

Questions & Answers for RFA No. 0708160112
CART (Collaborations to Accelerate Research Translation) Awards
IDEA (Innovative, Developmental or Exploratory Activities) Awards
Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards
Mentored Research Scientist Development Awards
Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Awards

GENERAL

1. The time between issuance of the RFA and the application due date is very short. Can it be extended?

The January 2, 2008 deadline cannot be extended. If a strong proposal cannot be written by January 2, 2008, it should be noted that the SCIRB plans is to issue the RFA again in Spring 2008. The Spring 2008 RFA will be annualized so that a stable issue date, due date and contract start date can be anticipated each year. The long-term goal is to offer this RFA semi-annually.

2. How many awards will be made of each type?

The number of RFA to be issued has not been predetermined. Based on previous award cycles, sufficient funding is anticipated to be available to support the scientifically meritorious proposals that are recommended for funding by the NYS Spinal Cord Injury Research Board.

3. What should be included in a letter of intent and to whom should it be addressed?

Please use the sample format provided in Attachment 2 of the RFA and add text stating:

- **the intent to submit for a particular mechanism (i.e., CART, IDEA, Postdoctoral Fellowship, Mentored Scientist, Mentored Clinician);**
- **organizational affiliation;**
- **contact information;**
- **a draft title and a summary paragraph of the proposed research.**

It would be helpful to list the names and institutional affiliations of the mentor and any potential collaborators or contributors. This information will assist in the assembly of the peer review panel for proposals. A letter of intent can be Emailed to scirb@wadsworth.org or mailed in hard copy to the same address where the application is to be submitted.

4. Is it necessary to submit a signed Face Page with the letter of intent?

No. The signed face page(s) should only be submitted with the application.

CART specific

1. What is the preferred number of collaborators – is two groups sufficient?

The number of collaborators should be driven by the scientific need to accomplish the goals of a translational research project.

IDEA specific

1. Does it help to have a collaborator?

The main focus of the IDEA award is the innovative, developmental or exploratory nature of the research project. Although collaborations are not required, they are strongly encouraged. Collaborations may be taken into account when the proposal is scored on feasibility as noted on page 26 of the RFA.