



RESEARCH FACILITIES **IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

WORKSHOP

JULY 18, 2003

**Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health
National Center for Research Resources
Bethesda, Maryland**

RESEARCH FACILITIES **IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

<http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/resinfra.htm>

Phone 301-435-0766

Fax 301-480-3770

Program Staff:

Willie D. McCullough, Ph.D.
mccullo@mail.nih.gov

Esmail Torkashvan, P. E.
torkashv@mail.nih.gov



IMPORTANT PROGRAM

OBSERVATIONS:

- 1. The success rate for construction (C06) applications the last 3 years was between 40-50%.**
- 2. FY 2003 success rate will likely be less than previous years**
- 3. At least ninety percent of successful applicants participated in the workshop and submitted an application soon thereafter.**



FY 2003 RFIP APPROPRIATION:

- 1. FY 2003 President's Budget request for the RFIP: \$77 million**
- 2. FY 2003 Senate RFIP funding level: \$125 million**
- 3. FY 2003 House RFIP funding level: \$77 million**
- 4. FY 2003 RFIP Appropriation: \$119.2 million for making C06 awards**

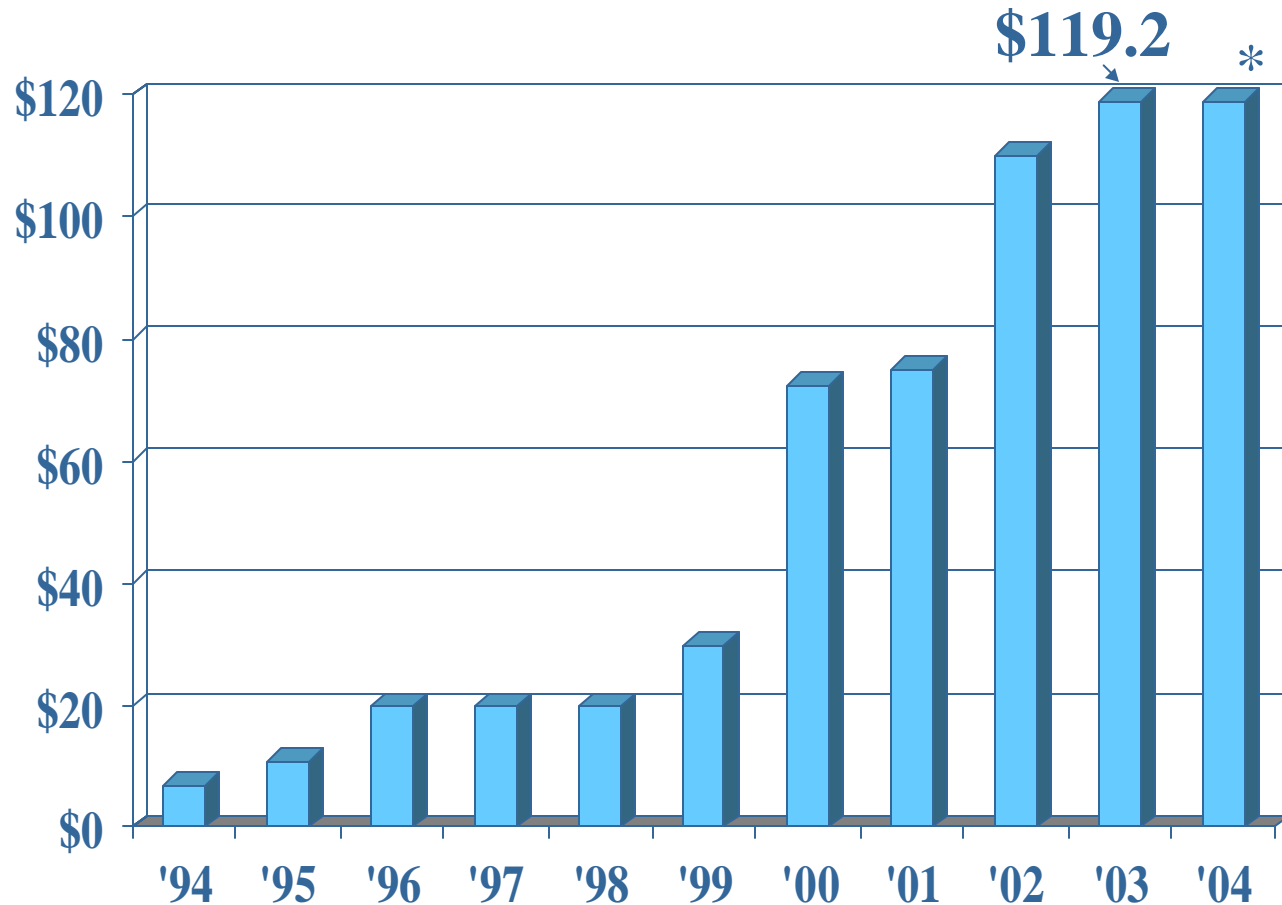


CURRENT FY 2004 RFIP APPROPRIATION STATUS:

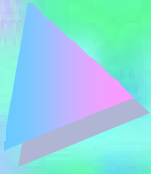
June 26, 2003, the U. S. Senate Report 108-081 - Departments Of Labor, Health And Human Services, And Education, And Related Agencies Appropriation Bill, 2004 was released. The Senate Report states:

...“*Extramural Construction*- The Committee has included bill language identifying **\$119,220,000** for extramural biomedical facility renovation and construction”...

RESEARCH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: Appropriations (\$ in millions)



*FY 2004 Senate RFIP funding level



SPECIFIC DETAILS

FOR THE

FACILITIES PROGRAMS

FY2004



ANIMAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

- PHS 398 Application Forms
- G20 Mechanism (June 1 annual receipt date: 115 applications received)
- Alteration and renovation of animal facilities
- Institutional match is eliminated (effective 6/1/03)
- The \$700K max. request (direct cost) may be used for equipment (fix and/or movable) and/or renovation; no minimum amount required (effective 6/1/03)



RESEARCH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

- FY 2004, previous Program Announcements will be replaced with a RFA Announcement (RFA RR-03-011, anticipate an early August release date)
- NEW receipt dates for FY 2004: Nov. 13 and Feb. 18
- Standard Form 424 Application Forms required; web site links in the RFA



RESEARCH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

- Mechanism used for new construction or alteration and renovation of laboratories for basic or clinical biomedical or behavioral research and/or animal facilities
- Two applications per institution per fiscal year, **includes both receipt dates** (for example, the School of Med. and School of Dent. etc.)



RESEARCH FACILITIES **IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:**

Competitive extramural facilities construction program

- **Public and **non-profit** entities**
- **Build new facilities or complete shell space for biomedical and behavioral research or post-doctoral research training and animal facilities**
- **Expand, remodel, repair, renovate or alter existing research and animal facilities**



RESEARCH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

1. Applications are encouraged from Centers of Emerging Excellence (designated by Health Resources & Services Admin., DHHS), Small and Developing Institutions and the eight National Primate Research Centers
2. Requires institutional matching funds (\$1 for \$1; must be non-Federal funds)
 - In unusual and compelling circumstances, the NCRR Director may waive some or all of the match.



RESEARCH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: Waiver Request Instructions

(<http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/resinfra/pawaiver.pdf>)

- “Institutional requests for waivers of a portion or all of the match must be made in a letter and submitted to the NCCR Director **no later than one month** before the RFIP grant application deadline.”
- It is important to request the waiver **early** in application planning process.
- The waiver-request letter must not exceed two pages; adhere to the instructions.



RESEARCH FACILITIES
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:
Phases of a Construction Award

1. Application Phase

2. Design Phase

3. Construction Phase



RESEARCH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

The Application Phase

- Preparation of the application by the necessary members of the team
- Goes through a two tiered review process (Scientific and Technical Review Board; National Advisory Research Resources Council)
- Notice of Grant Award issued to the institution
- Acceptance of award by the institution



RESEARCH FACILITIES

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

The Application Phase

1. Preparation of Application

- **Request for Applications (RFA)**
 - **Must follow specific instructions**
- **Supplemental Instructions**
 - **Contain required forms**
- **Budget should be justified and reflect actual costs**



RESEARCH FACILITIES

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

The Application Phase

2. Office Of Review

- **Scientific and Technical Review Board (Initial Review Group)**
- **Evaluation, priority scores & summary statements**

3. National Advisory Research Resources Council (provides the second level of review)

4. Office Of Grants Management (Notice of Grant Award; Terms And Conditions); funds are restricted



AVOID COMMON MISTAKES:

1. List active and pending awards, which benefit from the project (annual award dollars and award start and end dates)
2. Adequately describe the animal care procedures if animals are utilized to any degree in the list of awards to benefit from the improvement project
3. Construct clear and legible 8.5 x 11 inch schematic drawings (show major fixed equipment placement); include in the body of the application, not in the appendix



AVOID COMMON MISTAKES (cont.)

4. Clearly demonstrate and document the need for the improvement project
5. Include vendor quote material to justify budget cost and proper room sizes to accommodate equipment
6. Use the RFA Review Criteria as a checklist to ensure required material is submitted

NOTE: The Review Criteria section makes up approximately 42 % of the RFA (31K bytes of the 73K bytes).



OUTSTANDING RFIP APPLICATIONS

- 1. Strong institutional commitment**
- 2. Benefit to productive investigators with Public Health Service (PHS)-sponsored awards**
- 3. Conducive for collaborative research**
- 4. Address the use of vacated space**
- 5. A positive impact on current and future research**
- 6. Line drawings and plans are clearly delineated**
- 7. Consideration given to health and safety issues**



Finally,

- 1. Address the review criteria point by point, line by line in a convincing and logical manner; use it as a checklist.**
- 2. About four month after submission, priority scores are mailed by CSR to PIs.**
- 3. If in doubt about the score, your calls will always be received...we will deliver the news, good or bad.**
- 4. Since you are here today, your chances for good news are much, much better. Good luck!**