

Program Announcement

Defense Health Program

Department of Defense

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Prostate Cancer Research Program

Postdoctoral Training Award

Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-12-PCRP-PTA

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 12.420

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW DATES AND TIMES

- **Pre-Application Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), June 6, 2012
- **Confidential Letters of Recommendation Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. ET, June 20, 2012
- **Application Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, June 20, 2012
- **Peer Review:** August 2012
- **Programmatic Review:** December 2012

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I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Program Description

Applications for the Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) are being solicited by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Defense Health Program. The PCRP was established in 1997 to promote innovative research focused on eradicating prostate cancer. Appropriations for the PCRP from FY97 through FY11 totaled \$1.13 billion. The FY12 appropriation is \$80 million (M).

The overall goal of the FY12 PCRP is to find and fund research that will lead to the elimination of death and suffering from prostate cancer. Specifically, the PCRP seeks to promote highly innovative, groundbreaking research; high-impact research with near-term clinical relevance; multidisciplinary synergistic research; translational studies to support the fluid transfer of knowledge between bedside and bench; research on patient survivorship and quality of life; the next generation of prostate cancer investigators through mentored research; and research on disparities in the incidence and mortality of prostate cancer.

PCRP Overarching Challenges

Consistent with the program's overall goal, each PCRP funding opportunity either requires or encourages (see Award Information below) applications to address one of the following PCRP overarching challenges:

- Develop effective treatments for advanced prostate cancer (i.e., disease progression with no available curative therapy)
- Distinguish aggressive from indolent disease

PCRP Focus Areas (*revised for FY12*)

All applications for FY12 PCRP funding opportunities must also address at least one of the following PCRP focus areas:

Biomarker Development: Qualification or validation of biomarkers for detection of aggressive disease, prediction and assessment of response to therapies, and prognosis and progression. These include validation studies of circulating tumor cells. Biomarker studies may include discovery if accompanied by qualification or validation.

Genetics: Understanding host or tumor genetics and epigenetics responsible for susceptibility, disease progression, and treatment outcomes for aggressive prostate cancer.

Imaging: Development of new anatomic, functional, and molecular imaging approaches for the detection and management of aggressive prostate cancer.

Mechanisms of Resistance: Understanding primary and acquired resistance to therapy.

Survivorship and Palliative Care: Improving the quality of life and well-being of prostate cancer patients and their families.

Therapy: Identification of new targets, pathways, and therapeutic modalities.

Tumor and Microenvironment Biology: Understanding prognosis and progression of prostate cancer.

B. Award Information

The PCRCP Postdoctoral Training Award mechanism was first offered as the Postdoctoral Traineeship Award in FY99 and was incorporated into the Prostate Cancer Training Award in FY06-FY10. In total, 1,183 Postdoctoral Training Award applications have been received, and 397 have been recommended for funding.

The Postdoctoral Training Award supports prostate cancer research training opportunities for recent doctoral graduates. These awards primarily provide salary support for the Principal Investigator (PI); the postdoctoral trainee is considered the PI of the application. The PI must exhibit strong potential for, and commitment to, pursuing a career as an investigator at the forefront of prostate cancer research; however, the PI is not required to have previous prostate cancer research experience. Applications must include at least one mentor, appropriate to the proposed training and research project, who has experience in prostate cancer research and training as demonstrated by a record of funding, publications, and successful mentorship. The selected mentor(s) should demonstrate a clear commitment to the PI's training and be well qualified to contribute significantly to the development of the PI toward independence as a prostate cancer researcher.

The PI must outline an individualized, prostate cancer-focused training plan, which may include coursework, laboratory techniques, conferences, seminars, journal clubs, teaching responsibilities, clinical responsibilities, and/or other activities that will provide the PI with experience in key areas relevant to the proposed work and foster the PI's development as a prostate cancer researcher. An environment appropriate to the proposed training and research project must be clearly described.

All applications for the Postdoctoral Training Award are to be written by the PI, with appropriate direction from the mentor(s). The PCRCP seeks applications from the wide spectrum of basic, population-based, translational, and clinical research. In addition, applicants are required to address at least one of the PCRCP focus areas and are highly encouraged to address one of the PCRCP overarching challenges. If the proposed project does not address either of the overarching challenges, the application should include a description to justify how the project will nevertheless address a critical need in the field of prostate cancer research and/or patient care.

All investigators applying to FY12 PCRCP funding opportunities are encouraged to consider leveraging resources available through the PCRCP-funded Prostate Cancer Biorepository Network (PCBN) (<http://www.prostatebiorepository.org>) and/or the North Carolina - Louisiana Prostate Cancer Project (PCaP) (<http://www.ncla-pcap.org>), if retrospectively collected human anatomical substances or correlated data are relevant to the proposed studies.

The CDMRP intends that data and research resources generated by CDMRP-funded research activities be made available to the research community (which includes both scientific and consumer advocacy communities) and to the public at large. For additional guidance, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section K.

C. Eligibility Information

- The PI must:
 - Have successfully defended a doctoral thesis or possess an M.D. degree (or equivalent) by December 31, 2012;
 - Be involved in an accredited training or residency program;
and
 - Have 3 years or less of postdoctoral fellowship experience by December 31, 2012.
- Cost sharing/matching is not an eligibility requirement.
- Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for general eligibility information.

D. Funding

- The maximum period of performance is 2 years.
- The maximum allowable direct costs for the entire period of performance are **\$115,000 (\$57,500 per year)** plus indirect costs.
- All direct and indirect costs of any subaward (subgrant or subcontract) must be included in the total direct costs of the primary award.
- Regardless of the period of performance proposed, the applicant may not exceed the maximum allowable direct costs. Indirect costs shall be proposed in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate agreement **up to a maximum rate of 8%**.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for budget regulations and instructions for the Research & Related Budget. In addition, for this award mechanism, direct costs:

Must be requested for:

- Travel for the PI to attend one Department of Defense (DoD) PCRP Innovative Minds in Prostate Cancer Today (IMPACT) meeting or other similar event as directed by the CDMRP, if the meeting occurs within the period of performance of the award. The IMPACT meeting is held to disseminate the results of PCRP-sponsored research. Costs associated with travel to this meeting, up to \$1,800, should be included in Year 2 of the budget. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for annual scientific/technical meetings.

May be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Salary/stipends for the PI only
- Costs/Tuition for coursework, seminars, and workshops (including textbooks and/or related materials)
- Publication Costs
- Travel between collaborating organizations
- Travel costs of up to \$1,800 per year to attend scientific/technical meetings

Shall not be requested for:

- Mentor or other salary
- Equipment
- Research materials/supplies/consumables
- Research costs for studies on animals, human subjects, or human biological substances

The Office of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) expects to allot approximately \$3M of the \$80M FY12 PCRP appropriation to fund approximately 24 Postdoctoral Training Award applications, depending on the quality and number of applications received. Funding of applications received in response to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity is contingent upon the availability of Federal funds for this program.

II. SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Submission is a multi-step process requiring both (1) pre-application submission through the CDMRP eReceipt System (<https://cdmrp.org/>) and (2) application submission through Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov/>).

Submission of the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year is prohibited. The Government will reject duplicative applications.

A. Where to Obtain the Application Package

To obtain the complete application package, including all required forms, perform a Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov/>) basic search using the Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-12-PCRP-PTA.

B. Pre-Application Submission Content and Form

All pre-application components must be submitted by the PI through the CDMRP eReceipt System (<https://cdmrp.org/>).

PIs and organizations identified in the application should be the same as those identified in the pre-application. If a change in PI or organization is necessary after submission of the pre-application, the PI must contact the CDMRP Help Desk at help@cdmrp.org or 301-682-5507.

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

- **Application Information – Tab 1**
- **Application Contacts – Tab 2**
- **Collaborators and Conflicts of Interest – Tab 3**

FY12 PCRP Integration Panel (IP) members should not be involved in any pre-application or application. For questions related to IP members and pre-applications or applications, refer to [Section IV.C., Withdrawal](#), or contact the CDMRP Help Desk (help@cdmrp.org or 1-301-682-5507).

- **Required Files – Tab 4**

Letter of Intent (LOI) (one-page limit): Provide a brief description of the research to be conducted. LOIs are used for program planning purposes only (e.g., reviewer recruitment) and will not be reviewed during either the peer or programmatic review sessions.

List of Individuals Providing Confidential Letters of Recommendation: The PI *must* request a confidential letter of recommendation from the mentor (and co-mentor, if applicable) named in the application by entering his/her name, position title, email address, and phone numbers into the appropriate data fields. The name of at least one additional individual must also be entered to provide a letter of recommendation; however, *the total number of letters must not exceed three.*

The mentor(s) and other individuals will receive an email generated from the CDMRP eReceipt System containing specific instructions on how to upload the letter(s). The PI should monitor receipt of the letter(s) via the eReceipt website (the PI will not be able to view the content of the letter[s]). The confidential letter(s) of recommendation must be submitted through the CDMRP eReceipt System by 5:00 p.m. ET on the application deadline date.

The confidential letter(s) of recommendation must be submitted by the individual named in the pre-application. If this is not possible, the PI must contact the CDMRP eReceipt Help Desk for assistance at help@cdmrp.org or 301-682-5507. Specific points to address in the letter(s) of support that are unique to the award mechanism are described under “Application Submission Content and Form” below. All letters should be provided on letterhead, signed, and uploaded as a PDF file.

- **Submit Pre-Application – Tab 5**

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

- **Other Documents Tab**

No additional documents are required.

C. Application Submission Content and Form

Each application submission must include the completed application package of forms and attachments provided in Grants.gov for this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. The application package is submitted by the Authorized Organizational Representative through the Grants.gov portal (<http://www.grants.gov/>). For the Postdoctoral Training Award, additional application components are also required and should be submitted as directed below.

Grants.gov application package components: For the Postdoctoral Training Award, the Grants.gov application package includes the following components (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for additional information on application submission):

1. **SF 424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.
2. **Attachments Form**

- **Attachment 1: Project Narrative (six-page limit):** Upload as “ProjectNarrative.pdf.”

The PI must describe the proposed training and research using the outline below. The inclusion of preliminary data relevant to prostate cancer and the proposed project is encouraged but not required. Any preliminary data provided should be from the PI, mentor(s), or member(s) of the collaborating team. ***The Project Narrative must be written by the PI while also showing evidence of appropriate direction from the mentor(s).***

PI’s Career Goals: The PI should describe his/her career goals and how the proposed training and research experience will promote his/her career development in prostate cancer research. The PI should discuss his/her career plans and research plans after the completion of this award.

Training Plan: Describe the individualized training plan, which may include coursework, laboratory techniques, conferences, seminars, journal clubs, teaching responsibilities, clinical responsibilities, and/or other activities. Provide a timeline for the training plan and describe how it is integrated with and designed to support the proposed research. Explain how the training plan is supported by the training environment; this should include a description of ongoing prostate cancer research at the organization. Include information on training or collaborations with other investigators.

Mentoring Plan: Describe the mentor’s background and experience in prostate cancer research and training. Explain how the mentor’s (and co-mentor’s, if applicable) mentoring plan will assist the PI throughout the period of performance in developing toward independence in prostate cancer research. Provide details on the amount and types of interaction between the mentor(s) and the PI.

Research Project: Describe the proposed research project, including the background, hypothesis/purpose and rationale, broad objectives and specific aims, and methods. Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches.

Overarching Challenges and Focus Areas: Briefly describe how the proposed research and training are relevant to at least one of the PCRFP focus areas and responsive to one of the PCRFP overarching challenges. If the proposed project does not address either of the overarching challenges, provide a description to justify how the project will nevertheless significantly address a critical need in the field of prostate cancer research and/or patient care.

- **Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation.** Start each document on a new page. Combine and upload as a single file named “Support.pdf.” If documents are scanned to pdf, the lowest resolution (100 to 150 dpi) should be used. ***There are no page limits for any component unless otherwise noted. Include only those components described below; inclusion of items not requested may result in administrative rejection 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 U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC). Indicate if Government-owned facilities or equipment are proposed for use. Reference should be made to the original or present contract under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is no form for this information.
- Publications and/or Patent Abstracts (five-document limit): Include relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If publications are not publicly available, they must be included. Extra items will not be reviewed.
- Letters of Organizational Support: Provide a letter (or letters, if applicable), signed by the Department Chair or appropriate organization official, ensuring availability of laboratory space, equipment and other resources for the project.
- Letters of Collaboration (if applicable): Provide a signed letter from each collaborator that describes how he/she will support the project, to include unique expertise and/or availability of and access to research resources.
- Intellectual and Material Property Plan (if applicable): Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.
- Transcripts: Include a copy of the PI's transcripts from all graduate institutions attended. All foreign language transcripts must be accompanied by a certified English translation. The Government reserves the right to request official transcripts during award negotiations. Diplomas are not acceptable in lieu of academic transcripts.

If an institution does not provide academic transcripts (i.e., a record of courses completed, grades and credit earned, and indication of completion of degree), complete and submit the Academic Statement form in place of the transcript. The Academic Statement form is available for download on the Full Announcement page in Grants.gov.

- **Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit):** Upload as “TechAbs.pdf.”

Technical abstracts should be written using the outline below. The technical abstract is used by all reviewers; however, programmatic reviewers do not have access to the full application and rely on the technical abstract for appropriate description of the project's key aspects.

- Training Plan
 - The PI should describe his/her career goals and how the proposed training supports him/her in achieving these goals.
 - The PI should describe how the proposed research project will prepare him/her to make valuable contributions to the understanding and management of prostate cancer.

- Research Plan
 - Background: Present the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed work.
 - Objective/Hypothesis: State the objective/hypothesis to be tested. Provide evidence or rationale that supports the objective/hypothesis.
 - Specific Aims: State the specific aims of the study.
 - Study Design: Briefly describe the study design including appropriate controls.
- Impact: Summarize how the proposed research will have an impact on progress toward the elimination of death and suffering from prostate cancer.
- **Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit):** Upload as “LayAbs.pdf.”

Lay abstracts should be written using the outline below. ***Do not duplicate the technical abstract.*** The lay abstract is used by consumer peer reviewers along with other components of the application package.

- Describe the scientific objective and rationale for the proposed project in a manner that will be ***readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine.***
- Describe the PI’s career goals in prostate cancer research.
 - How does the training plan support the PI in achieving these goals?
 - How does the research plan support the PI in achieving these goals?
- Describe the ultimate applicability of the research.
 - What types of patients will it help, and how will it help them?
 - What are the potential clinical applications, benefits, and risks?
 - What is the projected time it may take to achieve a patient-related outcome?
 - If the research is too basic for clinical applicability, describe the interim outcomes.
- What are the likely contributions of this study to advancing the field of prostate cancer research?
- **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (SOW) (three-page limit):** Upload as “SOW.pdf.” Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

In addition to outlining tasks for the research proposed, applicants must include tasks for both the training and mentoring plans.

- **Attachment 6: Impact Statement (one-page limit):** Upload as “Impact.pdf.”
State explicitly how the proposed research project will have an impact on prostate cancer research and/or patient care, including its contribution to the goal of eliminating death and suffering from prostate cancer. Describe how the proposed research addresses one of the PCRCP overarching challenges or another critical issue in prostate cancer research and/or patient care.
 - **Attachment 7: Eligibility Statement (one-page limit):** Upload as “Eligibility.pdf.”
Use the Eligibility Statement template (available for download on the Full Announcement page in Grants.gov) signed by the Department Chair, Dean, or equivalent official to verify that the eligibility requirements will be met.
- 3. Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.
- PI Biographical Sketch (four-page limit): Upload as “Biosketch_LastName.pdf.”
 - PI Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as “Support_LastName.pdf.”
 - Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (four-page limit each): Upload as “Biosketch_LastName.pdf.”
 - *Include the mentor’s (and co-mentor’s, if applicable) biographical sketch.*
 - Key Personnel Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as “Support_LastName.pdf.”
 - *Include the mentor’s (and co-mentor’s, if applicable) current/pending support.*
- 4. Research & Related Budget:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.
- Budget Justification (no page limit): Upload as “BudgetJustification.pdf.”
- 5. Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.
- 6. R & R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.C., for detailed information.

Additional Application Components: In addition to the completed Grants.gov application package of forms and attachments, Postdoctoral Training Award applications also require the submission of a confidential letter of recommendation from the mentor (and co-mentor, if applicable), which must be uploaded by the mentor(s) to the CDMRP eReceipt System. At least one additional individual must submit a letter of recommendation (*the maximum total number of letters is three*). All letters of recommendation should be provided on letterhead, signed, and uploaded as PDF files.

Confidential Letters of Recommendation (two-page limit per letter recommended):

The confidential letters should include the following:

- ***A confidential letter of recommendation from each mentor***, describing his/her commitment to the PI's training, career development, and mentorship in prostate cancer research. Mentor letters should address the following:
 - The PI's potential to become a successful and independent prostate cancer researcher;
 - The commitment of the mentor to the training, career development, and mentorship of the PI, including details of the proposed interactions of the mentor with the PI during the PI's training;
 - The training environment, including ongoing prostate cancer research in the mentor's laboratory and in the organization as a whole, resources available, and how this environment will promote the development of the PI as a prostate cancer researcher;
 - The individualized training plan and how it will facilitate the PI's development as a successful prostate cancer researcher;
 - The mentor's record in training successful postdoctoral fellows;
 - The degree to which the PI participated in the project development and application preparation, and the degree to which the PI will participate in the execution of the application if funded.
- ***Additional confidential letters of recommendation (one is required)***. Additional letters should describe the PI's unique qualifications and accomplishments that highlight his/her potential for success in pursuing a career in prostate cancer research. Specifically, each letter should offer the writer's perspective on:
 - The PI's qualifications, characteristics, and achievements;
 - The PI's potential for productivity and desire for establishing a successful and independent career in prostate cancer research;
 - The relevance of the proposed research project to training the PI in prostate cancer research; and
 - The suitability of the mentor(s) and training environment for providing the PI with a solid foundation to support an independent career in prostate cancer research.

D. Submission Dates and Times

All submission dates and times are indicated on the [title page](#) of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity. Pre-application and application submissions are required. Failure to meet any one of the deadlines will result in application rejection.

E. Other Submission Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for detailed formatting guidelines.

All applications must be submitted through Grants.gov. Organizations are required to provide a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and register with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) to submit applications through the Grants.gov portal. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, for information on Grants.gov requirements.

III. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Application Review and Selection Process

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and consumer advocates using a two-tier review process. The first tier is a peer review of applications against established criteria for determining technical merit. The second tier is a programmatic review that compares applications to each other and makes recommendations for funding to the Commanding General, USAMRMC, based on technical merit, the relevance to the mission of the DoD and PCRP and the specific intent of the award mechanism. The highest-scoring applications from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Additional information about the two-tier review process used by the CDMRP can be found at <http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/fundingprocess>.

All CDMRP review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the merit-based selection process. Each level of review requires panelists to sign a non-disclosure statement attesting that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the panel. Violations of the non-disclosure statement can result in the dissolving of a panel(s) and other corrective actions. Organizational personnel and PIs are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review 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 panelists or PIs that compromise the confidentiality of the review process may also result in suspension or debarment of their employing organizations from Federal awards. Furthermore, the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information of one party to another third party is a crime in accordance with Title 18 United States Code 1905.

B. Application Review Criteria

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

- **Principal Investigator**
 - To what extent the PI's achievements (as reflected by academic performance, awards, honors, and/or previous publications and funding) indicate the potential for a successful career as a prostate cancer researcher.
 - To what extent the PI's stated career goals demonstrate a strong personal commitment to pursuing an independent career as a leader in prostate cancer research.

- To what extent the letters of recommendation from the mentor(s) and others support the PI's potential for a highly productive career as a prostate cancer researcher.
- Whether the proposed PI level of effort is appropriate for successful training and completion of the proposed work.
- **Mentor(s)**
 - Whether there is at least one mentor who is an established prostate cancer researcher, as evidenced by a demonstrated record of funding and publications in prostate cancer research.
 - To what extent the training experience, as reflected by his/her previous trainees' career achievements and areas of interest, indicate the potential of the mentor(s) to successfully train the PI in prostate cancer research.
 - Whether the proposed mentoring plan provides evidence of sufficient involvement in guiding the PI toward a successful career as an independent prostate cancer researcher.
 - To what extent the track records of the mentor(s), regarding their previous trainees' career achievements and areas of interest, indicate the potential for successful training of the PI in prostate cancer research.
 - Whether the mentor letter(s) indicate a high level of commitment to training the PI.
 - Whether the quality of the application suggests that the mentor(s) provided appropriate guidance in its preparation.
- **Training Plan and Environment**
 - How well the PI has outlined a detailed, individualized training plan that will effectively prepare the PI for a career at the forefront of prostate cancer research.
 - Whether the training plan and research project are appropriately integrated.
 - To what extent the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed training activities, including professional interaction with established prostate cancer researchers.
 - To what extent the training and research requirements are adequately supported by the availability and accessibility of facilities and resources (including collaborative arrangements).
- **Research Project**
 - How well the scientific rationale supports the project and its feasibility as demonstrated by a critical review and analysis of the literature, prostate cancer-relevant preliminary data (if included), and/or logical reasoning.
 - How well the hypotheses or objectives, aims, experimental design, methods, and analyses are developed.

- How well the PI acknowledges potential problems and addresses alternative approaches.
- **Impact**
 - To what degree the expected results of the project will contribute to the goal of eliminating death and suffering from prostate cancer.
 - To what degree the proposed training plan will develop the PI's career as an independent researcher dedicated to prostate cancer.

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

- **Responsiveness to Overarching Challenges**
 - How well the proposed research addresses one of the PCRP overarching challenges or is otherwise justified as significantly addressing another critical issue in prostate cancer research and/or patient care.
- **Budget**
 - Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research and within the limitations of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.
- **Application Presentation**
 - To what extent the writing, clarity, and presentation of the application components influenced the review.

2. Programmatic Review: To determine the application's relevance to the mission of the DoD and PCRP, as well as to make funding recommendations, the following equally considered criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

- Adherence to the intent of the award mechanism
- Programmatic relevance in relation to the PCRP overarching challenges and focus areas
- Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers
- Relative impact
- Program portfolio composition

C. Recipient Qualification

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for additional information on organization and Government agency requirements.

D. Application Review Dates

All application review dates and times are indicated on the [title page](#) of this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

E. Notification of Application Review Results

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

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

After receipt of applications from Grants.gov, the following administrative actions may occur:

A. Rejection

The following will result in administrative rejection of the application:

- Pre-application is not submitted.
- Project Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Project Narrative is missing.
- Budget is missing.
- Submission of the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.

B. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specified limits will be removed prior to review for all documents other than the Project Narrative.
- Documents not requested will be removed.
- Following the application deadline, the PI may be contacted by CDMRP via email with a request to provide certain missing supporting documents (excluding those listed in [Section IV.A., Rejection](#)). The missing documents must be provided by 5:00 p.m. ET on the second full business day following the date the email was sent. Otherwise, the application will be reviewed as submitted.

C. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the application:

- A FY12 PCRP Integration Panel (IP) 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 document. A list of the FY12 PCRP IP members can be found at <http://cdmrp.army.mil/pcrp/panels/panel12>.
- The application does not conform to this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity description to an extent that precludes appropriate review.
- Direct costs as shown on the Research & Related Budget exceed the maximum allowed by this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

- 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).
- Inclusion of any employee of CDMRP review contractors in applications for funding without adequate plans to mitigate conflicts of interest. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.B., for detailed information.
- The PI does not meet the eligibility criteria as described in this Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity.

D. Withhold

Applications that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending institutional investigation. The institution will be required to provide the findings of the investigation to the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) Contracting/Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

V. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Award Notice

Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2013. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, for additional award administration information.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section D, for general information regarding administrative and national policy requirements.

C. Reporting

Annual reports should include a comprehensive description of progress toward the tasks related to the training and mentoring plans as well as the research underway.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section E, for general information on reporting requirements.

D. Award Transfers

Changes in PI or mentor are strongly discouraged for the Postdoctoral Training Award mechanism. Extenuating circumstances necessitating a change of PI or mentor will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the Grants Officer.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, Section F, for general information on organization or PI changes.

VI. AGENCY CONTACTS

A. CDMRP Help Desk

Questions related to Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity content or submission requirements as well as questions related to the submission of the pre-application through the CDMRP eReceipt System should be directed to the CDMRP 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: 1-301-682-5507

Email: help@cdmrp.org

B. Grants.gov Contact Center

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

Phone: 1-800-518-4726

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/Funding Opportunity. If the application package is updated or changed, the original version of the application package may not be accepted by Grants.gov.

VII. APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Grants.gov Application Components	Action	Completed
SF-424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance Form	Complete form as instructed.	
Attachments Form	Upload Project Narrative (ProjectNarrative.pdf) as Attachment 1.	
	Upload Supporting Documentation (Support.pdf) as Attachment 2.	
	Upload Technical Abstract (TechAbs.pdf) as Attachment 3.	
	Upload Lay Abstract (LayAbs.pdf) as Attachment 4.	
	Upload Statement of Work (SOW.pdf) as Attachment 5.	
	Upload Impact Statement (Impact.pdf) as Attachment 6.	
	Upload Eligibility Statement (Eligibility.pdf) as Attachment 7.	
Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)	Attach PI Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field.	
	Attach PI Current & Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field.	
	Attach Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field.	
	Attach Current & Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field.	
Research & Related Budget	Complete as instructed. Attach Budget Justification (BudgetJustification.pdf) to the appropriate field.	
Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form	Complete form as instructed.	
R & R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form	Complete form as instructed.	
Additional Application Components	Action	Completed
Confidential Letters of Recommendation	Confirm upload to CDMRP eReceipt System.	