

Extramural Research Facilities Improvement Program (C06 grant)

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Purpose

- Expand
- Renovate
- Remodel
- Construct new facility

an existing facility

Used in Biomedical/Behavioral Research,
Research Support and Research Training

Centers of Excellence (COE)

National Primate Research Centers (NPRC)

Scientific and Technical Review Board

- Scientific Perspective
- Engineering/Architectural Perspective
- Veterinary Perspective

Examples of Use of Funds

- Construction of research space to accommodate growth in PHS funding or faculty recruitment.
- Conversion of shell space to research space and to provide infrastructure
- Renovation of antiquated facility (e.g. asbestos abatement, health and safety considerations, location of fume hoods, building codes, etc.)
- Alteration to meet changing needs – thematic research focus (collaborations), development of multidisciplinary center (core facilities)
- Comply with new regulations (e.g. ADA compliant; card entryways for security, AAALAC accreditation, BSL-3 facility, etc.)
- Large immovable equipment (casework, fume hoods, biological safety cabinets, autoclave)

Contd.

- Meet the PHS 2010 goals
- Update animal facility – to house immunodeficient (e.g. SCID), knockout/transgenic mice
- Protect against natural disasters e.g. floods, earthquakes
- Conserve energy
- Install generator (to run animal facilities/essential instrumentation)
- Improve research program of underdeveloped institutions

Funds cannot be used to

- Acquire a site
- Build shell space
- Purchase moveable equipment
- Pay salaries of faculty, staff, students

Considerations

- Schematic design
 - Show layout of rooms and relationship with each other and with other facilities on campus on which the science depends
 - Somewhat to scale
 - Rooms labeled/investigator assignment
 - Egress routes
 - Safety issues (biohazard issues, eyewash/shower locations, ADA compliant)
 - Location of major appliances
 - Location of support facilities: e.g. restrooms, isotope work and instrumentation

Contd.

- Well-organized plan
- Administrative Structure
 - Organizational chart
 - Letter from administrative authority to allocate funds
 - Authority for allocation of space
 - Letter of 20 year commitment of space
- Nonfederal funds available

Other issues

- Brief background of the institution
- Major breakthroughs/strengths
- Long term goals
- Swing space during renovation
- Proximity of shared resources to the investigators
- Occupational health and safety training of personnel

Tables to be provided

- Net square feet assigned to investigator/program
- Gross square feet
- Assignment of vacated space
- Space/room
- List details of current and pending grants
 - P.I. name
 - Start/end date
 - Title
 - Source of funding
 - Grant number
 - Amount

Animal facility

- Design/location of animal facility
- Biohazard issues
- Veterinary support
- Training and education of veterinary and technical staff
- Opportunities for continuing education
- Animal census
- Species/strain/number of animals used in each project
- Oversight of procedures
- Animal health surveillance
- IACUC composition and procedures
- Deficiencies cited by regulatory/accrediting bodies
- Gowning rooms/Protective clothing/Security/Cage and Rack Wash etc.

Justify, Justify, Justify

- Cost- provide quotes
- Space requirement for support staff, students, etc.
- Benefit to science
- Purchase of new equipment
- Level of usage of equipment

Scientific Impact

- Impact on institution's existing and future PHS-funded research projects
- Highlight research that will directly benefit
- Provide NIH formatted c.v. of major users
 - Qualifications
 - Honors
 - Grantsmanship
 - Publications
- Translational research
- Impact of research on underserved populations

What not to do

- Provide URLs for the reviewer
- Non adherence to font size and page limitation
- Not providing required tables or providing inadequate information on tables (e.g. no increase in research space assigned to an investigator to overcome crammed research space)
- Disparity between text and tables
- Provide blueprints
- Provide hand-drawn non-professional line diagrams

Contd.

- Provide insufficient detail on program needs
- Disorganized text
- Inadequate justification
- No support letters from collaborators
- Attempt to write the grant on one's own
(You need input from scientists, architects/engineers, veterinarians and administrators)

Points considered

- Remedy deficiencies in existing research facilities
- Appropriateness of proposed facilities to meet personnel safety requirements
- Appropriateness of location and layout
- Reasonable time course, cost and sequence of construction
- Institutional commitment and support
- Capability of P.I. and staff for scientific and fiscal administration of facility.
- For institutions with limited PHS support, impact on advancement or expansion of research/research support/research training

Summary of Review Criteria

- How proposed changes will facilitate the conduct, expansion, improvement or maintenance of institutional biomedical and behavioral research
- How project will meet national health needs in research/research training/research support
- How institutional research and research training needs will be met