CAIRIBU

Advancement of Interdisciplinary Research In Benign Urology

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CAIRIBU O'Brien Center Opportunity Pool Program

The CAIRIBU Interactions Core here requests applications on behalf of the CAIRIBU Urology O'Brien Centers Opportunity Pool Program. This program seeks to encourage interactions between the Urology O'Brien Centers and the larger research community. Goals of the program include supporting the generation of preliminary data that may be used for future grant applications, such as investigator-initiated R01s, and testing of high risk/high reward concepts. **Currently, the Stanford O'Brien Center is accepting applications.** Funds to support Opportunity Pool awards will come from the Stanford O'Brien Center (PI, James Brooks, MD) and the CAIRIBU Interactions Core (PI, Kristina Penniston, PhD).

Opportunity pool projects should be aligned with the overall research goals of the Stanford O'Brien Center, specifically the study of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH). While partnerships with the Center are not required, applicants are encouraged to propose projects that could lead to future collaborations with the Stanford O'Brien Center or other CAIRIBU investigators.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applicants are limited to **early stage investigators** (see NIH definition at https://grants.nih.gov/policy-and-compliance/policy-topics/early-stage-investigators), **new investigators** (also per NIH definition), **current K Scholars**, or **established investigators not previously involved in non-malignant genitourinary research**.

Prospective applicants may wish to contact Stanford O'Brien Center leadership to discuss their proposed research project before applying (PI, James Brooks, MD, jbrooks1@stanford.edu)

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Organized using standard NIH application forms (or similar) with the following required sections and page limits:

1. Face Page (standard PHS 398 or similar; 1 page)
2. Specific Aims (1 page)
3. Research Strategy (includes the following sections: Background/Significance, Innovation, Approach, and Preliminary data (if applicable); 6 pages total)
4. Detailed Budget Page (1 page)
5. Budget Justification (personnel and other, as needed; unlimited pages)
6. NIH formatted Biographical Sketches for collaborator(s) and applicant (must be prepared using SciENcv)

If proposing human subjects research, you must complete a PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form. Failure to complete may results in delays or rejection of funding. More information on documents needed for human subject research can be found here: https://grants.nih.gov/policy-and-compliance/policy-topics/human-subjects/pre-and-post-award-processes/considerations

CAIRIBU O'Brien Center Opportunity Pool Program *(instructions, continued)*

AWARD BUDGET

Opportunity Pool projects may request up to $100,000 Direct Costs for a maximum Project Period of one year. Appropriate Indirect Costs up to 55% may be included to yield a final Total Costs request. The applicant does not need Institutional Business Office countersigning prior to submission to the CAIRIBU log-in portal. However, as some institutions require countersigning before any grant applications are submitted, **applicants are responsible for adhering to their own institutional polices regarding this practice**.

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS

Opportunity Pool applications are submitted electronically through the CAIRIBU login portal. Contact CAIRIBU Interactions Core staff **(CAIRIBU@urology.wisc.edu)** to request access.

Applications will be forwarded to multiple individuals with appropriate expertise for an external assessment. The NIDDK will make final decisions on funding using these external assessments and based on scientific merit, availability of funds, and overall potential to advance the goals of the Urology O'Brien Centers Program. Center PIs will then be notified as to whether funds at the sites set aside for the Opportunity Pool Program may be released to support the project.

For any Opportunity Pool application not selected for funding, the NIDDK may provide permissions to submit a revised version; if permission is given, a one page "response to the previous critique" may be included in the revised application

KEY DATES

Application Receipt Dates: Applications must be submitted before October 1, 2026, at 11:59 PM Central Time. Applications received by the deadline will be sent for review shortly after that date. Expect a total time of 6-8 weeks from submission date to decision. Project dates are 1/01/2027-12/31/2027. Award is contingent on continued funding of the parent Center and/or CAIRIBU Interactions Core.

BRIEF REVIEW OF STEPS IN APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT, SUBMISSION, AND REVIEW

Step 1 **Interested applicant contacts the PI of a specific O'Brien Urology Center** to inquire about project alignment with Center goals (optional).

Step 2 Applicant uses application guidelines to prepare the application package.

Step 3 Applicant requests access to the CAIRIBU log-in portal (email **CAIRIBU@urology.wisc.edu**)

Step 4 Applicant uploads the final application to the CAIRIBU log-in portal on or before the deadline. Note that if your institution requires it, you should have your Business Office countersign your application by the time of submission.

Step 5 Applications are sent to multiple content experts for external assessment

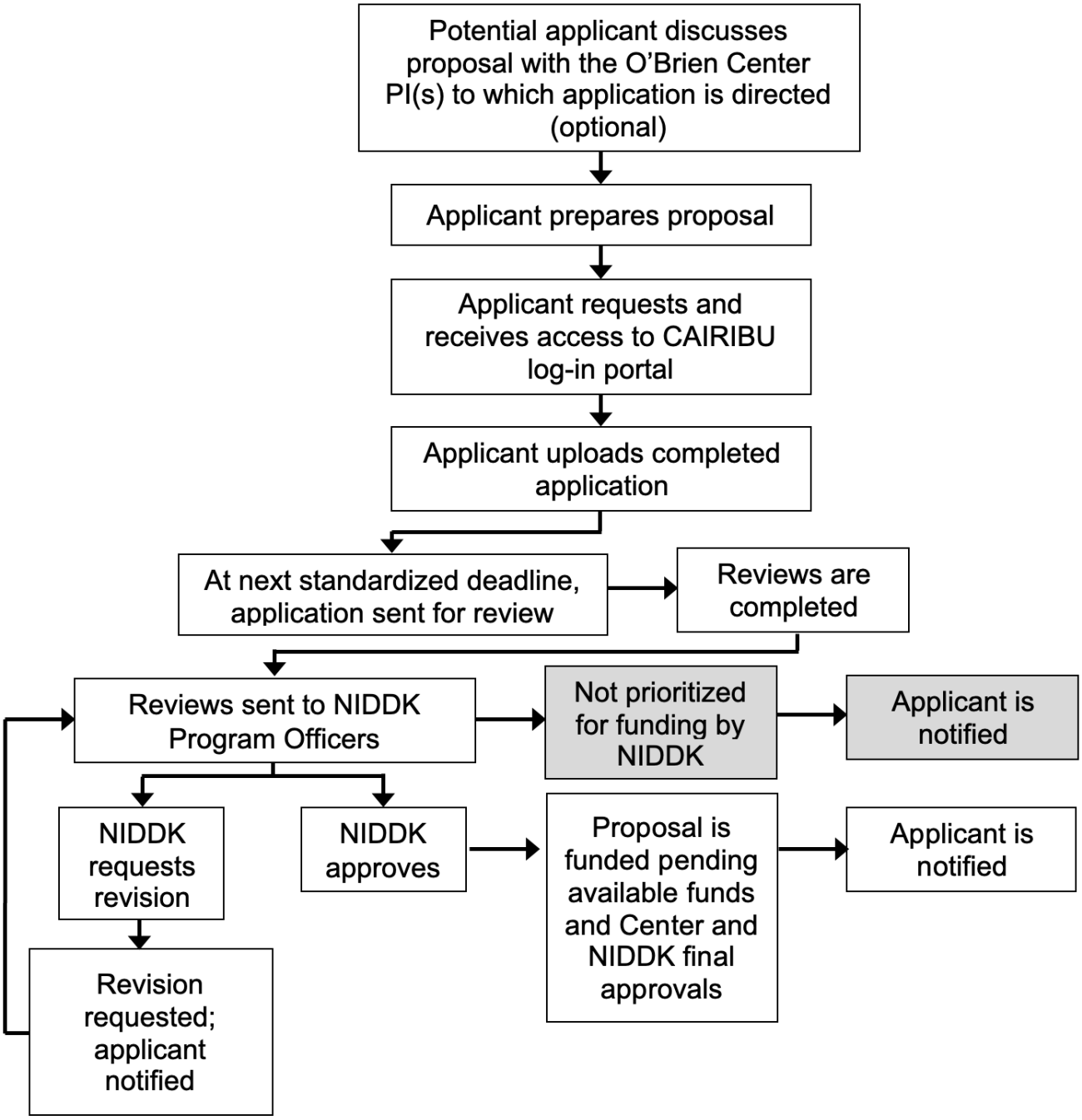
Step 6 Using external assessments, NIDDK program staff make final funding decision based on scientific merit, availability of funds, and likelihood for study to advance the goals of the Program

Step 7 Center is notified of final application status. If the application is selected for support, NIDDK provides permissions to the Center to use funds to support Opportunity Pool project.

Step 8 CAIRIBU Interactions Core notifies applicant about application status.

CAIRIBU O'Brien Center Opportunity Pool Program

Below is the process for submitting and considering CAIRIBU O'Brien Center Opportunity Pool applications.



Post Award Requirements *(Applicants selected for funding must agree to the commitments below to receive funds)*

- ☐ After your Notice of Award, work as soon as possible with your institution's financial office to get your award set up and executed; coordinate and collaborate with the CAIRIBU Interactions Core's Grants Administration team as requested
- ☐ Participate in team science and collaboration training provided by the CAIRIBU Interactions Core (*this will be discussed with you and arranged after you receive your Notice of Award)*
- ☐ Cite the CAIRIBU Interactions Core (U24-DK-127726) and the parent O'Brien Center in all publications and presentations from your work
- ☐ Participate, as your schedule allows, in CAIRIBU Community virtual meetings, seminars, forums, and other events
- ☐ Sign up to deliver a presentation in a virtual CAIRIBU event during 2027 and/or 2028; these may include CAIRIBU ARCTICS Community Forums, CAIRIBU Postdoc Seminars, CAIRIBU K12 Scholar Seminars, CAIRIBU Uro-Lit Live discussions, a CAIRIBU Research Interest Group activity, or some other event
- ☐ Participate in the 2027 and 2028 CAIRIBU Annual Meetings by submitting an abstract or participating in some other way
- ☐ Keep CAIRIBU Interactions Core staff apprised of abstracts you submit and get accepted, and provide details as requested for CAIRIBU Community outreach and announcements
- ☐ Complete a report of your progress by November 15, 2027, and submit per CAIRIBU Interactions Core instructions
- ☐ Submit all invoices related to your award expenditures via the appropriate institutional financial channels within 60 days of the award cycle end date