Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Pre-application Webinar

PAR-24-144 R16 SuRE
PAR-24-145 R16 SuRE-First

April 2, 2024
2:00 – 3:30 PM
Participating NIGMS Staff

• Michele McGuirl, Acting Director, Division for Research Capacity Building
• Federico Bernal, Acting Chief, Research Advancement Programs Branch
• Irina Krasnova, Program Director, SuRE Program Lead
• Pauline Cupit, Program Director, SuRE-First Program Lead
• Lisa Dunbar, Section Chief, Scientific Review Branch
• Christy Leake, Team Leader, Grants Administration Branch
Webinar Information

- The webinar video and slides will be available on the NIGMS website
- Please type your questions in the chat box throughout the webinar
- We will answer the questions after the presentation
SuRE Program Objectives

To support research capacity building at resource-limited higher education institutions by funding investigator-initiated biomedical research that falls within the mission areas of the NIH

• Provide research grant support for faculty investigators
• Furnish students with high-quality research experiences
• Enhance and enrich the institutional scientific research culture
Institutional Eligibility for SuRE Awards

• Award BA/BS and/or graduate degrees in biomedical sciences
• Receive less than $6M/year (total costs) from NIH Research Project Grants (RPG) in the past 2 years as determined using NIH RePORTER
• Enroll more than 25% undergraduate students supported by Pell grants as determined in the IPEDS database OR be an HBCU or TCU
• Hold fewer than 20 active SuRE, SC1, and SC3 SCORE awards (renewal applications are allowed)
• There is no limit on the number of SuRE-First grants that can be held by an institution

For assistance with determining eligibility, contact SuRE Resource Center
Supported Research Areas, Review, and Funding

- Proposed projects may cover any area of biomedical research supported by all NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs)

- Applications assigned to NIAID will be reviewed by NIAID; all other applications will be reviewed by NIGMS

- Meritorious applications in all research areas will be considered for funding by NIGMS and other participating NIH ICs
# Application Due Dates

Two application due dates per year for SuRE and SuRE-First applications

**NEW FOR BOTH NOFOs**

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**SuRE PAR-24-144**

**Award Budget**
- $100,000 direct costs/year
- Maximum 4-year project period
- Renewable

**PI Eligibility**
- Must have a full-time tenured, tenure-track, or equivalent faculty appointment
- Cannot be the PI of an active NIH RPG
  - R01, R35, U01, P01, R21, R03, R00, R15
  - Grants in NCE are considered as active grants
  - SCORE, SuRE, and SuRE-First awardees may apply in their last year of funding

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**SuRE-First PAR-24-145**

**Award Budget**
- $125,000 direct costs/year
- Maximum 4-year project period
- Not renewable

**PI Eligibility**
- Must have a full-time tenured, tenure-track, or equivalent faculty appointment
- Has never been the PI of an externally-funded, peer reviewed research grant from any source (including SCORE)
Required Application Components

• The Research Strategy (6 pages) must include a Student Involvement Plan

• SuRE and SuRE-First applications must include the following attachments:
  - Institutional Letter outlining its strategic plans for building research capacity and fostering research excellence
  - Institutional Letter of Support for the PD/PI’s Research Career Development
  - Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives (PEDP) – NEW FOR BOTH NOFOs

• SuRE-First applications must include two additional attachments:
  - PD/PI Research Enhancement Plan
  - Prior, Current, and Pending Support for the PD/PI

• SuRE-First applicant must also:
  - Have a mentor from a domestic institution
  - Include a signed letter of support from the mentor in the application
  - Devote at least 6 CM per year to the project

• Preliminary data not required in SuRE-First application; if provided, will be reviewed
Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives (PEDP)

• NIH recognizes the strength that arises from a diverse scientific workforce: foster innovation, enhance competitiveness, improve research quality, advancing participation of underserved populations, etc.

• PEDP should describe how expanded inclusivity advances the scientific and technical merit of the proposal and their alignment with the Research Strategy

• The examples provided in the NOFO are standardized language developed for all funding mechanisms. Your PEDP should align with the overall goals of the SuRE program

• If funds are requested for the implementation of the PEDP, the request must be included in the modular budget

• PEDP will be evaluated by reviewers as part of the scorable criteria
Data Management Sharing Plan (NOT-OD-22-189)

• Purpose to emphasize good data management practices and set the expectation for maximizing the sharing of scientific data generated by NIH-funded research awards (NOT-OD-21-013)

• New requirement for applications submitted after January 25, 2023 – reviewed by Program staff

• The description of the elements to be included in the DMS Plan can be found in the NIH Scientific Data Sharing webpage

• DMS Plan includes Data Management and Genomic Data Sharing (removed from the Resource Sharing Plan, which is still required)

• DMS Plan (2 pages maximum) should be included in the “Other Plan(s)” attachment

• If a budget is requested for DMS Plan implementation (expected to be rare), it should be included in the modular budget

• Use DMS Plan Expectations for NIGMS Grantees website as a resource
Allowable and Unallowable Costs

✓ Costs essential to conduct the research project, such as salaries of PI, students, technicians, equipment, supplies, fees-for-service
✓ Travel costs
✓ Collaborators may be paid a salary or compensation appropriate to their roles
✓ Consultants may be paid a reasonable honorarium commensurate with their roles

✗ Support for foreign institutions, foreign research services, foreign collaborators, consultants, or foreign components/consortia, is not allowed (except as fee-for-service)
Administrative and Scientific Review

Administrative Review

• Eligibility and compliance are evaluated by Program Officers and Scientific Review Officers
• Ineligible or non-compliant applications are withdrawn. To avoid this:
  o Read the NOFO carefully and pay close attention to eligibility criteria and required components
  o Submit your application a few days prior to a due date, then check your application and edit it if needed

Scientific Review

• Applications are clustered by research area into Special Emphasis Panels
• Three reviewers are assigned to each application and provide preliminary scores
• Panel discusses applications in the top half of scoring and all panelists vote
• Each applicant gets a Summary Statement with a resumé of discussion
Thank you!

Questions?