I. OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Program Announcement for the Department of Defense

Defense Health Program

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program

Virtual Cancer Center Director Award

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: HT942524PRCRPVCCDA

Assistance Listing Number: 12.420 Military Medical Research and Development

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW DATES AND TIMES

- **Pre-Application (Preproposal) Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), July 24, 2024
- Invitation to Submit an Application: August 29, 2024
- **Application Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, October 15, 2024
- End of Application Verification Period: 5:00 p.m. ET, October 22, 2024
- **Peer Review:** December 2024
- Programmatic Review: January 2024
- **Invitation for Oral Presentation:** January 2025
- **Programmatic Review, Stage 2:** March 2025

This program announcement must be read in conjunction with the General Application Instructions, version 901. The General Application Instructions document is available for downloading from the Grants.gov funding opportunity announcement by selecting the "Package" tab, clicking "Preview," and then selecting "Download Instructions."

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II. DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

II.A. Program Description

The U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) is soliciting applications to the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) using delegated authority provided by United States Code, Title 10, Section 4001 (10 USC 4001). The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC) is the program management agent for this funding opportunity. Congress initiated the PRCRP in 2009 to provide support for research of high potential impact and exceptional scientific merit. Appropriations for the PRCRP from FY09 through FY23 totaled \$914.8 million (M). The FY24 appropriation is \$130.0M.

The goal of the PRCRP is to improve mission readiness and quality of life by decreasing the burden of cancer on Service Members, their Families, Veterans, and the American public. The PRCRP is charged by Congress with the mission to investigate cancer risks and knowledge gaps that may be relevant to Service Members, their Families, other military beneficiaries, and the American public.

II.A.1. FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas

To be considered for funding, applications for the FY24 PRCRP Virtual Cancer Center Director Award (VCCDA) *must* address at least one of the congressionally directed FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas. Congressional language stipulates the FY24 PRCRP must not address research in melanoma, glioblastoma, or cancers originating in the breast, pancreas, prostate, ovary, kidney, or lung. In addition, FY24 PRCRP funds must not be used to study rare cancers except for subtypes of the FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas that are rare by definition. Applicants are directed to apply to the individual CDMRP cancer programs in those disease areas. The FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas are listed below.

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- Blood cancers
- Brain cancer (excluding glioblastoma)
- Colorectal cancer
- Endometrial cancer
- Esophageal cancer

- Germ cell cancers
- Liver cancer
- Lymphoma
- Mesothelioma
- Metastatic cancers
- Myeloma

- Neuroblastoma
- Pediatric, adolescent, and young adult cancers¹
- Pediatric brain tumors
- Stomach cancer
- Sarcoma
- Thyroid cancer

¹ The definition of adolescents and young adults is derived from the National Cancer Institute (https://www.cancer.gov/types/aya). Research should be targeted toward pediatric (ages 0–14 years), adolescents (ages 15–24 years), and/or young adults (ages 25–39 years).

Metastatic cancer is cancer that has spread from its original location to another place in the body, representing what are known as stage III and stage IV cancer diagnoses. While recent research has revealed that there is a genetic basis for susceptibility or resistance to metastasis, more research is needed to develop a comprehensive understanding of this complex process.

Applications submitted under any PRCRP Topic Area, including the Metastatic cancers Topic Area, may not address or include research focused on cancers that originate in the breast, kidney, lung, pancreas, prostate, ovaries, or from melanoma, glioblastoma, or rare cancers (excluding relevant subtypes of the FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas) as part of the research study; such applications will be administratively withdrawn.

II.A.2. FY24 PRCRP Military Health Focus Areas

In addition to addressing at least one of the required FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas, applications for FY24 VCCDA must define how the research is relevant to Service Members and their Families by addressing at least one of the FY24 PRCRP Military Health Focus Areas listed below.

It is central to the Vision and Mission of the PRCRP that applications are related to military health and mission readiness, and investigators must demonstrate how the proposed research will decrease the burden of cancer on Service Members, their dependents, Veterans, and other military beneficiaries (i.e., Family members of retirees) (https://cdmrp.health.mil/pubs/video/prc/prcp_vision_video).

FY24 PRCRP Military Health Focus Areas:

• Environmental exposure risk factors associated with cancer

Environmental and/or occupational risk factors should be relevant to activities specific to the military, such as deployments that may lead to exposures to potential carcinogens (ionizing radiation, chemicals, infectious agents, etc.). For more information on military-related exposures and risk factors for cancer, applicants should refer to Exposure-Related Health Concerns at https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/health-concerns.asp or to the PRCRP website (https://cdmrp.health.mil/prcrp/default).

• Mission Readiness and Gaps in Cancer Research

- Gaps in cancer prevention, early detection/diagnosis, prognosis, and/or treatment that
 may impact mission readiness and the health and well-being of military members,
 Veterans, their beneficiaries, and the general public.
- Gaps in quality of life and/or survivorship that may impact mission readiness and the health and well-being of military members, Veterans, their beneficiaries, and the general public.

Mission readiness under the FY24 PRCRP Military Health Focus Areas refers to the impact of cancer on the Service Member. Decreasing the impact of cancer on Service Members and/or their Families protects the overall military mission. Some examples of relevant research to decrease the impact on mission readiness may include, but are not limited to:

- Studies on the improvement in survival while minimizing late effects that would allow an active-duty Service Member to return to full duty;
- Treatments to minimize a cancer patient's (either a Service Member's or their Family member's) time in the hospital, thus maximizing the time the Service Member is on duty;
- Effective ways to minimize cancer relapse for Service Members or their Families; and
- Research into improvements in cancer detection that would lead to earlier diagnosis, thus allowing for improved treatment of the Service Member and early return to duty.

For more information on military health and cancer:

- PRCRP Vision Video (https://cdmrp.health.mil/pubs/video/prc/prcrp_vision_video)
- PRCRP (https://cdmrp.health.mil/prcrp/default)
- Military Health System (https://www.health.mil)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) (https://www.va.gov/)

Investigators are strongly encouraged to collaborate, integrate, and/or align their research projects with Department of Defense (DOD) and/or VA research laboratories and programs (Refer to Appendix 2).

II.A.3. FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenges

The PRCRP developed a strategy to address multiple issues in cancer research over the spectrum of different cancer topics considered for funding under the PRCRP. These Overarching Challenges are critical gaps in cancer research, care, and/or patient outcomes that, if addressed, will advance mission readiness of U.S. military members affected by cancer and improve quality of life by decreasing the burden of cancer on Service Members, their Families, Veterans, and the American public. Simply identifying an Overarching Challenge is not sufficient. Applications must address at least one of the following Overarching Challenges in a way that can lead to or make a breakthrough and have a major impact. The 17 FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenges are classified in five different categories. The applicant must address at least one of the 17 FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenges and not just select a category.

Prevention

- o Investigate primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention interventions/strategies to decrease cancer burden.
- Determine the risk factors, etiology, or mechanisms underlying cancer development to improve prevention interventions.

• Diagnostics/Prognostics

o Identify approaches to predict treatment resistance, recurrence, and the development of advanced disease.

- o Distinguish unique features driving cancer occurrence across the spectrum of ages.
- Develop and improve minimally invasive methods for neoplasia detection, initiation, progression, and recurrence.

• Therapeutics

- Transform cancer treatment, especially for advanced, recurrent, and metastatic disease.
- o Improve current therapies including systemic and local treatments.
- Evaluate disease progression and/or treatment response over time.
- Leverage the mechanisms of cancer development to improve treatment methods for all communities.

Patient Well-Being and Survivorship

- Study methods to address survivorship issues, including quality of life, wellness, mental health, psychological impact of recurrence, reproductive/sexual health, and/or disability.
- Reduce short- and long-term treatment toxicities, including neurocognitive and physical effects.
- Investigate ways to bridge gaps between treatment and survivorship, including alternative medicine, nutrition and lifestyle factors, and supportive care.
- Understand and address the immediate and enduring burdens on caregivers, families, and communities.

Disparity

- o Improve prevention strategies, diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes for patients in underserved or under recognized populations.
- Study methods to improve accessibility to care and address survivorship.
- o Advance health equity and reduce disparities in cancer care, including telehealth.
- Develop strategies to understand barriers to and improve communication amongst provider, patient, and care network.

II.B. Award Information

The FY24 PRCRP VCCDA supports a unique, interactive virtual cancer center (VCC) focused on bringing together two established investigators and up to 12 newly awarded additional early career investigators (Scholars) and their mentors (Career Guides) to interrogate the commonalities of cancer. In addition, there are seven Scholars with active awards from FY22 who would join the VCC under the auspices of the FY24 VCCDA. The

VCC will provide intensive mentoring, national networking, collaborative opportunities, and a peer group for Scholars.

The Director and Deputy Director (referred to as the VCC Leadership) will catalyze the growth and professional development of the Scholars, promote the cross pollination of different cancer disciplines, assess the progress of the Scholars, and facilitate communication and collaboration among all of the VCC members. The VCC will give the Scholars opportunities to operate in a collegial, highly dynamic, and cutting-edge center to lead cancer research to a new frontier.

This FY24 Funding Opportunity is soliciting applications for a Director and Deputy Director to design and implement the VCC. The Director and Deputy Director must be established cancer researchers, be at different institutions, and be in different cancer disciplines along the cancer care spectrum. The VCC Leadership must demonstrate a strong record of mentoring and training early career investigators, a commitment to leadership, and the ability to objectively assess the progress of all of the Scholars in the VCC. It is the intention that through the VCC, collaborations will foster new growth in different cancers and spur and integrated cancer center to ensure the research advancements across different cancer centers.

Early Career Investigators interested in applying to become a member of the VCC should refer to the Career Development Award – Scholar Option (CDA-SO) program announcement (HT942524PRCRPCDASO).

The VCC Leadership will bring new perspectives of cancer research to the next generation of cancer researchers. Responsibilities of the VCC Leadership include, but are not limited to:

- Set the Vision and Mission of the VCC to include how the center will integrate different disciplines and cancers into one cohesive unit.
- Act as a resource for all Scholars (potentially both Ph.Ds. and M.D.s) and Career Guides in the VCC over the 4-year period of performance as VCC Leadership.
- Facilitate communication and collaboration among all the Scholars and Career Guides (including periodic interactive communication among all VCC members).
- Develop assessment criteria to evaluate the research progress made by all of the Scholars, as
 well as their career progression and sustainment as independent investigators in cancer
 research.
- Conduct collaborative pilot cancer research project(s) that include the Scholars. Projects should have the potential to improve collaboration within the VCC, as well as impact the lives of individuals living with or at risk for cancer.
- Provide constructive critiques with the goal of advancing the research and professional careers of the Scholars and strengthening the mentorship of the Career Guides.
- Provide avenues to incorporate advocacy communities in the VCC by including consumer advocates (cancer survivors or family members) representing one the FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas in VCC activities (i.e., meetings, lectures, conferences, etc.).

- Support the professional development to include lab management skills, of the Scholars into leading researchers through invited presentations by experts outside of the VCC.
- Plan and host an annual 1-day workshop and biennially, a multi-day workshop for all Scholar/Career Guide pairs to present their research, share knowledge, and develop collaborative efforts within the VCC.
- Encourage multi-disciplinary, collaborative research within the VCC through "seed awards."
- Incorporate Career Guides and at least one consumer advocate representing one of the FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas into an Advisory Board to the VCC.

The Virtual Cancer Center Director Award is structured to support two Principal Investigators (PIs). The Director will be identified as the Initiating PI and will be responsible for the majority of the administrative tasks associated with application submission. The Deputy Director will be identified as the Partnering PI. Both PIs should contribute significantly to the development and execution of the VCC. If recommended for funding, each PI will be named on separate awards to the recipient organization(s). Each award will be subject to separate reporting, regulatory, and administrative requirements. For individual submission requirements for the Initiating and Partnering PI(s), refer to Section II.D.2, Content and Form of the Application Submission.

The application should clearly demonstrate that both PIs have equal levels of input on the proposed VCC Leadership and clearly define the components to be addressed by each to continue the success of Scholars. While it is up to the Director and Deputy Director to define their roles, both VCC Leaders should have interactions with the Scholars; acting as administrative support does not fulfill the intent of the Deputy Director.

A portion of the total direct budget costs (no more than 15%) must be reserved to support the collaborative "seed projects." Seed projects should be collaborative projects conceived and proposed by a minimum of two current Scholars. The VCC Leadership will be responsible for developing the intent of the seed projects, the submission requirements, and coordinating and funding a scientific peer review of projects proposed for funding during the period of performance.

The PRCRP seeks to promote novel approaches to ending cancer through convergent science cancer research. Convergent science as defined by the National Science Foundation (https://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/convergence/index.jsp) "is a means of solving vexing research problems, in particular, complex problems focusing on societal needs. It entails integrating knowledge, methods, and expertise from different disciplines and forming novel frameworks to catalyze scientific discovery and innovation." Convergent science taps into a variety of disciplines to answer the issues in cancer (i.e., prevention, diagnosis/detection, treatment, quality of life, disparities) including but not limited to biomedical sciences, data science, engineering, psychology, and chemistry. Convergent science breaks down the barriers of cancer research and builds a whole answer with tools from different areas of expertise. Investigators applying to the VCCDA are encouraged, but not required, to integrate convergent science in the design of the VCC.

Applications from investigators within the military services and applications involving multidisciplinary collaborations among academia, industry, the military services, the VA, and

other federal government agencies are highly encouraged. These relationships can leverage knowledge, infrastructure, and access to unique clinical populations that the collaborators bring to the research effort, ultimately advancing research that is of significance to Service Members, Veterans, and/or their Families. If the proposed research relies on access to unique resources or databases, the application must describe the access at the time of submission and include a plan for maintaining access as needed throughout the proposed research. A list of websites that may be useful in identifying additional information about ongoing DOD and VA areas of research interest or potential opportunities for collaboration can be found in Appendix 2, DOD and VA Websites.

A congressionally mandated Metastatic Cancer Task Force was formed with the purpose of identifying ways to help accelerate clinical and translational research aimed at extending the lives of advanced state and recurrent patients. As a member of the Metastatic Cancer Task Force, CDMRP encourages applicants to review the recommendations (https://health.mil/Reference-Center/Congressional-Testimonies/2018/05/03/Metastatic-Cancer-Research) and submit research ideas to address these recommendations provided they are within the limitations of this funding opportunity and fit within the FY24 PRCRP priorities.

CDMRP encourages research on health areas and conditions that affect women uniquely, disproportionately, or differently from men, including studies analyzing sex as a biological variable. Such research should relate anticipated project findings to improvements in women's health outcomes and/or advancing knowledge for women's health.

Innovative research involving nuclear medicine and related techniques to support early diagnosis, more effective treatment, and improved health outcomes of Service Members and their Families is encouraged. Such research could improve diagnostic and targeted treatment capabilities through noninvasive techniques and may drive the development of precision imaging and advanced targeted therapies.

Clinical trials are not allowed.

A clinical trial is defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45, Part 46.102 (45 CFR 46.102) as a research study in which one or more human subjects are prospectively assigned to one or more interventions (which may include a placebo or another control) to evaluate the effects of the interventions on biomedical or behavioral health-related outcomes.

Studies that do not seek to measure safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy outcome(s) of an intervention are not considered clinical trials.

For the purposes of this funding opportunity, research that meets the definition of a clinical trial is distinct from clinical research. Clinical research encompasses research with human data, human specimens, and/or interaction with human subjects. Clinical research is observational in nature and includes:

(1) Research conducted with human subjects and/or material of human origin such as data, specimens, and cognitive phenomena for which an investigator (or co-investigator) does *not* seek to assess the safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy outcomes of an intervention. Research meeting this definition may include but is not limited to: (a) mechanisms of human disease, (b)

diagnostic or detection studies (e.g., biomarker or imaging), (c) health disparity studies, and (d) development of new technologies.

- (2) Epidemiologic and behavioral studies that do *not* seek to assess the safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy outcomes of an intervention.
- (3) Outcomes research and health services research that do not fit under the definition of clinical trial.

Excluded from the definition of clinical research are in vitro studies that utilize human data or specimens that cannot be linked to a living individual and meet the requirements for exemption under §46.104(d)(4) of the Common Rule.

The funding instrument for awards made under the program announcement will be grants (31 USC 6304).

The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY24 PRCRP VCCDA Award should not exceed \$1.75M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

Awards supported with FY24 funds will be made no later than September 30, 2025.

The CDMRP expects to allot approximately \$2.8M to fund approximately one VCCDA application. Funding of applications received is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for this program, the number of applications received, the quality and merit of the applications as evaluated by peer and programmatic review, and the requirements of the government. Funds to be obligated on any award resulting from this funding opportunity will be available for use for a limited time period based on the fiscal year of the funds. It is anticipated that awards made from this FY24 funding opportunity will be funded with FY24 funds, which will expire for use on September 30, 2030.

II.C. Eligibility Information

II.C.1. Eligible Applicants

II.C.1.a. Organization: Extramural and Intramural organizations are eligible to apply, including foreign or domestic organizations, for-profit and non-profit organizations, and public entities.

Extramural Organization: An eligible non- DOD organization. Examples of extramural organizations include academic institutions, biotechnology companies, foundations, federal government organizations other than the DOD (i.e., intragovernmental organizations), and research institutes.

Intramural DOD Organization: Refers specifically to DOD organizations including DOD laboratories, DOD military treatment facilities, and/or DOD activities embedded within a civilian medical center.

Awards are made to eligible *organizations*, not to individuals. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for additional recipient qualification requirements.

II.C.1.b. Principal Investigator

Director and Deputy Director:

- Must be at least at the level of associate professor or equivalent.
- Must have cancer research funding (past and present).
- Must have a record of cancer publications in peer-reviewed journals.

The Director and Deputy Director must study different cancer disciplines along the cancer care spectrum.

Each investigator may be named on only one VCCDA application as Initiating PI (Director).

A PI may be named as Partnering PI (Deputy Director) on more than one VCCDA application.

An eligible PI, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, or citizenship status, must be employed by or affiliated with an eligible organization.

II.C.2. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing/matching is not an eligibility requirement.

II.C.3. Other

Organizations must be able to access **.gov** and **.mil** websites to fulfill the financial and technical deliverable requirements of the award and submit invoices for payment.

Refer to <u>Section II.H.2</u>, <u>Administrative Actions</u>, for a list of administrative actions that may be taken if a pre-application or full application does not meet the administrative, eligibility, or ethical requirements defined in this program announcement.

II.D. Application and Submission Information

II.D.1. Location of Application Package

Submission is a two-step process requiring both a *pre-application* submitted via the Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP.org) and a *full application* (eBRAP.org or Grants.gov). Depending on the type of submission (i.e., extramural vs. intramural), certain aspects of the submission process will differ.

The CDMRP uses two portal systems to accept pre- and full application submissions.

eBRAP (https://ebrap.org) is a secure web-based system that allows PIs and/or organizational representatives from both extra- and intramural organizations to receive communications from the CDMRP and submit their pre-applications. Additionally, eBRAP allows extramural

applicants to view and verify full applications submitted to Grants.gov and allows intramural DOD applicants to submit and verify full applications following their pre-application submission.

Grants.gov (https://grants.gov) is a federal system that must be used by funding agencies to announce extramural grant applications. Full applications for CDMRP funding opportunities can only be submitted to Grants.gov after submission of a pre-application through eBRAP.

Step1: Submit Pre-Application (Extramural and Intramural Submissions) Preproposal Submitted Through eBRAP Receive Invitation to Submit Full Application Step 2: Submit Full Application Extramural Submission Submitted Through Grants.gov Intramural Submission Submitted Through eBRAP Verify Application Content in eBRAP

Application Submission Workflow

Extramural Submission: An application submitted by an <u>extramural organization</u> for an extramural or intramural PI working within an extramural or intramural organization. For example, a research foundation submitting an application for a DOD employee working within a DOD organization would be considered an extramural submission and should follow instructions specific to extramural submissions. Download application package components for HT942524PRCRPVCCDA from Grants.gov (https://grants.gov). Full applications from extramural organizations *must* be submitted through Grants.gov.

Intramural Submission: An application submitted by an <u>intramural DOD organization</u> for an investigator employed by that organization. Intramural DOD organizations <u>may</u> submit full applications to either eBRAP or Grants.gov. Download application package components for HT942524PRCRPVCCDA from the anticipated submission portal eBRAP (https://ebrap.org) or Grants.gov.

The submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. Regardless of submission type or portal used, all pre- and full application components must be submitted by the deadlines stipulated on the first page of this program announcement. There are no grace periods for deadlines; failure to meet submission deadlines will result in application rejection. *The*

USAMRAA cannot make allowances/exceptions for submission problems encountered by the applicant organization using system-to-system interfaces with Grants.gov.

II.D.2. Content and Form of the Application Submission

Submitting applications that propose essentially the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year is prohibited and will result in administrative withdrawal of the duplicative application(s).

Unnecessary duplication of funding, or accepting funding from more than one source for the same research, is prohibited. See CDMRP's full position on research duplication at https://cdmrp.health.mil/funding/researchDup.

Including classified research data within the application and/or proposing research that may produce classified outcomes, or outcomes deemed sensitive to national security concerns, may result in application withdrawal. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 7, Section B.

FY24 PRCRP Programmatic Panel members should not be involved in any pre-application or full application. For questions related to panel members and pre-applications or applications, refer to <u>Section II.H.2.c</u>, <u>Withdrawal</u>, or contact the eBRAP Help Desk at <u>help@eBRAP.org</u> or 301-682-5507.

II.D.2.a. Step 1: Pre-Application Submission

All pre-application components must be submitted by the Initiating PI through eBRAP (https://eBRAP.org/), including the submission of contact information for the Partnering PI.

During the pre-application process, eBRAP assigns each submission a unique log number. This unique log number is required during the full application submission process. The eBRAP log number, application title, and all information for each PI, the Business Official(s), performing organization(s), and contracting organization(s) must be consistent throughout the entire pre-application and full application submission process. Inconsistencies may delay application processing and limit or negate the ability to view, modify, and verify the application in eBRAP. If any changes need to be made, the applicant should contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507 prior to the application submission deadline.

After the Initiating PI confirms submission of the pre-application, the Partnering PI will be notified of the pre-application submission via an email from eBRAP. *The Partnering PI must follow the link in the notification email to associate the partnering pre-application with their eBRAP account.* If not previously registered, the Partnering PI must register in eBRAP.

After associating the pre-application with their eBRAP account, the Partnering PI should email the eBRAP Help Desk (help@ebrap.org) to have the desired contact information associated with their pre-application. The email should include the pre-application log number, the name of the Business Official, the name(s) of the Performing/Contracting Organization(s), and the submission-type for the pre-application (extramural or intramural).

Partnering PIs should not initiate a new pre-application based on the same research project submitted by the Initiating PI. Partnering PIs are urged to complete these steps as soon as possible. If they are not completed:

- The Partnering PI will not be able to view and modify their full application during the verification period in eBRAP.
- Any intramural Partnering PI will not be able to submit their full application package components to eBRAP.

II.D.2.a.i. Pre-Application Components

Pre-application submissions must include the following components (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.B, for additional information on pre-application submission):

Note: Upload documents as individual PDF files unless otherwise noted.

• **Preproposal Narrative (two-page limit):** The Preproposal Narrative page limit applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Preproposal Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application.

Describe the proposed project in detail using the outline below:

- Vision and Mission: Describe the VCC Leadership's (Director and Deputy Director) vision of the VCC and articulate how the center will integrate different disciplines and cancers in a collegial, highly dynamic, and cutting-edge center to lead cancer research and contribute to the development of successful, creative, highly productive, future leaders in cancer research.
- Background and Experience: Describe the VCC Leadership's background and experience
 as established and productive cancer researchers. Briefly explain how the complementary
 experience of both candidates contributes to the ideal leadership of the VCC.
- Mentorship and Management: Describe the VCC Leadership's record of mentoring and training early career investigators. Describe the roles envisioned for the Director and Deputy Director and their record of leadership and management of multidisciplinary enterprises.
- Pilot Cancer Research Project: List the titles, aims and hypothesis to be tested for three potential Pilot Cancer Research Projects. Indicate the FY24 PRCRP Topic Area and FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenge to be studied for each. Explain how the proposed research will lead to promising outcomes for one or more of the selected FY24 PRCRP Military Health Focus Area(s).
- **Pre-Application Supporting Documentation:** The items to be included as supporting documentation for the pre-application *must be uploaded as individual files* and are limited to the following:

- **References Cited (one-page limit):** List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the Preproposal Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, reference title, and reference source, including volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
- List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols: Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols used in the Preproposal Narrative.
- Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (five-page limit per individual): All biographical sketches should be uploaded as a single combined file. Biographical sketches should be used to demonstrate background and expertise through education, positions, publications, and previous work accomplished.

II.D.2.a.ii. Pre-Application Screening Criteria

To determine the technical merits of the pre-application and the relevance to the mission of the Defense Health Program (DHP) and the PRCRP, pre-applications will be screened based on the following criteria:

- To what degree the proposed Vision and Mission for the VCC articulates a plan to integrate different disciplines and cancers to advance multi-disciplinary, collaborative cancer research.
- To what extent the VCC Leadership's record of cancer research and mentoring junior investigators will contribute to the development of successful, creative, highly productive, future leaders in cancer research.
- To what extent the distinct leadership roles of the Director and Deputy Director synergistically facilitate the management of the VCC.
- Whether three potential pilot projects focused on an <u>FY24 PRCRP Topic Area</u> and addressing an <u>FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenge</u> were proposed.
- To what degree the proposed research may lead to promising outcomes for one or more of the selected FY24 PRCRP Military Health Focus Areas.

II.D.2.a.iii. Notification of Pre-Application Screening Results

Following the pre-application screening, Initiating PIs will be notified as to whether they are invited to submit full applications. The estimated date when PIs can expect to receive notification of an invitation to submit a full application is indicated in Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity. No feedback (e.g., a critique of the pre-application's strengths and weaknesses) is provided at this stage. Because the invitation to submit a full application is based on the contents of the pre-application, investigators should not change the title or research objectives after the pre-application is submitted.

II.D.2.b. Step 2: Full Application Submission

Applicants must receive an invitation to submit a full application. Uninvited full application submissions will be rejected.

II.D.2.b.i. Full Application Submission Type

Extramural Submissions: Full applications from extramural organizations *must* be submitted through Grants.gov Workspace. Full applications from extramural organizations, including non-DOD federal organizations, received through eBRAP will be withdrawn. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV, for considerations and detailed instructions regarding extramural full application submission.

Intramural Submissions: Intramural DOD organizations may submit full applications through either eBRAP or Grants.gov. There is no preference from the CDMRP for which submission portal is utilized; submission through one portal or the other does not provide the application any advantage during the review process. Intramural DOD organizations that choose to submit through Grants.gov should follow Extramural Submission instructions. Intramural DOD organizations that are unable to submit through Grants.gov should submit through eBRAP. For the remainder of this program announcement, it will be assumed intramural DOD submissions will proceed through eBRAP. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V, for considerations and detailed instructions regarding intramural DOD full application submission.

II.D.2.b.ii. Full Application Submission Components for the Initiating PI

The CDMRP requires separate full application package submissions for the Initiating PI and each Partnering PI, even if the PIs are located within the same organization. Each full application package must be submitted using the unique eBRAP log number received by the Initiating and Partnering PIs during pre-application submission. All associated applications (the Initiating PI's and the Partnering PI's) must be submitted by the full application submission deadline.

Each application submission must include the completed full application package for this program announcement. See <u>Section II.H.3</u> of this program announcement for a checklist of the required application components.

• SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form (*Extramural Submissions Only*): Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B, for detailed information

Attachments:

Each attachment to the full application components must be uploaded as an individual file in the format specified and in accordance with the formatting guidelines listed in the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2.

• Attachment 1: Project Narrative (15-page limit): Upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf". The page limit of the Project Narrative applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs (uniform resource locators) that provide additional information that expands the Project Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the application. Describe the proposed project in detail using the outline below.

- Vision and Mission: Describe the VCC Leadership's (Director and Deputy Director) vision of the VCC and how it will serve as a non-traditional, non-conventional training platform, including intensive mentoring and networking for the Scholars in a virtual environment. Describe the mission and the roadmap as to how the VCC will develop highly productive cancer researchers who have the potential to be leading researchers through a collaborative and interactive research training environment within the 4-year period of performance. Describe the vision in terms of the commonalities of cancer and multidisciplinary research. Articulate the overall goals of the VCC with respect to integration of the FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas.
- Background and Experience: Describe the VCC Leadership's background and experience as established cancer researchers. Describe the record of mentoring and training early career investigators and how this mentorship contributed significantly to the early career investigators' careers. Explain how the complementary experience of both candidates contributes to the ideal leadership of the VCC.
- Management of the Virtual Cancer Center: Clearly define the roles that will be filled by the Director and Deputy Director in leading the VCC. Describe how the VCC Leadership will act as a resource for Scholars and Career Guides. Describe how the VCC Leadership will facilitate communication and collaboration among all of the Scholars and their Career Guides (including but not limited to periodic virtual interactive meetings and annual and biennial in-person workshops), as well as the cancer research and advocacy communities. Explain how the VCC Leadership will develop and communicate the criteria that will be used to evaluate the research progress made by all of the Scholars, as well as their career progression and sustainment as independent investigators in cancer research. Identify measurable milestones and outcomes for the Scholars that are expected to be achieved throughout 4-year period of performance and how they will contribute to the professional development of the VCC members. Explain how the VCC Leadership will help the Scholars overcome the barriers in initiating and sustaining a career in cancer research (e.g., grant writing, research and laboratory management, publications, professional networking, and committee memberships). Describe how the Career Guides and Consumer Advocates will be incorporated into an Advisory Board for the VCC.
- Commitment to the Virtual Cancer Center: Describe the VCC Leadership's commitment to leading the VCC, and to the success of this unique, interactive virtual research center in providing collaborative mentoring of Scholars with the goal of developing sustainable, independent careers as leaders in cancer research at their institutions, nationally, and internationally.
- Research Projects: Describe a minimum of three pilot projects proposed by the VCC Leadership that will be conducted in a collaborative effort by the VCC Leadership and Scholars. The projects must focus on an FY24 PRCRP Topic Area, and address a FY24 Military Health Focus Area and an FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenge. Describe the scientific rationale of the pilot projects. List the specific aims and rationale as to why these pilot project will interrogate the commonalities of cancer. Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and

approaches. If applicable, describe how the proposed research using animals meets the regulatory guidelines for appropriateness and robustness of experimental design. For the proposed research project describe the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities appropriate to the objectives of the study, including a description of the composition of the proposed study population in terms of sex/gender, racial, and ethnic group, and an accompanying rationale for the selection of subjects. If women and minorities are excluded, provide a rational justification for the exclusion.

Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation: Combine and upload as a single file named "Support.pdf". Start each document on a new page. The Supporting Documentation attachment should not include additional information such as figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, or drawings. These items should be included in the Project Narrative.

There are no page limits for any of these components unless otherwise noted. Include only those components described below; inclusion of items not requested or viewed as an extension of the Project Narrative will result in the removal of those items or may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

References Cited: List the references cited (including URLs, if available) in the Project Narrative using a standard reference format.

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 award. Indicate whether government-furnished facilities or equipment are proposed for use. If so, reference should be made to the original or present government award under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is no form for this information.

Publications and/or Patents: Include a list of relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If articles are not publicly available, then copies of up to five published manuscripts may be included in Attachment 2. 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, confirming the laboratory space, equipment, and other resources available for the project. Letters of support not requested in the program announcement, such as those from members of Congress, do not impact application review or funding decisions.

Letters of Collaboration (*if applicable*): Provide a signed letter from each collaborating individual and/or organization demonstrating that the PI has the support and resources necessary for the proposed work. If an investigator at an intramural DOD organization is named as a collaborator on a full application submitted through an extramural organization, the application must include a letter from the

collaborator's Commander or Commanding Officer at the intramural DOD organization authorizing the collaborator's involvement.

Intellectual Property: Information can be found in the 2 CFR 200.315, "Intangible Property."

- Intellectual and Material Property Plan (*if applicable*): Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.
- Commercialization Strategy (*if applicable*): Describe the commercialization plan. The plan should include intellectual property, market size, financial analysis, strengths and weaknesses, barriers to the market, competitors, and management team. Discuss the significance of this development effort, when it can be anticipated, and the potential commercial use for the technology being developed.

DOD Data Management Plan (two-page limit is recommended): Describe the data management plan in accordance with Section 3.c, Enclosure 3, <u>DoD Instructions 3200.12</u>. *Do not duplicate the Data and Research Resources Sharing Plan*. Refer to General Application Instructions, Section IV.B, Attachments Form, Attachment: Supporting Documentation, for detailed information regarding Data Management Plan content.

Data and Research Resources Sharing Plan: Describe the type of data or research resource to be made publicly available as a result of the proposed work. Describe how data and resources generated during the performance of the project will be shared with the research community. Include the name of the repository(ies) where scientific data and resources arising from the project will be archived, if applicable. If a public repository will not be used for data or resource sharing, provide justification. Provide a milestone plan for data/results dissemination including when data and resources will be made available to other users, including dissemination activities with a particular focus on feeding back the data to affected communities and/or research participants. Refer to CDMRP's Policy on Data & Resource Sharing located on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm for more information about CDMRP's expectations for making data and research resources publicly available.

Inclusion Enrollment Plan (*only required for pilot projects proposing clinical research*): Provide an anticipated enrollment table(s) for the inclusion of women and minorities appropriate to the objectives of the study with the proposed enrollment distributed on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity. The Public Health Service (PHS) Inclusion Enrollment Report is a three-page fillable PDF form, which can be downloaded from eBRAP at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm.

Use of DOD Resources (*if applicable*): Provide a letter of support signed by the lowest-ranking person with approval authority confirming access to active-duty military populations and/or DOD resources or databases.

Use of VA Resources (*if applicable*): Provide a letter of support signed by the VA Facility Director(s) or individual designated by the VA Facility Director(s), such as the Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development (ACOS/R&D) or Clinical Service Chief, confirming access to VA patients, resources, and/or VA research space. If the VA-affiliated non-profit corporation is not identified as the applicant organization for administering the funds, include a letter from the VA ACOS/R&D confirming this arrangement and identifying the institution that will administer the funds associated with the proposed research.

Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "TechAbs.pdf". The technical abstract is used by all reviewers. *Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly.* Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

Technical abstracts should be written using the outline below. Clarity and completeness within the space limits are highly important.

Virtual Cancer Center Leadership Plan: As VCC Leadership, describe your vision for the successful implementation of the VCC as a non-traditional, non-conventional platform in which the Scholars will develop partnerships, collaboration, and career growth to ensure their dedication and productivity as leading cancer researchers across the cancer care spectrum. Describe the mission of the VCC. Include the goals of the VCC. Describe the rationale for the establishment of the VCC.

Pilot Research Plan: Present the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed pilot projects. State the title, specific aims and hypothesis of the studies. Be sure to indicate which FY24 PRCRP Topic Area(s) are being studied.

Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "LayAbs.pdf". The lay abstract is used by all reviewers, and addresses issues of particular interest to the affected community. Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly. Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed. Do not duplicate the technical abstract.

Lay abstracts should address the points outlined below *in a manner that will be readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine*. Avoid overuse use of scientific jargon, acronyms, and abbreviations.

- Describe the rationale for the establishment of the VCC.
- As VCC Leadership, describe your vision for the successful implementation of the VCC as a non-traditional, non-conventional platform in which the Scholars will develop partnerships, collaboration, and career growth to ensure their dedication and productivity as leading cancer researchers across the cancer care spectrum. Describe the mission of the VCC.
- Describe the Leadership Plan

- Describe the integration of consumer advocates.
- Briefly describe the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed pilot projects and describe the anticipated short-term and long-term contributions toward cancer research, patient care, and/or quality of life.
- Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf". Refer to the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) for the suggested SOW format and recommended strategies for assembling the SOW.

For the VCCDA refer to "Example: Assembling a Generic Statement of Work", for guidance on preparing the SOW. Use the "Suggested SOW Format" to develop the SOW for the proposed research. Submit as a PDF.

Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW. The specific contributions of the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI should be clearly noted for each task.

- Attachment 6: Sample Agenda (two-page limit): Upload as "SampleAgenda.pdf". Provide a sample agenda for the first annual workshop to be led by the FY24 VCC Leadership. Explain how the format for the workshop is designed to stimulate the professional growth of the Scholars in both leadership and research skills.
- Attachment 7: Discipline Integration (two-page limit): Upload as "VCCIntegration.pdf". Describe how the VCC will incorporate Scholars and Career Guides with different cancer research backgrounds and from different disciplinary domains along the cancer care spectrum into a collaborative network. Articulate how cancer similarities and differences will be used to the advantage of the center and the Scholars. Describe how the VCC leadership will promote the translation of outcomes from one discipline or cancer to other disciplines and other cancer research areas.
- Attachment 8: Impact Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Impact.pdf". In lay language describe how the VCC will bridge the gaps in patient outcomes and care through the multidisciplinary training and support of the next generation of cancer researchers. Describe the long-term impact of multi-disciplinary training and the future of cancer care.
- Attachment 9: Consumer Advocate Involvement Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Advocate.pdf". The Consumer Advocate Involvement Statement should be written by the PI. Clearly articulate how the consumer advocate(s) will have a meaningful role on the VCC Advisory Board. Describe experience of the consumer advocate(s) and their expertise as it relates to the FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas, and how their knowledge and background will contribute to the VCC overall.
- o Attachment 10: Relevance to Military Health Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "MilHealth.pdf". The Relevance to Military Health Statement will be evaluated by the FY24 PRCRP Programmatic Panel during programmatic review only. State how the VCC will incorporate military health concerns into the vision and mission of the

center. Articulate how the VCC will support Scholars in studies to identify the environmental/exposure risk factors associated with the FY24 PRCRP Topic Area(s) and/or support mission readiness through the gap in cancer prevention, early detection/diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, quality of life and/or survivorship that may have a profound impact on the health and well-being of Service Members, their Families, Veterans, or other beneficiaries. Describe how the VCC will promote a healthy force and Family support system through the anticipated support of the next generation of leaders in cancer research and care.

- Attachment 11: Representations (Extramural Submissions Only): Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf". All extramural applicants must complete and submit the Required Representations template available on eBRAP (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/ public/Program.htm). For more information, see the General Application Instructions, Appendix 8, Section B, Representations.
- Attachment 12: Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form (if applicable): Upload as "IGBudget.pdf". If an intramural DOD organization will be a collaborator in performance of the project, complete a separate budget using the "Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form", available for download on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm). The budget should cover the entire period of performance for each intramural DOD site and include a budget justification as instructed. The total costs per year for each subaward (direct and indirect costs) should be included on the Grants.gov Research & Related Budget Form under subaward costs. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(e), for additional information and considerations.
- **Research & Related Personal Data:** For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(c), and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(c), for detailed instructions.
- Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded): For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(d), and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(d), for detailed instructions.
 - o **PI Biographical Sketch (five-page limit):** Upload as "Biosketch LastName.pdf".
 - **PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit):** Upload as "Support_LastName.pdf".
 - **Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (five-page limit each):** Upload as "Biosketch LastName.pdf".
 - **Key Personnel Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit):** Upload as "Support LastName.pdf".
- **Research & Related Budget:** For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(e), and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(e), for detailed instructions.

- Budget Justification (no page limit): For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(e), Section L, for instructions. For intramural submissions, refer to General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(e), Budget Justification Instructions.
- Initiating and Partnering PIs must have a separate budget and justification specific to their distinct portions of the effort that the applicant organization will submit as separate Grants.gov or eBRAP application packages. The Initiating PI should not include budget information for Partnering PI(s) even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed information.
- **Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form:** For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(f), and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(f), for detailed instructions.
- Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable, Extramural Submissions Only): Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(g), for detailed instructions.
 - **Extramural Subaward:** Complete the Research & Related Subaward Budget Form and upload through Grants.gov.
 - o **Intramural DOD Subaward:** Complete a separate "<u>Suggested</u> <u>Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form</u>" for each intramural DOD subaward and upload as a single document titled **IGBudget.pdf** to Grants.gov as Attachment 12.

II.D.2.b.iii. Full Application Submission Components for the Partnering PI

The application submission process for the Partnering PI uses an abbreviated full application package. Refer to the equivalent attachment above for details specific to each of the following application components.

• SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form (Extramural Submissions Only): Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(a), for detailed information

Attachments:

- Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf". Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW.
- Attachment 11: Representations (Extramural submissions only): Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf".
- Attachment 12: Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form: Upload as "IGBudget.pdf".

- **Research & Related Personal Data:** For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(c), and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(c), for detailed information.
- Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded): For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(d), and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(d), for detailed information.
 - PI Biographical Sketch (five-page limit): Upload as "Biosketch_LastName.pdf".
 - **PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit):** Upload as "Support_LastName.pdf".
 - **Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (five-page limit each):** Upload as "Biosketch LastName.pdf".
 - **Key Personnel Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit):** Upload as "Support_LastName.pdf".
- **Research & Related Budget:** For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(e), and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(e), for detailed information.
 - Budget Justification (no page limit): Upload as "BudgetJustification.pdf".

The initiating and Partnering PI must each submit a budget and justification specific to their own portion of the efforts as part of their separate Grants.gov or eBRAP application packages. The Research & Related Budget for the Partnering PI should not include budget information for the Initiating PI, even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed information.

- **Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form:** For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(f), and for intramural submissions, refer to General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(f), for detailed information.
- Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (*if applicable, Extramural Submissions Only*): Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(g), for detailed information.
 - **Extramural Subaward:** Complete the Research & Related Subaward Budget Form through Grants.gov.
 - Intramural DOD Subaward: Complete the "Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form" for each intramural DOD subaward and upload as a single document titled IGBudget.pdf to Grants.gov as Attachment 12.

II.D.2.b.iii. Additional Application Components

Oral Presentation

Candidates for VCC Director and Assistant Director selected for Stage 2 Programmatic Review will be required to give an oral presentation.

Each presentation will include a 30-minute talk by the candidates (Director and Deputy Director pairs), followed by a 30-minute question and answer session with PRCRP Programmatic Panel members. The following questions will be the topics for discussion during the PIs' talk and the question-and-answer session. PIs who are selected should prepare a presentation consisting of no more than 10 slides that specifically address:

- What conceptual or intellectual barriers do you consider as important to overcome in the career development and sustainment of investigators dedicated to cancer research?
- Articulate the capabilities of the VCC Leadership to facilitate the Scholar's professional development, collaborations, and career growth and increase the visibility of Scholars in cancer research and advocacy communities.
- Describe proposed milestones and outcomes for the Scholars during the 4 years in the VCC.
- How will you encourage sustained involvement of the VCC Alumni in the VCC?

II.D.2.c. Applicant Verification of Full Application Submission in eBRAP

Independent of submission type, once the full application is submitted it is transmitted to and processed in eBRAP. At this stage, the PI and organizational representatives will receive an email from eBRAP instructing them to log into eBRAP to review, modify, and verify the full application submission. Verification is strongly recommended but not required. eBRAP will validate full application files against the specific program announcement requirements, and discrepancies will be noted in the "Full Application Files" tab in eBRAP. However, eBRAP does not confirm the accuracy of file content. It is the applicant's responsibility to review all application components and ensure proper ordering as specified in the program announcement. The Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline. If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or needs to be modified, an updated full application package must be submitted prior to the full application submission deadline. Other application components, including subaward budget(s) and subaward budget justification(s), may be changed until the end of the application verification period. The full application cannot be modified once the application verification period ends.

II.D.3. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)

The applicant organization must be registered as an entity in SAM (https://www.sam.gov/content/home) and receive confirmation of an "Active" status before submitting an application through Grants.gov. Organizations must include the UEI generated by SAM in applications to this funding opportunity.

II.D.4. Submission Dates and Times

The pre-application and application submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. There are no grace periods. Failure to meet either of these deadlines will result in submission rejection.

All submission dates and times are indicated in Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity.

II.D.5. Funding Restrictions

The maximum period of performance is **4** years.

The combined direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance in the applications of the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI should not exceed \$1.75M. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate. Collaborating organizations should budget associated indirect costs in accordance with each organization's negotiated rate.

A separate award will be made to each PI's organization.

The PIs are expected to be partners in the research, and direct cost funding should be divided accordingly unless otherwise warranted and clearly justified.

All direct and indirect costs of any subaward or contract must be included in the direct costs of the primary award.

The applicant may request the entire maximum funding amount for a project that may have a period of performance less than the maximum 4 years.

For this award mechanism, direct costs must be requested for:

- Costs associated with planning and holding the annual 1-day workshop with VCC members, including costs associated with external speakers. (*Career Development Award Scholars must budget for travel costs separately*).
- Costs associated with planning and holding the biennial multi-day workshop in coordination with the PRCRP Program staff (e.g., Program Manager and Science Officer), including costs associated with external speakers.
- Travel Costs for the VCC Leadership and two Scholars to present project information or disseminate project results at an in-person or virtual (at the discretion of the government) annual In-Progress Review meeting starting in year 2 and continuing throughout the remaining period of performance. For planning purposes, it should be assumed that the meeting will be held in the National Capital Area. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for annual scientific/technical meetings.
- A portion of the total direct budget costs (no more than 15%) must be reserved to support the seed projects, and these funds may not be used for equipment or travel.
- Administrative costs (i.e., salary for Administrative Assistant[s]).

May be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Costs associated with establishing and maintaining a virtual cancer center (e.g., hardware and/or software for audio- or video-teleconferencing or web-based communications)
- Travel in support of multi-institutional collaborations.
- Travel between institutions participating in the VCC.
- Travel to 1-day and biennial multi-day workshops.
- Travel costs for the VCC Leaders to travel to one scientific/technical meeting per year in addition to the required meetings described above.

Must not be requested for:

- Tuition for graduate students
- Clinical trial costs

II.D.6. Other Submission Requirements

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

II.E. Application Review Information

II.E.1. Criteria

II.E.1.a. Peer Review

To determine technical merit, all applications will be individually evaluated according to the following **scored criteria**, which are of equal importance:

VCC Leadership

- To what extent the VCC Director's and Deputy Director's background and experience in cancer demonstrate their potential for leadership (i.e., record of mentoring and training of early career investigators) of the VCC.
- To what extent the VCC Leadership is committed to leading the VCC and ensuring that it provides collaborative mentoring of Scholars with the goal of developing sustainable, independent careers as leaders in cancer research at their institutions, nationally, and internationally.

Vision

How well the application describes the VCC Leadership's vision of the VCC and support
of a non-traditional, non-conventional training platform, including intensive mentoring
and networking for the Scholars in a virtual environment.

- How well the application articulates the overall goals of the VCC with respect to integration of different cancers.
- o To what extent the mission and the roadmap to how the VCC will develop highly productive cancer researchers who will be recognized as leading researchers through a collaborative and interactive research training environment within the 4-year period of performance is supported by the application.
- How well the vision and mission are described in terms of the commonalities of cancer and multidisciplinary research.

• Management of the VCC

- To what degree the application has clearly defined the roles that will be filled by the Director and Deputy Director in leading the VCC.
- The suitability of the criteria and evaluation method(s) that will be used to assess Scholar's research progress and professional development and the means by which they will be communicated.
- Whether the application identifies measurable milestones and outcomes to guide and assess Scholars through-out award period of performance.
- To what degree the application identifies important barriers in initiating and sustaining a
 cancer research career and proposes effective mentorship methods to enable and
 empower Scholars overcome those barriers.
- To what degree has the applications described effective plans and strategies to facilitate communication and collaboration among the Scholars and the Career Guides as well as the cancer research and advocacy communities.
- To what extent the Career Guides and consumer advocates will be incorporated into an Advisory Board for the VCC.

• Discipline Integration

- How well the VCC will incorporate Scholars and Career Guides with different cancer research backgrounds and from different disciplines along the cancer care spectrum into a collaborative network.
- o To what extent cancer similarities and differences will be used to the advantage of the center and the Scholars.
- To what degree the VCC leadership will promote the translation of outcomes from one discipline or cancer to other disciplines and other cancer research areas.

• Impact

- How well the application describes how the VCC will bridge the gaps in patient outcomes and care through the multidisciplinary training and support of the next generation of cancer researchers.
- Whether the long-term impact of multi-disciplinary training is described as well as the impact on the future of cancer care.
- Whether the consumer advocate will have a meaningful role on the VCC advisory board.

• Research Strategy

- Whether a minimum of three pilot projects focusing on <u>FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas</u> and addressing <u>FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenges</u> and <u>FY24 PRCRP Military Health</u> Focus Areas have been described.
- How well the scientific rationale of the pilot projects supports the specific aims.
- To what degree the projects have the potential to improve cancer research and patient care
- To what degree the pilot projects will support collaborative efforts of the VCC Leadership and Scholars.
- How well the application addresses potential problem areas and presents alternative methods and approaches.
- o If applicable, whether the application describes the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities appropriate to the objectives of pilot studies proposing clinical research, including a description of the composition of the proposed study population in terms of sex/gender, racial, and ethnic group, and an accompanying rationale for the selection of subjects.

In addition, the following criteria will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application, but will not be individually scored and are therefore termed **unscored criteria**:

Personnel

How appropriate the levels of effort are for successful conduct of the proposed work.

Budget

- Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research.
- Whether the **direct** costs exceed the allowable direct costs as published in the program announcement.
- Whether the Director and Deputy Director proposed adequate level of effort and/or costs for the proposed VCC.

• Whether funds for seed projects were budgeted.

Environment

- To what extent the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed research project.
- o To what degree the scientific environment is appropriate for the VCC.
- Whether there is clear indication of institutional support for the Director and Deputy Director to lead a VCC.
- If applicable, to what degree the intellectual and material property plan is appropriate.

• Application Presentation

- To what extent the writing, clarity, and presentation of the application components influence the review.
- Whether the lay abstract and impact statement were written with clarity for lay persons

II.E.1.b. Programmatic Review

To make funding recommendations and select the application(s) that, individually or collectively, will best achieve the program objectives, the following criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

- Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers
- Relevance to the priorities of the DHP and FY24 PRCRP, as evidenced by the following:
 - **Stage 1:** During the first stage of programmatic review, applications will be selected for oral presentation at the second stage using the following criteria:
 - Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers
 - Adherence to the intent of the funding opportunity
 - Program portfolio composition
 - Relative impact
 - Stage 2 (Oral Presentation): During the second stage of programmatic review, the following criteria will be used:
 - The ability of the VCC to integrate different disciplines and cancers into one cohesive unit to successfully incorporate Scholars from different cancer research backgrounds into convergent networks.

II.E.2. Application Review and Selection Process

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and consumers in a two-tier review process. The first tier is **peer review**, the evaluation of applications against established criteria to determine technical merit, where each application is assessed for its own merit, independent of other applications. The second tier is **programmatic review**, a comparison-based process in which applications with high scientific and technical merit are further evaluated for programmatic relevance. Final recommendations for funding are made to the Commanding General, USAMRDC. *The highest-scoring applications from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Funding recommendations depend on various factors as described in <u>Section II.E.1.b</u>, <u>Programmatic Review</u>. Additional information about the two-tier process used by the CDMRP can be found at https://cdmrp.health.mil/about/2tierRevProcess.*

All CDMRP review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the merit-based selection process. Panel members sign a statement declaring that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the review panel. Violations of confidentiality can result in the dissolution of a panel(s) and other corrective actions. In addition, personnel at the applicant or collaborating organizations are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review and approval 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 panel members or applicants that compromise the confidentiality of the review and approval process may also result in suspension or debarment from federal awards. Furthermore, the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information of one party to a third party is a crime in accordance with 18 USC 1905.

II.E.3. Integrity and Performance Information

Prior to making an assistance agreement award where the federal share is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in 2 CFR 200.1, over the period of performance, the federal awarding agency is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is available in SAM.

An applicant organization may review SAM and submit comments on any information currently available about the organization that a federal awarding agency previously entered. The federal awarding agency will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under federal awards when determining a recipient's qualification prior to award, according to the qualification standards of the Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoDGARs), Section 22.415.

II.F. Federal Award Administration Information

II.F.1. Federal Award Notices

Each applicant organization and PI will receive email notification when the funding recommendations are posted to eBRAP. At this time, each PI will receive a peer review summary statement on the strengths and weaknesses of the application and an information paper

describing the funding recommendation and review process for the PRCRP award mechanisms. The information papers and a list of organizations and PIs recommended for funding are also posted on the program's page within the CDMRP website.

If an application is recommended for funding, after the email notification is posted to eBRAP, a government representative will contact the person authorized to negotiate on behalf of the recipient organization.

Only an appointed USAMRAA Grants Officer may obligate the government to the expenditure of funds to an extramural organization. No commitment on the part of the government should be inferred from discussions with any other individual. The award document signed by the Grants Officer is the official authorizing document (i.e., assistance agreement).

Intra-DOD obligations of funding will be made according to the terms of a negotiated Inter-Agency Agreement and managed by a CDMRP Science Officer.

Funding obligated to *intragovernmental and intramural DOD organizations* will be sent through the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR), Funding Authorization Document (FAD), or Direct Charge Work Breakdown Structure processes. Transfer of funds is contingent upon appropriate safety and administrative approvals. Intragovernmental and intramural DOD investigators and collaborators must coordinate receipt and commitment of funds through their respective Resource Manager/Task Area Manager/Comptroller or equivalent Business Official.

An organization may, at its own risk and without the government's prior approval, incur obligations and expenditures to cover costs up to 90 days before the beginning date of the initial budget period of a new award. For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.B.(e), Pre-Award Costs section, and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section V.A.(e), Pre-Award Costs section, for additional information about pre-award costs.

If there are technical reporting requirement delinquencies for any existing CDMRP awards at the applicant organization, no new awards will be issued to the applicant organization until all delinquent reports have been submitted.

II.F.2. PI Changes and Award Transfers

Changes in PI are not allowed, except under extenuating circumstances that will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

An organizational transfer of an award supporting the Initiating PI or Partnering PI is discouraged and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

An organizational transfer of an award will not be allowed in the last year of the (original) period of performance or any extension thereof.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 7, Section F, for general information on organization or PI changes.

II.F.3. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Applicable requirements in the DoDGARs found in 32 CFR, Chapter I, Subchapter C, and 2 CFR, Chapter XI, apply to grants and cooperative agreements resulting from this program announcement.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 7, for general information regarding administrative requirements.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 8, for general information regarding national policy requirements.

Refer to full text of the latest <u>DoD R&D Terms and Conditions</u> and the <u>USAMRAA Research</u> <u>Terms and Conditions</u>: <u>Addendum to the DoD R&D Terms and Conditions</u> for further information.

Applications recommended for funding that involve animals, human data, human specimens, human subjects, or human cadavers must be reviewed for compliance with federal and DOD animal and/or human subjects protection requirements and approved by the USAMRDC Office of Human and Animal Research Oversight, prior to implementation. This administrative review requirement is in addition to the local Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, IRB, or Ethics Committee review. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 6, for additional information.

II.F.4. Reporting

Annual technical progress reports as well as a final technical progress report will be required. Annual and final technical reports must be prepared in accordance with the Research Performance Progress Report.

The Award Terms and Conditions will specify whether additional and/or more frequent reporting is required.

Award Expiration Transition Plan: An Award Expiration Transition Plan must be submitted with the final progress report. Use the one-page template "Award Expiration Transition Plan," available on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) under the "Progress Report Formats" section. The Award Expiration Transition Plan must outline whether and how the research supported by this award will progress and must include source(s) of funding, either known or pending.

PHS Inclusion Enrollment Reporting Requirement (only required for clinical research studies): Enrollment reporting on the basis of sex/gender, race, and/or ethnicity will be required with each annual and final progress report. The PHS Inclusion Enrollment Report is available on the "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) in eBRAP.

Awards resulting from this program announcement may entail additional reporting requirements related to recipient integrity and performance matters. Recipient organizations that have federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10M are required to provide information to SAM about certain civil, criminal, and

administrative proceedings that reached final disposition within the most recent 5-year period and that were connected with performance of a federal award. These recipients are required to disclose, semiannually, information about criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings as specified in the applicable Representations (see General Application Instructions, Appendix 8, Section B).

II.G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts

II.G.1. eBRAP Help Desk

Questions regarding program announcement content or submission requirements as well as technical assistance related to pre-application or intramural application submission

Phone: 301-682-5507

Email: help@eBRAP.org

II.G.2. Grants.gov Contact Center

Questions regarding Grants.gov registration and Workspace

Phone: 800-518-4726; International 1-606-545-5035

Email: support@grants.gov

II.H. Other Information

II.H.1. Program Announcement and General Application Instructions Versions

Questions related to this program announcement should refer to the program name, the program announcement name, and the program announcement version code 901a. The program announcement numeric version code will match the General Application Instructions version code 901.

II.H.2. Administrative Actions

After receipt of pre-applications or full applications, the following administrative actions may occur.

II.H.2.a. Rejection

The following will result in administrative rejection of the pre-application:

- Preproposal Narrative exceeds the page limit.
- Preproposal Narrative is missing.

The following will result in administrative rejection of the full application:

- Pre-application was not submitted.
- Project Narrative exceeds the page limit.
- Project Narrative is missing.
- Budget is missing.
- Submission of an application for which a letter of invitation was not issued.

II.H.2.b. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specific limits will be removed prior to review for all documents other than the Project Narrative.
- Documents not requested will be removed.

II.H.2.c. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application or full application:

- An FY24 PRCRP Programmatic Panel 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 documentation, including letters of support/recommendation.
 A list of the FY24 PRCRP Programmatic Panel members can be found at https://cdmrp.health.mil/prcrp/panels/panels24.
- The application fails to conform to this program announcement description.
- Inclusion of URLs, with the exception of links in References Cited and Publication and/or Patent Abstract sections.
- Applications that include names of personnel from either of the CDMRP peer or programmatic review companies. For FY24, the identities of the peer review contractor and the programmatic review contractor may be found at the CDMRP website (https://cdmrp.health.mil/about/2tierRevProcess).
- Personnel from applicant or collaborating organizations are found to have contacted persons involved in the review or approval process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process.
- Applications from extramural organizations, including non-DOD federal agencies, received through eBRAP.
- Applications submitted by a federal government organization (including an intramural DOD organization) may be withdrawn if (a) the organization cannot accept and execute the entirety of the requested budget in current fiscal year (FY24) funds and/or (b) the federal government

organization cannot coordinate the use of contractual, assistance, or other appropriate agreements to provide funds to collaborators.

- Application includes research data that are classified and/or proposes research that may produce classified outcomes, or outcomes deemed sensitive to national security concerns.
- Submission of the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.
- The PI does not meet the eligibility criteria.
- The pre-application and/or the application does not adhere to congressional language and proposes glioblastoma, melanoma or cancers originating in the breast, kidney, lung, pancreas, prostate, ovary, or rare cancers except those that are subtypes of the FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas and rare by definition.
- The application does not address at least one of the <u>FY24 PRCRP Topic Areas</u>.
- The application does not address at least one of the <u>FY24 PRCRP Military Health Focus Areas</u>.
- The application does not address one of the <u>FY24 PRCRP Overarching Challenges</u>.
- A clinical trial is proposed.
- Failure to submit all associated (Initiating and Partnering PI) applications by the deadline.
- The invited application proposes a different research project than that described in the preapplication.

II.H.2.d. Withhold

Applications that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending organizational investigation. The organization will be required to provide the findings of the investigation to the USAMRAA Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

II.H.3. Full Application Submission Checklist

Full Application Components	Uploaded	
	Initiating PI	Partnering PI
SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance (Extramural submissions only)		
Summary (Tab 1) and Application Contacts (Tab 2) (Intramural submissions only)		
Attachments		
Project Narrative – Attachment 1, upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf"		
Supporting Documentation – Attachment 2, upload as "Support.pdf"		
Technical Abstract – Attachment 3, upload as "TechAbs.pdf"		
Lay Abstract – Attachment 4, upload as "LayAbs.pdf"		
Statement of Work -Attachment 5, upload as "SOW.pdf"		
Sample Agenda – Attachment 6, upload as "SampleAgenda.pdf"		
Discipline Integration – Attachment 7, upload as "VCCIntegration.pdf"		
Impact Statement – Attachment 8, upload as "Impact.pdf"		
Consumer Advocate Involvement Statement – Attachment 9, upload as "Advocate.pdf"		
Relevance to Military Health Statement – Attachment 10, upload as "MilHealth.pdf"		
Representations (Extramural submissions only) – Attachment 11, upload as "RequiredReps.pdf"		
Suggested Intragovernmental Budget Form (<i>if applicable</i>) – Attachment 12, upload as "IGBudget.pdf"		
Research & Related Personal Data		
Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)		
Attach PI Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf)		
Attach PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf)		
Attach Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person		
Attach Previous/Current/Pending (Support_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person		
Research & Related Budget (Extramural submissions only) Include budget justification		

Full Application Components	Uploaded				
	Initiating PI	Partnering PI			
Budget (Intramural submissions only) Include budget justification					
Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form					
Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable)					
Additional Application Components					
Stage 2 Oral Presentation					

APPENDIX 1: ACRONYM LIST

ACOS/R&D Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development

CDA-SO Career Development Award – Virtual Cancer Center Scholar Option

CDMRP Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

CFR Code of Federal Regulations
DHP Defense Health Program
DOD Department of Defense

DoDGARs Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations

eBRAP Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal

ET Eastern Time

FAD Funding Authorization Document

FY Fiscal Year M Million

MHS Military Health System

MIPR Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request

PDF Portable Document Format

PRCRP Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program

PHS Public Health Service
PI Principal Investigator

SAM System for Award Management

SOW Statement of Work

UEI Unique Entity Identifier
URL Uniform Resource Locator

USAMRAA U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity

USAMRDC U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command

USC United States Code

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VCC Virtual Cancer Center

VCCDA Virtual Cancer Center Director Award

APPENDIX 2: DOD AND VA WEBSITES

PIs are encouraged to integrate and/or align their research projects with DOD and/or VA research laboratories and programs. Collaboration with DOD or VA investigators is also encouraged. Below is a list of websites that may be useful in identifying additional information about DOD and VA areas of research interest, ongoing research, or potential opportunities for collaboration.

Air Force Office of Scientific Research https://www.afrl.af.mil/AFOSR/

Air Force Research Laboratory https://www.afrl.af.mil/

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute

https://afrri.usuhs.edu/home

Combat Casualty Care Research Program https://cccrp.health.mil/

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs https://cdmrp.health.mil/

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

https://www.darpa.mil/

Defense Health Agency
https://health.mil/About-
MHS/OASDHA/Defense-Health-Agency/

Defense Suicide Prevention Office https://www.dspo.mil/

Defense Technical Information Center https://www.dtic.mil/

Defense Threat Reduction Agency https://www.dtra.mil/

Military Health System Research Symposium https://mhsrs.health.mil/sitepages/home.aspx

Military Infectious Diseases Research Program https://midrp.health.mil/ Military Operational Medicine Research Program https://momrp.health.mil/

Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery https://www.med.navy.mil/

Naval Health Research Center https://www.med.navy.mil/Naval-Medical-Research-Command/R-D-Commands/Naval-Health-Research-Center/

Navy and Marine Corps Force Health Protection-Command https://www.med.navy.mil/Navy-and-Marine-Corps-Force-Health-Protection-Command/

Naval Medical Research Command https://www.med.navy.mil/Naval-Medical-Research-Command/

Office of Naval Research https://www.nre.navy.mil/

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics https://www.acq.osd.mil/

Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center https://www.tatrc.org/

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences https://www.usuhs.edu

U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory https://usaarl.health.mil/ U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command https://www.army.mil/devcom

U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research https://usaisr.health.mil/

U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity https://usammda.health.mil/

U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command https://mrdc.health.mil/

U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases https://usamriid.health.mil/

U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine https://usariem.health.mil/

U.S. Army Research Laboratory https://www.arl.army.mil/

U.S. Army Sharp, Ready and Resilient Directorate https://www.armyresilience.army.mil/sharp/i ndex.html

U.S. Department of Defense Blast Injury Research Program https://blastinjuryresearch.health.mil/

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Research and Development https://www.research.va.gov/

U.S. Naval Research Laboratory https://www.nrl.navy.mil/

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research https://wrair.health.mil/