed research (Appendix 2). Outline the regulatory strategy. Applicants are encouraged to work with their organization’s Technology Transfer Office (or equivalent) to develop the transition plan. PIs are encouraged to explore developing relationships with industry, DOD advanced developers, and/or other funding agencies to facilitate moving the product into the next phase of development. The post-award transition plan should include the components listed below.

  – The planned indication for the product label, if appropriate, and an outline of the development plan required to support that indication (e.g., Target Product Profile). Describe in detail the FDA regulatory strategy, including the number and types of
studies proposed to reach approval, licensure, or clearance, the types of FDA meetings that have been held and/or will be held, the submission filing strategy, and considerations for compliance with GMP, Good Laboratory Practice, and Good Clinical Practice guidelines, if appropriate.

- Details of the funding strategy to transition the product(s) to the next level of development and/or commercialization (e.g., specific potential industry partners, specific funding opportunities to be applied for). Include a description of collaborations and other resources that will be used to provide continuity of development.

- For knowledge products, a description of collaborations and other resources that will be used to provide continuity of development, including proposed development or modification of clinical practice guidelines and recommendations, provider training materials, patient brochures, and other clinical support tools, scientific journal publications, models, simulations, and applications.

- A brief schedule and milestones for transitioning the product to the next phase of development (e.g., next-phase clinical trials, transition to industry, delivery to the civilian and/or military market, incorporation into clinical practice, and/or approval by the FDA or international regulatory agency, if applicable).

- Ownership rights/access to the intellectual property necessary for the development and/or commercialization of products or technologies supported with this award and the government’s ability to access such products or technologies in the future.

- A risk analysis for cost, schedule, manufacturability, and sustainability.

○ **Attachment 8: Animal Research Plan, if applicable:** Upload as “AnimalPlan.pdf”.

When the proposed study involves animals, the applicant is required to submit a summary describing the animal research that will be conducted. Applicants should not submit a verbatim replica of the protocol(s) to be submitted to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) as the Animal Research Plan. The Animal Research Plan should address the following points for each proposed animal study:

○ Briefly describe the research objective(s) of the animal study, including the choice of model, if applicable, and the endpoints/outcome measures to be used.

  - Explain how and why the animal species, strain, and model(s) being used can address the scientific objectives and, where appropriate, the study’s relevance to human biology.

  - Summarize the procedures to be conducted. Describe how the study will be controlled.
Describe the randomization and blinding procedures for the study, and any other measures to be taken to minimize the effects of subjective bias during animal treatment and assessment of results. If randomization and/or blinding will not be utilized, provide justification.

Provide a sample size estimate for each study arm and the method by which it was derived, including power analysis calculations.

Describe how data will be handled, including rules for stopping data collection, criteria for inclusion and exclusion of data, how outliers will be defined and handled, statistical methods for data analysis, and identification of the primary endpoint(s).

Attachment 9: Representations, if applicable (extramural submissions only): Upload as “RequiredReps.pdf”. All extramural applicants must complete and submit the Required Representations template available on eBRAP (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm). For more information, see the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, Section B, Representations.

Attachment 10: Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format, if applicable: Upload as “MFBudget.pdf”. If a military facility (Military Health System facility, research laboratory, medical treatment facility, dental treatment facility, or a DOD activity embedded with a civilian medical center) will be a collaborator in performance of the project, complete a separate budget, using “Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format”, available for download on the eBRAP “Funding Opportunities & Forms” web page https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm, including a budget justification, for each military facility as instructed. The costs per year should be included on the Grants.gov Research & Related Budget Form under subaward costs. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.8, for detailed information.

Extramural and Intramural Applications

To evaluate compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC 1681[a] et seq.), the DOD is collecting certain demographic and career information to be able to assess the success rates of women who are proposed for key roles in applications in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics (STEM) disciplines. To enable this assessment, each application must include the following forms completed as indicated.

Research & Related Personal Data: For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.3, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.2, for detailed information.

Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded): For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.
• PI Biographical Sketch (6-page limit): Upload as “Biosketch_LastName.pdf”. The suggested biographical sketch format is available on the “Funding Opportunities & Forms” web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) in eBRAP. The National Institutes of Health Biographical Sketch may also be used. All biographical sketches should be submitted in uneditable PDF format.

• PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as “Support_LastName.pdf”.
  - For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, for detailed information.
  - For intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.

• Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (6-page limit each): Upload as “Biosketch_LastName.pdf”.

• Key Personnel Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as “Support_LastName.pdf”.

**Research & Related Budget:** For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.4, for detailed information.

**Budget Justification (no page limit):** Upload as “BudgetJustification.pdf”. The budget justification for the entire period of performance must be uploaded to the Research & Related Budget after completion of the budget for Period 1.

**Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form:** For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.6, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.5, for detailed information.

**Extramural Applications Only**

**Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.7, for detailed information.

• **Extramural Subaward:** Complete the Research & Related Subaward Budget Form through Grants.gov. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.7, for detailed information.) Verify subaward budget(s) and budget justification forms are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period.

• **Intramural DOD Collaborator(s):** Complete the “Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format” and upload to Grants.gov attachment form as
Attachment 10. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.4, for detailed information.) Each Intramural DOD Collaborator should include costs per year on the Grants.gov Research & Related Budget Form under subaward costs.

II.D.3. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)

The applicant organization must be registered as an entity in SAM (https://www.sam.gov/SAM/) and receive confirmation of an “Active” status before submitting an application through Grants.gov. As published in the Federal Register, July 10, 2019, (https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/07/10/2019-14665/unique-entity-id-standard-for-awards-management), the UEI for awards management generated through SAM will be used instead of the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number as of April 2022. *All federal awards including, but not limited to, contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements will use the UEI.* USAMRDC will transition to use of the UEI beginning with FY22 announcements and utilize the latest SF424, which includes the UEI. The DUNS will no longer be accepted. Applicant organizations will not go to a third-party website to obtain an identifier. During the transition, your SAM registration will automatically be assigned a new UEI displayed in SAM. (For more information, visit the General Services Administration: https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/iae-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update.) Current SAM.gov registrants are assigned their UEI and can view it within SAM.gov. *Authorized Organizational Representatives with existing eBRAP accounts should update their organizational profile to include the UEI prior to submission of the full application to Grant.gov* (see Section II.D.4, Submission Dates and Times below). Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, for further information regarding Grants.gov requirements.

II.D.4. Submission Dates and Times

All submission dates and times are indicated in Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity. Pre-application and application submissions are required. The pre-application and application submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. There are no grace periods. Failure to meet either of these deadlines will result in submission rejection.

**Applicant Verification of Full Application Submission in eBRAP**

*For Both Extramural and Intramural Applicants:* eBRAP allows an organization’s representatives and PIs to view and modify the full application submissions associated with them. Following retrieval and processing of the full application, eBRAP will notify the organizational representatives and PI by email to log into eBRAP to review, modify, and verify the full application submission. eBRAP will validate full application files against the specific program announcement requirements, and discrepancies will be noted in an email to the PI and in the “Full Application Files” tab in eBRAP. eBRAP does not confirm the accuracy of file content. Application viewing, modification, and verification in eBRAP are strongly recommended, but not required. It is the applicant’s responsibility to review all application components and ensure proper ordering as specified in the program announcement. *If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or needs to be modified, an updated full application package must be submitted prior to the application submission deadline.*
Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline. Other application components may be changed until the end of the application verification period. Verify that subaward budget(s) and budget justification forms are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period. After the end of the application verification period, the full application cannot be modified.

Extramural Submission: The full application package submitted to Grants.gov may be viewed and modified in eBRAP until the end of the application verification period. During the application verification period, the full application package, with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form, may be modified.

Intramural DOD Submission: After eBRAP has processed the full application, the organizational Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official and PI will receive email notification of the status and will be able to view and modify application components in eBRAP. During the application verification period, the full application package, with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form, may be modified. The Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official should log into eBRAP to review and to approve the application package prior to the application verification deadline.

For All Submissions: Verify that subaward budget(s) with budget justification are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period.

II.D.5. Funding Restrictions

The maximum period of performance is 3 years.

The anticipated total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance will not exceed $2.21M. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization’s negotiated rate. No budget will be approved by the government exceeding $2.21M total costs or using an indirect cost rate exceeding the organization’s negotiated rate.

All direct and indirect costs of any subaward or contract 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.

For this award mechanism, direct costs must be requested for:

- Travel costs for the PI to present project information or disseminate project results at one DOD-sponsored meeting (the Military Health System Research Symposium and/or an MBRP-specific meeting) in year 2 or 3 of the period of performance. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for annual scientific/technical meetings.
May be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Support for multidisciplinary collaborations, including travel.
- Travel costs for one investigator to travel to one scientific/technical meeting per year in addition to the required meeting described above. The intent of travel costs to scientific/technical meetings is to present project information or disseminate project results.

Must not be requested for:

- Clinical trial or clinical research costs
- Tuition

For extramural awards with an intragovernmental component, direct transfer of funds from an extramural award recipient to a DOD or other federal agency is not allowed except under very limited circumstances. Funding to intramural DOD and other federal agencies will be managed through a direct funds transfer. Intramural applicants are responsible for coordinating through their agency’s procedures the use of contractual or assistance funding awards or other appropriate agreements to support extramural collaborators.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5, for budget regulations and instructions for the Research & Related Budget. *For federal agencies or organizations collaborating with federal agencies, budget restrictions apply as are noted in the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5.*

**II.D.6. Other Submission Requirements**

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, for detailed formatting guidelines.

**II.E. Application Review Information**

**II.E.1. Criteria**

**II.E.1.a. Peer Review**

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

- **Research Strategy and Feasibility**
  - How well the scientific rationale supports the project and its feasibility, as demonstrated by a critical review and analysis of the literature, preliminary data, promising preclinical findings, and demonstrated proof of concept.
  - How well the hypotheses, purpose statement, study design, and methods have been developed and how well they support completion of the aims.
- The degree to which the expected outcomes are specific and measurable.
- To what extent the data will be collected and analyzed in a manner consistent with the study aims.
- To what extent the power analysis demonstrates that the sample size is appropriate to test the hypothesis and allow a meaningful outcome.
- If applicable, the degree to which the study plan is appropriate and feasible and whether the application provides evidence of availability of and access to the necessary study resources.
- How well the study (or studies) is designed to achieve the objectives, including the choice of model, if applicable, and the endpoints/outcome measures to be used.
- How well the study (or studies) is designed to achieve reproducible and rigorous results, including (if applicable) controls, sample size estimation, blinding, randomization, and data handling.
- How well potential problems are identified and alternative approaches are addressed.
- Whether the research can be completed within the proposed period of performance.

**Impact and Military Benefit**

- How well the project addresses one or more of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas.
- How likely the proposed product will lead to the development and eventual translation of therapeutic or technologic advances in the care of burn-injured casualties such as prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or quality of life.
- To what degree the proposed product promotes positive short- and long-term outcomes for military health and medicine, as well as the general public.
- To what degree the proposed research places emphasis on military-relevant burn injuries.
- To what degree the proposed research will make an impact on the lives of burn-injured individuals.
- To what degree the proposed project, if successful, will represent an improvement over currently available preventive therapies, diagnostics, treatments, interventions, and/or standards of care.

**Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy**

- To what extent the anticipated outcomes will support the translation of promising preclinical findings into a product for clinical application.
○ If applicable, whether data will be appropriately reported and documented to support a regulatory filing with the FDA or international regulatory agency, if applicable. Whether the identified next level of development and/or plans for commercialization is realistic.

○ Whether the funding strategy described to bring the product to the next level of development (e.g., specific potential industry partners, specific funding opportunities to be applied for) is reasonable and realistic.

○ Whether the regulatory strategy and the development plan to support the proposed product label, if applicable, are appropriate and well described.

○ If applicable, whether the proposed collaborations and other resources for providing continuity of development of knowledge products, including proposed development or modification of clinical practice guidelines and recommendations, provider training materials, patient brochures, and other clinical support tools, scientific journal publications, models, simulations, and applications are established and/or achievable.

○ Whether the schedule and milestones for bringing the anticipated product to the next level of development (clinical trials, transition to industry, delivery to the military or civilian market, incorporation into clinical practice, or approval by the FDA, or international regulatory agency, if applicable.) are achievable. Whether the potential risk analysis for cost, schedule, manufacturability, and sustainability is realistic and reasonable.

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

• **Environment**

  ○ If applicable, to what degree the intellectual and material property plan is appropriate.

  ○ 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 organizational support are appropriate for the proposed research.

  ○ Whether the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed research.

• **Budget**

  ○ Whether the total costs exceed the allowable total costs as published in the program announcement.

  ○ Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research.
• **Personnel**
  ○ How appropriate the levels of effort are for successful conduct of the proposed work.

• **Application Presentation**
  ○ To what extent the writing, clarity, and presentation of the application components influence the review.

**II.E.1.b. Programmatic Review**

To make funding recommendations and select the application(s) that, individually or collectively, will best achieve the program objectives, the following criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

- Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers
- Relevance to the mission of the FY22 MBRP, as evidenced by the following:
  ○ Adherence to the intent of the award mechanism
  ○ Program portfolio composition
  ○ Relative impact and military benefit

**II.E.2. Application Review and Selection Process**

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and consumers in a two-tier review process. The first tier is **peer review**, the evaluation of applications against established criteria to determine technical merit, where each application is assessed for its own merit, independent of other applications. The second tier is **programmatic review**, a comparison-based process in which applications with high scientific and technical merit are further evaluated for programmatic relevance. Final recommendations for funding are made to the Commanding General, USAMRDC. *The highest-scoring applications from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Funding recommendations depend on various factors as described in Section II.E.1.b, Programmatic Review.* Additional information about the two-tier process used by the CDMRP can be found at [https://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess](https://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess). An information paper describing the funding recommendations and review process for the award mechanisms for the MBRP will be provided to the PI and posted on the CDMRP website.

All CDMRP review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the merit-based selection process. Panel members sign a statement declaring that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the panel. Violations of confidentiality can result in the dissolving of a panel(s) and other corrective actions. In addition, personnel at the applicant or collaborating organizations are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review and approval 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 panel members or applicants that compromise
the confidentiality of the review and approval process may also result in suspension or
debarment from federal awards. Furthermore, the unauthorized disclosure of confidential
information of one party to another third party is a crime in accordance with 18 USC 1905.

II.E.3. Integrity and Performance Information

Prior to making an assistance agreement award where the federal share is expected to exceed the
simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in 2 CFR 200.1, over the period of performance, the
federal awarding agency is required to review and consider any information about the applicant
that is available in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System
(FAPIIS).

An applicant organization may review FAPIIS, accessible through SAM, and submit comments
to FAPIIS on any information about the organization that a federal awarding agency previously
entered and is currently available in FAPIIS.

The federal awarding agency will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to other
information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the
applicant’s integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under federal awards when
determining a recipient’s qualification prior to award, according to the qualification standards of
the Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoDGARs), Section 22.415.

II.E.4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

All application review dates and times are indicated in Section I, Overview of the Funding
Opportunity.

Each PI and organization will receive email notification of posting of the funding
recommendation in eBRAP. Each PI will receive a peer review summary statement on the
strengths and weaknesses of the application.

II.F. Federal Award Administration Information

II.F.1. Federal Award Notices

Awards supported with FY22 funds are anticipated to be made no later than September 30, 2023.
Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for additional award administration
information.

After email notification of application review results through eBRAP, and if selected for
funding, a representative from the USAMRAA will contact the Business Official authorized to
negotiate on behalf of the PI’s organization.

Pre-Award Costs: An institution of higher education, hospital, or non-profit organization may,
at its own risk and without the government’s prior approval, incur obligations and expenditures
to cover costs up to 90 days before the beginning date of the initial budget period of a new award. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5.

*Only an appointed USAMRAA Grants Officer may obligate the government to the expenditure of funds.* No commitment on the part of the government should be inferred from discussions with any other individual. **The award document signed by the Grants Officer is the official authorizing document.**

**Federal Government Organizations:** Funding made to federal government organizations (to include intramural DOD organizations) will be executed through the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR) or Funding Authorization Document (FAD) process. Transfer of funds is contingent upon appropriate safety and administrative approvals. Intramural applicants and collaborators are reminded to coordinate receipt and commitment of funds through their respective Resource Manager/Task Area Manager/Comptroller or equivalent Business Official.

**II.F.1.a. PI Changes and Award Transfers**

Changes in PI are not allowed, except under extenuating circumstances that will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the Grants Officer.

An organizational transfer of an award will not be allowed in the last year of the (original) period of performance or any extension thereof.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section B, for general information on organization or PI changes.

**II.F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

Applicable requirements in the DoDGARs found in 32 CFR, Chapter I, Subchapter C, and 2 CFR, Chapter XI, apply to grants and cooperative agreements resulting from this program announcement.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for general information regarding administrative requirements.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, for general information regarding national policy requirements.

Refer to full text of the latest DoD R&D General Terms and Conditions; the USAMRAA General Research Terms and Conditions with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Non-Profit Organizations: Addendum to the DoD R&D General Terms and Conditions; and the USAMRAA General Research Terms and Conditions with For-Profit Organizations, for further information.

**New Requirement:** Certification Regarding Disclosure of Funding Sources. The proposing entity must comply with Section 223(a) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, which requires that the PI, Partnering PIs (if applicable), and all key personnel:
• Certify that the current and pending support provided on the application is current, accurate, and complete;

• Agree to update such disclosure at the request of the agency prior to the award of support and at any subsequent time the agency determines appropriate during the term of the award; and

• Have been made aware of the requirements under Section 223(a)(1) of this Act.

False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may result in criminal, civil, or administrative penalties (18 USC 1001).

II.F.3. Reporting

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section A, for general information on reporting requirements. If there are technical reporting requirement delinquencies for any existing USAMRAA-sponsored awards at the applicant organization, no new awards will be issued to the applicant organization until all delinquent reports have been submitted.

Annual progress reports as well as a final progress report will be required.

The Award Terms and Conditions will specify if more frequent reporting is required.

Annual Quad charts will be required.

Award Expiration Transition Plan: An Award Expiration Transition Plan must be submitted with the final progress report. Use the one-page template “Award Expiration Transition Plan,” available on the eBRAP “Funding Opportunities & Forms” web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) under the “Progress Report Formats” section.

The Award Expiration Transition Plan must outline if and how the research supported by this award will progress and must include source(s) of funding, either known or pending.

Awards resulting from this program announcement may entail additional reporting requirements related to recipient integrity and performance matters. Recipient organizations that have federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than $10M are required to provide information to FAPIIS about certain civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings that reached final disposition within the most recent 5-year period and that were connected with performance of a federal award. These recipients are required to disclose, semiannually, information about criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings as specified in the applicable Representations (see General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, Section B).

II.G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts

II.G.1. eBRAP Help Desk

Questions related to program announcement content or submission requirements as well as questions related to the pre-application or intramural application submission through eBRAP
should be directed to the eBRAP 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: 301-682-5507
Email: help@eBRAP.org

II.G.2. Grants.gov Contact Center

Questions related to extramural application submission through 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 eBRAP Help Desk is unable to provide technical assistance with Grants.gov submission.

Phone: 800-518-4726; International 1-606-545-5035
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 or by responding to the prompt provided by Grants.gov when first downloading the Grants.gov application package. If the Grants.gov application package is updated or changed, the original version of the application package may not be accepted by Grants.gov.

II.H. Other Information

II.H.1. Program Announcement and General Application Instructions Versions

Questions related to this program announcement should refer to the program name, the program announcement name, and the program announcement version code 702b. The program announcement numeric version code will match the General Application Instructions version code 702.

II.H.2. Administrative Actions

After receipt of pre-applications or applications, the following administrative actions may occur:

II.H.2.a. Rejection

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

- Preproposal Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Preproposal Narrative is missing.

The following will result in administrative rejection of the application:

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

• Project Narrative is missing.

• Budget is missing.

II.H.2.b. Modification

• Pages exceeding the specific limits will be removed prior to review for all documents other than the Preproposal Narrative and Project Narrative.

• Documents not requested will be removed.

II.H.2.c. Withdrawal

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

• An FY22 MBRP Programmatic Panel member is named as being involved in the research proposed or is found to have assisted in the pre-application or application processes including, but not limited to, concept design, application development, budget preparation, and the development of any supporting documentation. A list of the FY22 MBRP Programmatic Panel members can be found at https://cdmrp.army.mil/mbrp/panels/panels22.

• The application fails to conform to this program announcement description.

• Inclusion of URLs, with the exception of links in References Cited and Publication and/or Patent Abstract sections.

• Page size is larger than 8.5 inches x 11.0 inches (approximately 21.59 cm x 27.94 cm).

• To preserve the integrity of its peer and programmatic review processes, the CDMRP discourages inclusion of any employee of its review contractors having any role in the preparation, research or other duties for submitted applications. For FY22, the identities of the peer review contractor and the programmatic review contractor may be found at the CDMRP website (https://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess). Applications that include names of personnel from either of these companies may be administratively withdrawn.

• Personnel from applicant or collaborating organizations are found to have contacted persons involved in the review or approval process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process.

• Applications from extramural organizations, including non-DOD federal agencies, received through eBRAP may be withdrawn.

• Applications submitted by an intramural DOD organization may be withdrawn if the intramural organization cannot coordinate the use of contractual, assistance, or other appropriate agreements to provide funds to extramural collaborators.
- Submission of the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.

- The invited application proposes a different research project than that described in the pre-application.

- The PI does not meet the eligibility criteria.

- The proposed research does not address at least one of the FY22 MBRP Focus Areas.

- A clinical trial or clinical research is proposed.

II.H.2.d. Withhold

Applications that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending organizational investigation. The organization will be required to provide the findings of the investigation to the USAMRAA Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.
### II.H.3. Application Submission Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Components</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Completed</th>
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<td><strong>SF424 Research &amp; Related Application for Federal Assistance</strong> <strong>(extramural submissions only)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summary (Tab 1) and Application Contacts (Tab 2)</strong> <strong>(intramural submissions only)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attachments</strong></td>
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<td>Supporting Documentation: Upload as Attachment 2 with file name “Support.pdf”</td>
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<td>Technical Abstract: Upload as Attachment 3 with file name “TechAbs.pdf”</td>
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<td>Lay Abstract: Upload as Attachment 4 with file name “LayAbs.pdf”</td>
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<td>Statement of Work: Upload as Attachment 5 with file name “SOW.pdf”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Impact and Military Benefit Statement: Upload as Attachment 6 with file name “MilBen.pdf”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy (three-page limit): Upload as Attachment 7 with file name “Transition.pdf”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Animal Research Plan: Upload as Attachment 8 with file name “AnimalPlan.pdf” if applicable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Representations (extramural submissions only): Upload as Attachment 9 with file name “RequiredReps.pdf”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format: Upload as Attachment 10 with file name “MFBudget.pdf” if applicable</td>
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<td><strong>Research &amp; Related Personal Data</strong></td>
<td>Complete form as instructed</td>
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<td><strong>Research &amp; Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Attach PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field</td>
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<td>Application Components</td>
<td>Action</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Attach Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Attach Previous/Current/Pending (Support_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field</td>
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<td>Research &amp; Related Budget (extramural submissions only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget (intramural submissions only)</td>
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<td>Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form</td>
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<td>Research &amp; Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form, if applicable</td>
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### APPENDIX 1: ACRONYM LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACOS/R&amp;D</td>
<td>Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACURO</td>
<td>Animal Care and Use Review Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARRIVE</td>
<td>Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDMRP</td>
<td>Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFR</td>
<td>Code of Federal Regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOD</td>
<td>Department of Defense</td>
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<tr>
<td>DoDGARs</td>
<td>Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUNS</td>
<td>Data Universal Numbering System</td>
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<tr>
<td>eBRAP</td>
<td>Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal</td>
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<td>EC</td>
<td>Ethics Committee</td>
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<td>ET</td>
<td>Eastern Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAD</td>
<td>Funding Authorization Document</td>
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<td>FAPIIS</td>
<td>Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDA</td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY</td>
<td>Fiscal Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>GMP</td>
<td>Good Manufacturing Practice</td>
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<td>HRPO</td>
<td>Human Research Protection Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>IACUC</td>
<td>Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee</td>
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<td>Investigational Device Exemption</td>
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<td>KRL</td>
<td>Knowledge Readiness Level</td>
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<td>KP</td>
<td>Knowledge Product</td>
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<td>Megabytes</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
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APPENDIX 2: TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVELS AND KNOWLEDGE READINESS LEVELS

**TRLs:** TRLs are used to categorize the product maturity of materiel solutions. The DOD’s Technology Readiness Assessment (TRA) Deskbook is a reference for systematic assessment of technical maturity of relevant materiel solutions. For biomedical applications, Biomedical TRL definitions and descriptions have been developed that account for regulatory context for technology maturity and intended context of use. Information on Biomedical TRLs can be found in Appendix E of the DOD TRA Deskbook (July 2009, https://apps.dtic.mil/docs/citations/ADA524200).

**KRLs:** The scientific maturity of knowledge products resulting from biomedical research is not assessed in the same manner as that of materiel solutions. At the request of the USAMRDC, the Rand Corporation developed and released a framework to assess the relative scientific maturity of knowledge products. This process is described in a 2019 Rand Corporation Report (https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2127.html). The figures below represent a quick reference guide for assessing KRLs for knowledge products.

![KRL Levels Diagram]

**Step 1: Determine the Knowledge Product (KP):**

- **KRL7-9** ratings are given to KPs resulting from research designed to emphasize external validity (generalizability) of knowledge for use in a specified real world application context. This research often addresses a policy question, asking, “How does it compare to usual practice?” To achieve a rating of KRL7-9, the KP must be based on valid replicated KRL4-6 research.
  - Examples include:
    - Battlefield intervention
    - Primary care screener
    - Workplace prevention
    - Systematic reviews of KRL7-9 research
    - Systematic reviews to inform creation of practice guidelines and study of a guideline

- **KRL4-6** are given to KPs that seek to generate applied knowledge to eventually perform a non-research related function or to inform understanding of an application or tool. KRL4-6 research often asks questions such as “Can the application work under ideal research conditions?” and “(if the application can work), how does it work?” To achieve a rating of KRL4-6, the KP must be based on valid, replicated KRL1-3 research.
  - Examples include:
    - Applications that prevent, screen/diagnose, or treat illness
    - Systematic reviews that summarize KRL4-6 research

- **KRL1-3** provide the scientific foundation for KP development toward practical application. These KPs are the outputs of health research that seeks basic mechanisms rather than applications and tends to be theoretical or conceptual, often (but not always) comprising laboratory, descriptive, or exploratory studies.
  - Examples include:
    - Animal research
    - Non-Clinical laboratory research
    - Descriptive epidemiology
    - Systematic reviews of KRL1-3 research
Step 2: Determine the Knowledge Readiness Level (KRL)

KRL1 research validates hypotheses and hints at future applications. Research that replicates or systematically reviews well-designed KRL1 studies or theory, descriptive studies, particularly involving animal research (e.g., tool for prediction, prognosis, screening, diagnosis, treatment, prevention).

KRL2 research expands on or replicates a KRL1 finding, including systematic review of KRL1 studies to formulate a theoretical model (e.g., animal studies that test a hypothesis or are the first true experiment on a nascent theory and human studies not based on animal study findings that are descriptive or hypothesis generating).

KRL1 research generates initial or very early scientific knowledge without regard to or indication of a specific health use. Its purpose is inferential, with the intention to generalize. Its findings require replication (e.g., descriptive animal studies, or those that are hypothesis generating rather than hypothesis testing).

KRL4 research tests a priori (pre-specified) hypotheses using rigorous scientific designs (e.g., RCTs for intervention efficacy) to directly assess “Can it work?” and “If so, how?” It expands on or replicates a KRL4 finding and/or improves on the design of one or more KRL4 studies.

KRL5 research generates initial knowledge regarding a human health-related application or use. KRL4 findings require subsequent replication (e.g., descriptive human epidemiology or preliminary human studies; human studies that test a clinical hypothesis; pilot tests of an intervention, screening or diagnostic tool, and development of instrumentation needed to test an intended application (e.g., outcome measure).

KRL6 research replicates well-designed KRL5 studies. It adds nuance to answers from completed studies (e.g., not just “Can it work?” and “How?” but also “For whom?”, “Under what conditions?” or “With what frequency?”). It validates hypotheses that may suggest important application contexts (e.g., battlefield, primary care, emergency rooms, post-deployment screening). It includes systematic reviews of KRL4-5 studies to address “Can it work?” and “How?” questions.

KRL7 research comprises early studies adapting applications supported by KRL4-6 research for use in a military health context (e.g., adaptation from a longer screener, feasibility and standardization for post-deployment use of a brief screener; initial multi-modal tests of combined KRL4-6 supported interventions to achieve improved outcomes in primary care; adaptation and initial study in military mental health settings of KRL4-6 support therapy for PTSD; adaptation and initial study of KRL4-6 supported protective gear for preventing TBI during deployment).

KRL8 research expands on or replicates KRL7 studies to directly assess “Does the application work in the context of interest?” It uses valid designs with emphasis on external validity (generalizability) for an intended context (e.g., multi-site to obtain average effects; generalizable analyses of real world; e.g., administrative data; usual or standard care (not placebo or contact time) controls; and average (not ideal) participants.

KRL9 research replicates or reviews well-designed KRL7 and KRL8 studies (e.g., cost analyses to achieve desired effect; comparative effectiveness studies to aid context specific policy development or intervention decisions; systematic review to estimate effect size with average participants in a real-world context; assess “Does the application work?” in a context, or determine for which participants or time period the application works in an identified context.)
APPENDIX 3: DOD AND VAWEBSITES

Applicants are encouraged to integrate and/or align their research projects with DOD and/or VA research laboratories and programs. Collaboration with DOD and/or VA investigators is also encouraged. Below is a list of websites that may be useful in identifying additional information about DOD and VA areas of research interest, ongoing research, or potential opportunities for collaboration.

Air Force Office of Scientific Research
https://afrl.dodlive.mil/about/

Air Force Research Laboratory
https://afrl.dodlive.mil/

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute
https://www.usuhs.edu/afri/

Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine Research Program
https://crmrp.amedd.army.mil

Combat Casualty Care Research Program
https://ccc.amedd.army.mil

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
https://cdmrp.army.mil

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
https://www.darpa.mil/

Defense Health Agency
https://health.mil/dha

Defense Technical Information Center
https://www.dtic.mil

Defense Threat Reduction Agency
https://www.dtra.mil/

Military Infectious Diseases Research Program
https://midrp.amedd.army.mil

Military Operational Medicine Research Program
https://momrp.amedd.army.mil

Naval Health Research Center
https://crmrp.amedd.army.mil

Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
https://www.med.navy.mil/

Naval Medical Research Center
www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmrc

Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center
https://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/Pages/Home.aspx

Office of Naval Research
https://www.onr.navy.mil/

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics
https://www.acq.osd.mil/

Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center
https://www.tatrc.org/

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
https://www.usuhs.edu/research
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory</td>
<td><a href="https://www.usaarl.army.mil/">https://www.usaarl.army.mil/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research</td>
<td><a href="https://usaisr.amedd.army.mil/">https://usaisr.amedd.army.mil/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine</td>
<td><a href="https://www.usariem.army.mil/">https://www.usariem.army.mil/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases</td>
<td><a href="https://www.usamriid.army.mil/">https://www.usamriid.army.mil/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command</td>
<td><a href="https://mrdc.amedd.army.mil">https://mrdc.amedd.army.mil</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Research Laboratory</td>
<td><a href="https://www.arl.army.mil">https://www.arl.army.mil</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Research and Development</td>
<td><a href="https://www.research.va.gov">https://www.research.va.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Naval Research Laboratory</td>
<td><a href="https://www.nrl.navy.mil">https://www.nrl.navy.mil</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Walter Reed Army Institute of Research</td>
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