

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Expanding Global Access to Bioimaging RFA

We have created this document to answer frequently asked questions about this request for applications (RFA). Many items are addressed in the [RFA packet](#) and we encourage you to read those materials carefully. Please contact sciencegrants@chanzuckerberg.com with additional questions.

COORDINATING PI AND CO-PIs

Can any of the applicants (PIs or Co-PIs) be from countries outside eligible regions?

No. Applicant organizations (both for Coordinating and Co-PIs) may only be based in the countries listed in the RFA announcement

Will it be favourable to have cross-regional collaboration (e.g. Coordinating PI in Africa and Co-PIs in Latin America)?

Cross-regional cooperation is welcome and eligible. The proposal will be evaluated based on the same set of criteria.

Can commercial organizations (e.g. microscope vendor companies) be listed as Co-PIs?

Commercial organizations cannot be listed as a Coordinating or a Co-PI. If a collaboration with a commercial organization is needed towards the goals of this RFA, applicants can use subcontracting.

Are current CZI grantees eligible to apply?

Yes, as long as they meet all other eligibility criteria.

IMAGING CORES

Does a core providing access to single particle cryo EM qualify?

Yes, if it serves biomedical researchers.

Can bioimage analysis cores apply?

Yes.

Does a clinical MRI facility (in hospitals) qualify as an imaging core in the context of this RFA?

Only if the facility provides access to biomedical researchers or performs imaging for them (at least 20% of usage).

Would projects focused on improving clinical utilization of imaging techniques be in scope?

No.

Our core facility was shut down during 2020. Can we use usage statistics from 2019?

Yes, in the Imaging Core Details form on the Application Portal we have provided fields for the usage data from 2019 and 2020.

NETWORK ORGANIZATIONS

Do network organizations have to be (or planning to be) registered as nonprofit organizations, or can they remain associated with an institution such as a university for the duration of the award?

Applications may be submitted by nonprofit organizations; public and private institutions, such as colleges, universities, hospitals, laboratories; units of state and local government; and eligible agencies of the federal government on behalf of imaging cores and network organizations. Network organizations may also directly submit applications

Do project coordinators for a network organization need to be based in eligible countries to qualify for salary support?

Project coordinator must be affiliated with an institution based in an eligible country.

Can the proposed partnership of bio-imaging networks include partner universities in the UK or USA?

No, applicant organizations (both for Coordinating and Co-PIs) may only be based in the countries listed in the RFA

Will you consider network organizations serving imaging scientists of a single country? Does it need to be regional?

We will consider applications from network organizations representing both regions and single countries.

Can the category 'building capacity' and 'community development' be anchored around a (research) question of national priority?

Building capacity can be anchored around particular research (e.g. workshops on imaging in tropical diseases), however Community Development must have a broader scope and aimed at imaging scientists.

FELLOWSHIPS

Can students or postdoctoral fellows apply?

No, but imaging cores can apply for a fellowship for students or postdoctoral fellows supporting or working at an imaging core.

Can fellowships be used for travel outside eligible countries?

Both graduate and postdoctoral fellowships can be used for travel to countries outside of eligible regions (with the exception of the United States).

VISITING SCHOLARSHIPS

Can the visiting scholarship funds be used to fly in international experts to provide training?

Yes, as long as there are no experts in this field in the host country. Please note, you cannot use the funds for any activity in, or travel into and from the United States.

TRAININGS

Can consumables or samples needed for a hands on course be included in the budget to be funded?

Yes. Items that can be used in microscopy trainings (e.g. immersion oil, calibration slides, sample slides) are eligible expenses.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Can the funds be used to cover programmers and associated costs to develop and make publicly available software tools?

Yes, as long as these are online tools aimed at increasing the efficiency of the existing infrastructure usage (e.g. regional imaging resources map, systems availability tool, etc.)

Are the categories under Community Development exclusive for network organizations?

The only category that is exclusive to network organizations is salary support for project coordinators. Imaging cores can apply for all other categories.

Can the travel awards be used for trips outside eligible regions?

Travel awards mentioned in the Community Development category can only be used by biomedical researchers for trips within eligible regions.

Can the funds be used for purchasing software licences to expand workshop capabilities?

Funds can be used to upgrade software licenses to add more users for workshops.

OTHER EXPENSES ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

Can the funds be used to cover facility usage fees?

No, usage fees are not in supported categories. However, network organizations can apply for travel funds and facilitate regional usage of facilities. For example, a network organization in Latin America can apply for travel awards and cover transportation of biomedical researchers from Uruguay to Brazil to use an imaging technology not available in Uruguay.

Can the funds be used to purchase equipment, microscope parts, consumables, or cover maintenance costs (e.g. service contracts)?

No, with the exception of consumables for workshops.

Can the funds be used to pay for shipping of equipment which may have been donated?

No.