

## QUESTIONS FROM THE FCIF WEBINAR:

1. How long is the project period? **12 months**
2. Will applications be peer-reviewed (i.e., by experts in the relevant fields)? If so, how will they be identified?

**Per Florida Statutes .....(9) The collaborative shall advise the department on the awarding of grants issued through the Cancer Innovation Fund. During any fiscal year for which funds are appropriated to the fund, the collaborative shall review all submitted grant applications and make recommendations to the department for awarding grants to support innovative cancer research and treatment models, including emerging research and treatment trends and promising treatments that may serve as catalysts for further research and treatments. The department shall make the final grant allocation awards. The collaborative shall give priority to applications seeking to expand the reach of innovative cancer treatment models into underserved areas of this state.**

3. Will there be an opportunity for a no-cost extension at the end of the budget period? **Requests for No-Cost Extension must meet the following requirements:**
  - a. **Grantee must submit the Department's Request for No-Cost Extension form, including the completed Cumulative Grant Progress Report, to the Department's Grant Manager no later than three months prior to the end date of the grant specified in Attachment II. Any no-cost extension request received after the three-month deadline will not be considered by the Department for approval.**
  - b. **Grantee will not be eligible for more than one, six-month, no-cost extension. The end date of an extension may be adjusted by the Department to meet internal payment requirements.**
  - c. **No additional grant funding will be provided to the Grantee if the no-cost extension request is approved by the Department."**
4. Is there a required salary cap? **FDOH follows the guidelines related to NIH grants and cooperative agreements. <https://grants.nih.gov/policy-and-compliance/policy-topics/nih-fiscal-policies/salary-cap-summary>. Section 1012.976(2), Florida Statutes also refers to public funds being restricted to no more than \$250,000 per individual's base salary.**

5. Would you please confirm that 15% Indirect Costs/Facilities & Administration will be provided for the FY25 call for applications (like the previous cycle)? **Indirect Costs will be allowed, maximum allowed is 15% of Total Direct Costs. The breakdown of Administrative Costs (5%) and Indirect Costs (10%) for FY 23-24 grants posed challenges for the grantees. The Budget form for the FY 24-25 application lists only Indirect costs (15%).**
6. With the specific tie to the State of Florida Fiscal Year, will we then have a 12 month budget page (rather than the two part year 1/year 2 that was provided in the last cycle)? **The Budget form is like last year with only a few modifications. Plan your 12-month budget based on the requirements for 12 months, not what month the date of execution/anticipated start of project begins. The budget format does not follow a fiscal year format – only applicable to the Florida Cancer innovation Fund grant applications.**
7. Is there an updated budget template link for the new proposals that we can review prior to the 5 pm close for questions? (Have not been able to access this) **The budget template can be found in the application portal.**
8. Studies (e.g., clinical trials) typically require more than one year. Will there potentially be the opportunity to renew a project in a subsequent FCIF year? **The renewal option has been removed from the FY 24-25 application cycle. Instead, a No Cost Extension may be requested, with justification and status of expended/remaining funds to be available during the extension period. Extensions may not exceed 6 months due to the timeframe for closing out the FY 24-25 grant cycle. A No Cost Extension approved for less than 6 months cannot later be extended to the full 6 months. Plan for all contingencies such as college term start/end dates or other special timing of staff hired, etc.**
9. Will costs related to items specifically highlighted in the FCIF NOFO (e.g., data sharing) be allowable to purchase if they will extend beyond the 12-month year (e.g., a 12-month contract for data sharing after the 12-month term)? **While a No Cost Extension extends the total grant term, grantees will need to consult with the data use agreement authority to determine if that agreement can be extended prior to requesting the No Cost Extension from the DOH grant manager. Verification from the data use authority may be required to accompany the Extension request.**
10. Will No-Cost Extensions (NCEs) be considered for projects that extend beyond 12 months due to their nature (e.g., clinical trials)? **No, a grantee will not be eligible for more than one, six-month, no-cost extension.**

11. Will there be specific guidance about how to call out linkages to the different focus/emphasis areas called out in the NOFO? **See application portal for requirements on how to apply for the grant.**
12. Will award funds be specifically allocated to the different focus/emphasis areas, or will all projects be considered equally on merit for one pool? **Awards can be up to \$2,000,000 each. Award allocations will be based on scope of the project and dependent on funds available. Budgets should be structured to include personnel, equipment, supplies, and technical support. Budgets need to include a justification for each item, personnel (names and position), and percentage of effort devoted to the project percentage. Any equipment purchases that exceed \$5,000 are subject to further review and approval by the department.**
13. The webinar mentioned support for investigator-initiated science, which was also listed in the NOFO. Will reviewers be guided not to specifically require linkages with one of the focus/emphasis areas for these projects? **Per Florida Statutes .....(9) The collaborative shall advise the department on the awarding of grants issued through the Cancer Innovation Fund. During any fiscal year for which funds are appropriated to the fund, the collaborative shall review all submitted grant applications and make recommendations to the department for awarding grants to support innovative cancer research and treatment models, including emerging research and treatment trends and promising treatments that may serve as catalysts for further research and treatments. The department shall make the final grant allocation awards. The collaborative shall give priority to applications seeking to expand the reach of innovative cancer treatment models into underserved areas of this state.**
14. If an industrial partner collaborates with a non-profit clinical institution for planned clinical trial, can either the industrial partner or the non-profit agency be the applicant and PI? **The PI is the individual designated by the applicant organization legally responsible to direct the grant project. The PI is responsible and accountable to the applicant organization officials for the project's scientific and technical direction as well as the proper conduct of the project. There must be only one designated PI. There may be multiple PIs on a project, but there must be only one PI/Study or Research Coordinator. The PI must work at an eligible Florida-based establishment and meet that organization's criteria for serving as a PI in addition to the eligibility requirements listed in this FOA. The PI must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; unauthorized aliens shall not be employed pursuant to §274A(e) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a), section 101 of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, and Florida Executive Order 11-02. Non-U.S. citizens can serve as Collaborators or members of a research team.**

15. In the Post-doctoral Fellowship Grant category, the wording implies that this is limited to clinical fellows under a certified training program. Are non-clinical, lab-based PhD postdoctoral fellows also eligible for this category? **Yes, non-clinical, lab-based PhD postdoctoral fellow are eligible for this category.**
16. It sounded like there was a heavy clinical flavor to it, but my research project is strictly basic, and it is quite a distance away from any translational or clinical application. And should I even make an effort submitting application? **Basic research projects can be submitted. Please refer to the Proposal Areas of Interest for research categories.**
17. Will this application look very similar to the last cancer innovation in terms of what information is requested and the submission process and the technology that's being used? **Yes, see the application portal for more information.**
18. Are there new budget forms? **Yes, see the application portal for more information.**
19. Can you describe the review process of whether it's Experts outside of Florida or inside of Florida or how you're planning for that? **Per Florida Statutes .....(9) The collaborative shall advise the department on the awarding of grants issued through the Cancer Innovation Fund. During any fiscal year for which funds are appropriated to the fund, the collaborative shall review all submitted grant applications and make recommendations to the department for awarding grants to support innovative cancer research and treatment models, including emerging research and treatment trends and promising treatments that may serve as catalysts for further research and treatments. The department shall make the final grant allocation awards. The collaborative shall give priority to applications seeking to expand the reach of innovative cancer treatment models into underserved areas of this state.**
20. Will this be a 12-month award? **Yes.**
21. Can we use out-of-state collaborators? **Yes, up to 10% of the total project.**
22. Will no-cost extensions be allowed? **Grantee must submit the Department's Request for No-Cost Extension form, including the completed Cumulative Grant Progress Report, to the Department's Grant Manager no later than three months prior to the end date of the grant specified in Attachment II. Any no-cost extension request received after the three-month deadline will not be considered by the Department for approval. Grantee will not be eligible for more than one, six-month, no-cost extension. The end date of**

an extension may be adjusted by the Department to meet internal payment requirements. No additional grant funding will be provided to the Grantee if the no-cost extension request is approved by the Department.”

23. Will we be allowed to have project collaborators? **Yes, a consortium grant is one of the grant categories. The consortium should involve partnerships to be developed among investigators across the state of Florida, with the award made to the lead organization. The lead organization of the consortium must perform a substantive role in conducting the planned research including providing oversight of all scientific, programmatic, financial, and administrative matters related to the grant. The collaborating organizations must have well-defined roles that contribute to the common scientifically rigorous research goals that must include sound background information, hypotheses, protocols, and promising practices that address clearly one or more areas of research interest.**

24. Can our work include clinical trials?

**Yes**

25. What is the source of this funding?

**Florida Legislature GAA**

26. Will the size of the grants vary?

**Awards can be up to \$2,000,000 each. Award allocations will be based on scope of the project and dependent on funds available. Budgets should be structured to include personnel, equipment, supplies, and technical support. Budgets need to include a justification for each item, personnel (names and position), and percentage of effort devoted to the project percentage. Any equipment purchases that exceed \$5,000 are subject to further review and approval by the department.**

28. Will funding be allocated between the two receipt date cycles (i.e., half for each cycle), or will the second cycle essentially be for remaining funds? **Plan your 12-month budget based on the requirements for 12 months, not what month the date of execution/anticipated start of project begins. The budget format does not follow a fiscal year format – only applicable to the Florida Cancer innovation Fund grant applications.**