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Overview of VA Research and Grant Opportunities VA Saint Louis Health Care System (VASTLHCS) Research and Development Service

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VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Advantages of VA Research

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Pay-line is as good or better than NIH



VA funds areas understudied (or not studied) by NIH or the medical / pharmaceutical industry

- Comparative Effectiveness Research
- PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury Research
- Prosthetics and Rehab Research
- Environmental Exposure and Population Health
- Precision Medicine long before the term has become widely used



VA Funding Mechanisms What Are You Applying For?

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VA Research is an intramural program

Types of awards

Merit

- Established investigators
- 5/8ths VA Paid Appointment minimum award
- 25 hours per week committed to VA of which part (3/8ths) is spent performing research, part (2/8ths) clinical duties

Career Development Award (CDA-2)

- Intended for early investigators
- Provides salary for PI through award mechanism for 3 to 5 years
- 6/8ths paid appointment minimum award
- 30 hours per week committed to VA of which part is spent performing research, part clinical duties

Research Career Scientist (RCS)

- Intended for PhD
- Provides up to 5 years of salary support through the VA
- Must be eligible for 5/8ths VA Paid Appointment, of which 25 hours per week committed to performing VA research activities

VA Funding Mechanisms What Are You Applying For?

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Merit Review Awards (equivalent to R01) BLR&D & CSR&D: \$165K/yr, yr1 -yr4 HSR&D: \$1.2M / maximum 4 yrs RR&D: \$1.2M / maximum 4 yrs Career Development Awards (equivalent to K08) BLR&D & CSR&D: PI salary support & \$105K/yr1 - \$75K/yr, yr2 - yr5. HSR&D: PI salary support & \$40K/yr, yr1 – yr3 RR&D PI salary support & \$75K/yr, yr1 - yr5 Pilot proposals, new proof of concept clinical trial RFA Cooperative Studies Program (CSP) for clinical trials Specific RFAs around areas of interest to VA Research

VA Office of Research and Development (ORD) Who are you applying to?

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VA ORD is part of the VA Central Office (VACO) and operates 4 Service Lines:

Biomedical Laboratory Research & Development (<u>BLR&D</u>)
Clinical Science Research & Development (<u>CSR&D</u>)
Health Services Research & Development (<u>HSR&D</u>)
Rehabilitation Research & Development (<u>RR&D</u>)

Research at the VA St. Louis Health Care System (VASTLHCS)

Over 75 active principal investigators

Over 150 active research studies: Basic research, translational research, rehabilitation, clinical epidemiology, and clinical trials

Thematic areas: cancer, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, metabolic diseases, dementia, Alzheimer's Disease, spinal cord injury, blood pressure, chronic pain, Traumatic Brain Injuries, Gulf War Exposures, male reproductive health, mental Illness, substance abuse, aging and more

Veterans Research and Education Foundation of Saint Louis @VREFSTL

46 Principal Investigators
27 Active Clinical Trials 5 Education Projects or Grants
6 Education projects or grants
3 Prime Award from DOD
8 Subawards
17 VREF Employees
Active in the Saint Louis area and the region
Outreach activities and fundraising – Social Media, events including Research
Week, Annual Gala, Trivia Night, 5K runs, etc.

https://www.vrefstl.org







