

**VA RR&D Center for Neurorestoration and Neurotechnology (CfNN)
Providence VA Medical Center
Request for Proposals – Fall 2020
CfNN Seed Project Funding**

The VA RR&D Center for Neurorestoration and Neurotechnology (CfNN) is inviting submissions for seed funding. The purpose of this request for proposals is to encourage the development of VA-based projects that will lead to a VA Merit Review Award, SPIRE, or Career Development Award (CDA) and foster collaboration with early-stage investigators.

Applicants may request up to \$40,000 - all funds must be utilized within 12 months of award approval. All supplies or equipment funds must be spent at the VA. Personnel may be included, but non-VA personnel must be eligible for and will require an IPA.

We encourage applications, together with VA PIs, from faculty and post docs at hospital and academic affiliates including Brown, URI, Lifespan, Care New England and MGH whose research resonates with the CfNN mission to develop, test and implement new therapies and technologies that restore function for Veterans with disorders affecting the nervous system. The submitting PI must have a VA appointment at the time of application, but may include minimal effort to supervise / mentor a junior investigator / post-doc in completing the proposed work. Inclusion of junior investigators (post-doc, Investigator, Assistant Professor) from an academic or hospital affiliate is highly encouraged.

Letter of Intent (LOI): A letter of intent is no longer required for this application.

A CfNN Focus Area lead must approve development and submission of the seed project application.

CfNN Focus Area Leads:

Focus Area 1 (FA1): Restoring Communication and Mobility - [John Simeral, PhD](#)

Focus Area 2 (FA2): Restoring Affective & Cognitive Health - [Noah Philip, MD](#)

Focus Area 3 (FA3): Restoring Limb Function - [Linda Resnik, PT, PhD](#)

Application drafts are due to the Focus Area Director on or before Monday October 26, 2020. The Focus Area Lead may request changes to the application.

Full applications signed by the FA Lead must be received by Kate Barnabe by 3pm on Monday, November 9, 2020.

Application Process

All requests must:

- Align with at least one of the C7NN Focus Areas.
- Demonstrate that the work is relevant to Veterans health and will be performed at least in part at Providence VAMC facilities.
- Applications should specify what will be done within the financial and time scope of the actual proposal and budget.
- Include a PI with VA Appointment (MD or PhD)

Review criteria will include:

- Benefit of the research to Veterans with neurologic/psychiatric disease or injury.
- Likelihood to lead to VA Merit Review, SPIRE or Career Development Awards.
- Preference given to applications including junior investigators without current VA funding and with an indicated pathway to VA research funding.

Please contact Kate Barnabe (kate.barnabe@va.gov or 401-273-7100 x6272 to review your proposed budget.

Applicants should email a current CV, Signed Coversheet and Research Proposal (4 pages including tables and figures, using Arial 11, 1 inch margins) to kate.barnabe@va.gov by 3:00pm on 11/9/2020.

Awards will be announced by November 30th and project start dates may begin when all applicable committee approvals are received. All C7NN funded projects must be reviewed/routed through Core C. It is advised to start the committee applications early. No funds may be spent until the full VA R&D approval is in place.

