I. OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Program Announcement for the Department of Defense

Defense Health Program

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Research Program

Translational Research Award

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-22-DMDRP-TRA

Assistance Listing Number: 12.420 Military Medical Research and Development

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW DATES AND TIMES

Pre-Application Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), August 3, 2022

• Invitation to Submit an Application: September, 2022

• Application Submission Deadline: 11:59 p.m. ET, November 15, 2022

• End of Application Verification Period: 5:00 p.m. ET, November 18, 2022

• Peer Review: January 2023

• **Programmatic Review:** March 2023

This program announcement must be read in conjunction with the General Application Instructions, version 702. The General Application Instructions document is available for downloading from the Grants.gov funding opportunity announcement by selecting the "Package" tab, clicking "Preview," and then selecting "Download Instructions."

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II. DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

II.A. Program Description

Applications to the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Research Program (DMDRP) are being solicited by the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) using delegated authority provided by United States Code, Title 10, Section 4001 (10 USC 4001). The execution management agent for this program announcement is the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC). The DMDRP was initiated in 2011 to provide support for research of exceptional scientific merit and to promote the understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD). Appropriations for the DMDRP from FY11 through FY21 totaled \$49.6 million (M). The FY22 appropriation is \$10.0M.

The vision of the FY22 DMDRP is to preserve and improve the function and quality of life and to extend the lifespan of all individuals with Duchenne. As such, the DMDRP seeks to support the discovery and development of therapeutics for Duchenne for the benefit of military beneficiaries and the general public, from the characterization of pathophysiology through rigorous preclinical and clinical studies. Additionally, the DMDRP supports the efforts of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Muscular Dystrophy Coordinating Committee (MDCC) and the 2015 MDCC Action Plan for the Muscular Dystrophies, which prioritizes the needs to improve treatments and reduce the disease burden for muscular dystrophy, including DMD.

II.A.1. FY22 DMDRP Translational Research Award Focus Areas

All applications for the FY22 DMDRP Translational Research Award (TRA) must address at least one of the following Focus Areas:

- Translational and clinical studies, novel interventions, and drug and biologic delivery technologies designed to improve care and quality of life in areas such as:
 - Cognitive function
 - Cardiac
 - o Endocrinology (including bone health and growth)
 - Skeletal muscle
- Assessment of clinical trial tools and outcome measures such as:
 - Discovery and qualification of pharmacodynamic, prognostic, and predictive biomarkers, including potential surrogate markers
 - Novel clinical outcome assessment

- o Patient-centered outcomes (e.g., quality of life, activities of daily living)
- Secondary data analysis that helps to address clinical research tool validation and/or to understand natural history
- Extension or expansion of existing preclinical translational data in support of a specific therapeutic development path (such as optimizing delivery to target tissues, including drug exposure, independent replication, and comparative studies)

II.A.2. Award History

The DMDRP TRA mechanism was first offered in FY21. Since then, 21 TRA applications have been received, and 2 have been recommended for funding.

II.B. Award Information

The FY22 DMDRP TRA mechanism supports translational research that will accelerate the movement of promising ideas in DMD research into clinical applications. Translational research may be defined as an integration of basic science and clinical observations. Observations that drive a research idea may originate from a laboratory discovery, population-based studies, or a clinician's firsthand knowledge of patient care. The ultimate goal of translational research is to move a concept or observation forward into clinical application. However, Principal Investigators (PIs) should not view translational research as a one-way continuum from bench to bedside. The research plan must involve a reciprocal flow of ideas and information between basic and clinical science.

This mechanism is intended to support established projects that have moved beyond the realm of basic research and have the potential to result in a near-term impact in clinical research or the clinic. Research projects investigating therapies that will be efficacious across the lifespan, particularly in adolescents and adults, are strongly encouraged. Pilot, proof-of-principle clinical trials and correlative studies to better inform development of drugs, devices, and other interventions are allowed.

All applications must include preliminary data relevant to DMD and the proposed project.

The proposed research must be relevant to active-duty Service Members, Veterans, military beneficiaries, and/or the American public.

Early-Career Partnering PI Option: The FY22 DMDRP encourages applications that include meaningful and productive collaborations between investigators. In an effort to promote enhanced research capacity within the DMD field, the FY22 TRA includes an option for an Early-Career Partnering PI. The Partnering PI Option is structured to accommodate two PIs. One PI will be identified as the Initiating PI and will be responsible for the majority of the administrative tasks associated with application submission. The Early-Career PI will be identified as the Partnering PI. Both PIs should contribute significantly to the development of the proposed research project, including the Project Narrative, Statement of Work (SOW), and other required components. If recommended for funding, each PI will be named to an individual

award within the recipient organization. For individual submission requirements for the Initiating and Partnering PI, refer to Section II.D.2, Content and Form of the Application Submission.

The types of awards made under the program announcement will be assistance agreements. An assistance agreement is appropriate when the federal government transfers a "thing of value" to a "state, local government," or "other recipient" to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States instead of acquiring property or service for the direct benefit and use of the U.S. government. An assistance agreement can take the form of a grant or cooperative agreement. The level of involvement on the part of the Department of Defense (DOD) during project performance is the key factor in determining whether to award a grant or cooperative agreement. If "no substantial involvement" on the part of the funding agency is anticipated, a grant award will be made (31 USC 6304). Conversely, if substantial involvement on the part of the funding agency is anticipated, a cooperative agreement will be made (31 USC 6305), and the award will identify the specific substantial involvement. Substantial involvement may include, but is not limited to, collaboration, participation, or intervention in the research to be performed under the award. The award type, along with the start date, will be determined during the negotiation process.

The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY22 DMDRP Translational Research Award will not exceed \$1.25M or \$1.35M for the Early-Career Partnering PI Option. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2023. For additional information refer to Section II.F.1, Federal Award Notices.

The CDMRP expects to allot approximately \$4.16M to fund approximately two Translational Research Award applications. Funding of applications received is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for this program as well as the number of applications received, the quality and merit of the applications as evaluated by scientific and programmatic review, and the requirements of the government. Funds to be obligated on any award resulting from this funding opportunity will be available for use for a limited time period based on the fiscal year of the funds. It is anticipated that awards made from this FY22 funding opportunity will be funded with FY22 funds, which will expire for use on September 30, 2028.

Research Involving Human Anatomical Substances, Human Subjects, or Human Cadavers: All DOD-funded research involving new and ongoing research with human anatomical substances, human subjects, or human cadavers must be reviewed and approved by the USAMRDC Office of Research Protections (ORP), Human Research Protection Office (HRPO), prior to research implementation. This administrative review requirement is in addition to the local Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Ethics Committee (EC) review. Local IRB/EC approval at the time of submission is *not* required. Allow up to 3 months to complete the HRPO regulatory review and approval process following submission of *all required and complete* documents to the HRPO. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, and the Human Research Protections Office Resources and Overview document available on the

electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) for additional information.

If the proposed research involves more than one institution, a written plan for single IRB review arrangements must be provided at the time of application submission or award negotiation. The lead institution responsible for developing the master protocol and master consent form should be identified and should be the single point of contact for regulatory submissions and requirements.

Clinical trials are allowed. A clinical trial is defined as a research study in which one or more human subjects are prospectively assigned to one or more interventions (which may include placebo or other control) to evaluate the effects of the interventions on biomedical or behavioral health-related outcomes. Funded trials are required to post a copy of the IRB-approved informed consent form used to enroll subjects on a publicly available federal website in accordance with federal requirements described in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 32, Part 219 (32 CFR 219).

Clinical research is defined as: (1) Patient-oriented research. Research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens, and cognitive phenomena) for which an investigator (or colleague) directly interacts with human subjects. Excluded from this definition are in vitro studies that utilize human tissues that cannot be linked to a living individual. Patient-oriented research includes: (a) mechanisms of human disease, (b) therapeutic interventions, (c) clinical trials, and (d) development of new technologies. (2) Epidemiologic and behavioral studies. (3) Outcomes research and health services research. Note: Studies that meet the requirements for IRB Exemption 4 are not considered CDMRP-defined clinical research. IRB Exemption 4 refers to research involving the collection or study of existing deidentified specimens or data, if these sources are publicly available.

All investigators applying to FY22 DMDRP funding opportunities and conducting clinical research are encouraged to consult the <u>Strategies to Promote Diversity in Muscular Dystrophy Research Participation</u> developed by the MDCC.

Guidelines for Animal Research: All projects should adhere to a core set of standards for rigorous study design and reporting to maximize the reproducibility and translational potential of preclinical research. The standards are described in Landis SC, et al., 2012, A call for transparent reporting to optimize the predictive value of preclinical research, *Nature*, 490:187-191 (www.nature.com/nature/journal/v490/n7419/full/nature11556.html). While these standards are written for preclinical studies, the basic principles of randomization, blinding, sample-size estimation, and data handling derive from well-established best practices in clinical studies. Applicants should consult the Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) guidelines 2.0 to ensure relevant aspects of rigorous animal research are adequately planned for and, ultimately, reported. The ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 can be found at https://arriveguidelines.org/arrive-guidelines.

Research Involving Animals: All research funded by the FY22 DMDRP Translational Research Award involving new and ongoing research with animals must be reviewed and approved by the USAMRDC ORP Animal Care and Use Review Office (ACURO), in addition

to the local Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) of record. IACUC approval at the time of submission is *not* required. *Allow at least 3 to 4 months for ACURO regulatory review and approval processes for animal studies.* Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for additional information.

II.C. Eligibility Information

II.C.1. Eligible Applicants

II.C.1.a. Organization: All organizations, including foreign organizations, foreign public entities, and international organizations, are eligible to apply.

Government Agencies Within the United States: Local, state, and federal government agencies are eligible to the extent that applications do not overlap with their fully funded internal programs. Such agencies are required to explain how their applications do not overlap with their internal programs.

As applications for this program announcement may be submitted by extramural and intramural organizations, these terms are defined below.

Extramural Organization: An eligible non-DOD organization. Examples of extramural organizations include academic institutions, biotechnology companies, foundations, federal government organizations other than the DOD, and research institutes.

Intramural DOD Organization: A DOD laboratory, DOD military treatment facility, and/or DOD activity embedded within a civilian medical center. Intramural Submission: An application submitted by a DOD organization for an intramural investigator working within a DOD laboratory or military treatment facility or in a DOD activity embedded within a civilian medical center.

The USAMRAA makes awards to eligible organizations, not to individuals.

II.C.1.b. Principal Investigator

Independent investigators at all academic levels may be named as PI or Initiating PI on the application.

An eligible PI, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, or citizenship status, must be employed by, or affiliated with, an eligible organization.

The CDMRP encourages all PIs to participate in a digital identifier initiative through Open Researcher and Contributor ID, Inc. (ORCID). Registration for a unique ORCID identifier can be done online at https://orcid.org/.

II.C.I.c. Early-Career Partnering PI Option:

• The Partnering PI must be an independent, early-career investigator within 10 years of their first faculty appointment (or equivalent) by the time of application submission. Lapses in

research time or appointments as denoted in the biographical sketch should be explained in the application.

• It is encouraged, but not required, that the partnering PI is an M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. to increase collaboration between clinical and non-clinical aspects of DMD research.

An eligible PI, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, or citizenship status, must be employed by, or affiliated with, an eligible organization.

The CDMRP strongly encourages all PIs to participate in a digital identifier initiative through Open Researcher and Contributor ID, Inc. (ORCID). Registration for a unique ORCID identifier can be done online at https://orcid.org/.

II.C.2. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing/matching is not an eligibility requirement.

II.C.3. Other

Organizations must be able to access **.gov** and **.mil** websites in order to fulfill the financial and technical deliverable requirements of the award and submit invoices for payment.

For general information on required qualifications for award recipients, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3.

Refer to <u>Section II.H.2</u>, <u>Administrative Actions</u>, for a list of administrative actions that may be taken if a pre-application or application does not meet the administrative, eligibility, or ethical requirements defined in this program announcement.

II.D. Application and Submission Information

Submission of applications that are essentially identical or propose essentially the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year is prohibited and will result in administrative withdrawal of the duplicative application(s).

II.D.1. eBRAP and Grants.gov

eBRAP (https://ebrap.org) is a secure web-based system that allows PIs to submit their preapplications, view and verify extramural full applications submitted to Grants.gov (https://grants.gov), receive communications from the CDMRP, and submit documentation during award negotiations and throughout the period of performance. eBRAP also allows intramural organizations to submit full applications following pre-application submission.

Grants.gov is a federal system required to be utilized by agencies to receive and process extramural grant applications. Full applications may only be submitted to Grants.gov after submission of a pre-application through eBRAP.

Contact information for the eBRAP Help Desk and the Grants.gov Contact Center can be found in <u>Section II.G</u>, <u>Federal Awarding Agency Contacts</u>.

Extramural Submission:

- Pre-application content and forms must be accessed and submitted at eBRAP.org.
- Full application packages must be accessed and submitted at Grants.gov.

Intramural DOD Submission:

- Pre-application content and forms must be accessed and submitted at eBRAP.org.
- Full application packages must be accessed and submitted at eBRAP.org.

Note: Applications from an intramural DOD organization or from an extramural federal government organization may be submitted to Grants.gov through a research foundation.

II.D.2. Content and Form of the Application Submission

Submission is a two-step process requiring both *pre-application* (eBRAP.org) and *full application* (eBRAP.org or Grants.gov) as indicated below. The submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. There are no grace periods. Full application submission guidelines differ for extramural (Grants.gov) and intramural (eBRAP.org) organizations (refer to Table 1, Full Application Guidelines).

The application title, eBRAP log number, and all information for the PI, Business Official(s), performing organization, and contracting organization must be consistent throughout the entire pre-application and full application submission process. Inconsistencies may delay application processing and limit or negate the ability to view, modify, and verify the application in eBRAP. If any changes need to be made, the applicant should contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507 prior to the application submission deadline.

Early-Career Partnering PI Option: The Initiating PI must complete the pre-application submission process and submit the contact information for the Partnering PI. The Partnering PI will then be notified of the pre-application submission separately by email. The Partnering PI must follow the link in the notification email in order to associate their full application package with that of the Initiating PI. After following the link, the Partnering PI must verify their contact information, organization, and designation as an extramural or intramural submission within eBRAP. If not previously registered, the Partnering PI must register in eBRAP. A new pre-application based on this research project should not be initiated by the Partnering PI. Applicants are urged to complete these steps as soon as possible. If they are not completed, the Partnering PI will not be able to view and modify their application during the verification period in eBRAP, nor will an intramural partner be able to submit the Partnering PI's required full application package components to eBRAP.

II.D.2.a. Step 1: Pre-Application Submission Content

During the pre-application process, eBRAP assigns each submission a unique log number. This unique eBRAP log number is required during the full application submission process.

To begin the pre-application process, first select whether the submitting organization is extramural or intramural, then confirm your selection or cancel. **Incorrect selection of extramural or intramural submission type will delay processing.**

If an error has been made in the selection of extramural versus intramural and the pre-application submission deadline has passed, the PI or Business Official must contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507 to request a change in designation.

All pre-application components must be submitted by the PI or Initiating PI through eBRAP (https://eBRAP.org/). Because the invitation to submit an application is based on the contents of the pre-application, investigators should not change the title or research objectives after the pre-application is submitted.

The applicant organization and associated PI(s) identified in the pre-application should be the same as those intended for the subsequent application submission. If any changes are necessary after submission of the pre-application, the applicant must contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507.

No change in PI will be allowed after the pre-application deadline. If any other changes are necessary after submission of the pre-application, the PI must contact the eBRAP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507.

PIs with an ORCID identifier should enter that information in the appropriate field in the "My Profile" tab in the "Account Information" section of eBRAP.

The pre-application consists of the following components, which are organized in eBRAP by separate tabs (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.B, for additional information on pre-application submission):

• Tab 1 – Application Information

Submission of application information includes assignment of primary and secondary research classification codes, which may be found at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/
Program.htm. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review and confirm the codes prior to making their selection.

When starting the pre-application, applicants will be asked to select a "Mechanism Option." Please be sure to select the correct option appropriate to your pre-application:

Proposal Includes	Select Option	
Single PI and NO Clinical Trial	TRA (No Option)	
Single PI and Clinical Trial	TRA – Clinical Trial (TRA-CT)	
Initiating PI and Early-Career Partnering PI but NO Clinical Trial	TRA with Early-Career Partnering PI Option (TRA-ECPPIO)	
Initiating PI and Early-Career Partnering PI AND Clinical Trial	TRA with Early-Career Partnering PI Option – Clinical Trial (TRA-ECPPIO-CT)	

• Tab 2 – Application Contacts

Enter contact information for the PI. Enter the organization's Business Official responsible for sponsored program administration (the "person to be contacted on matters involving this application" in Block 5 of the Grants.gov SF424 Research & Related Form). The Business Official must be either selected from the eBRAP list or invited in order for the preapplication to be submitted.

Select the performing organization (site at which the PI will perform the proposed work) and the contracting organization (organization submitting on behalf of the PI, which corresponds to Block 5 on the Grants.gov SF424 Research & Related Form), and click on "Add Organizations to this Pre-application." The organization(s) must be either selected from the eBRAP drop-down list or invited in order for the pre-application to be submitted.

It is recommended that PIs identify an Alternate Submitter in the event that assistance with pre-application submission is needed.

Tab 3 – Collaborators and Key Personnel

Enter the name, organization, and role of all collaborators and key personnel associated with the application.

<u>FY22 DMDRP Programmatic Panel members</u> should not be involved in any pre-application or application. For questions related to panel members and pre-applications or applications, refer to <u>Section II.H.2.c</u>, <u>Withdrawal</u>, or contact the eBRAP Help Desk at <u>help@eBRAP.org</u> or 301-682-5507.

If applicable, the Initiating PI must enter the contact information for the Partnering PI in the Partnering PI section.

• Tab 4 – Conflicts of Interest

List all individuals other than collaborators and key personnel who may have a conflict of interest in the review of the application (including those with whom the PI has a personal or professional relationship).

• Tab 5 – Pre-Application Files

Note: Upload documents as individual PDF files unless otherwise noted. eBRAP will not allow a file to be uploaded if the number of pages exceeds the limit specified below.

• Preproposal Narrative (two-page limit): The Preproposal Narrative page limit applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Preproposal Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application.

The Preproposal Narrative should include the following:

- Research Strategy and Feasibility: State the project's hypothesis/objective, scientific rationale, specific aims, and study design.
 - If the proposed research includes a clinical trial, briefly state the clinical intervention, subject population(s), and phase of the clinical trial.
 - If a clinical trial is proposed, provide readiness and/or anticipated first patient in date and a brief timeline for accrual and endpoints readout.
- o **Impact:** State how the proposed work addresses at least one of the <u>FY22 Translational</u> <u>Research Award Focus Areas</u>. Describe how the proposed research will have an impact on preserving and improving the function and quality of life, and extending the lifespan of all individuals with Duchenne.
- Pre-Application Supporting Documentation: The items to be included as supporting documentation for the pre-application must be uploaded as individual files and are limited to the following:
 - **References Cited (one-page limit):** List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the Preproposal Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, reference title, and reference source, including volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
 - List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols: Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols used in the Preproposal Narrative.
 - Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (five-page limit per individual): *All biographical sketches should be uploaded as a single combined file.* Biographical sketches should be used to demonstrate background and expertise through education, positions, publications, and previous work accomplished.

• Tab 6 – Submit Pre-Application

This tab must be completed for the pre-application to be accepted and processed.

Pre-Application Screening

• Pre-Application Screening Criteria

To determine the technical merits of the pre-application and the relevance to the mission of the Defense Health Program (DHP) and the DMDRP, pre-applications will be screened based on the following criteria:

- Research Strategy and Feasibility: The degree to which the study design for accomplishing the specific aims is feasible, will accomplish the objectives, and is based on sound scientific rationale.
- o **Impact:** To what degree the proposed project addresses at least one of the <u>FY22</u> <u>Translational Research Award Focus Areas</u>. Whether the study will impact the function and quality of life, and extend the lifespan of all individuals with Duchenne.

• Notification of Pre-Application Screening Results

Following the pre-application screening, Initiating PIs will be notified as to whether or not they are invited to submit applications; however, they will not receive feedback (e.g., a critique of strengths and weaknesses) on their pre-application. The estimated timeframe for notification of invitation to submit an application is indicated in <u>Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity</u>. Invitations to submit a full application are based on the Pre-Application Screening Criteria listed above.

II.D.2.b. Step 2: Full Application Submission Content

Applications will not be accepted unless notification of invitation has been received by the PI or Initiating PI.

The CDMRP cannot make allowances/exceptions to its policies for submission problems encountered by the applicant organization using system-to-system interfaces with Grants.gov.

Each application submission must include the completed full application package for this program announcement. The full application package is submitted by the Authorized Organizational Representative through Grants.gov (https://grants.gov/) for extramural organizations or through eBRAP (https://ebrap.org/) for intramural organizations. See Table 1 below for more specific guidelines.

II.D.2.b.i. Full Application Guidelines

Extramural organizations must submit full applications through Grants.gov. Applicants must create a Grants.gov Workspace for submission, which allows the application components to be completed online and routed through the applicant organization for review prior to submission. Applicants may choose to download and save individual PDF forms rather than filling out webforms in Workspace. A compatible version of Adobe Reader **must** be used to view, complete, and submit an application package consisting of PDF forms. If more than one person is entering text into an application package, the **same version** of Adobe Reader software should

be used by each person. Check the version number of the Adobe software on each user's computer to make sure the versions match. Using different versions of Adobe Reader may cause submission and/or save errors – even if each version is individually compatible with Grants.gov. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, and the "Apply For Grants" page of Grants.gov (https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html) for further information about the Grants.gov Workspace submission process. Submissions of extramural applications through eBRAP may be withdrawn.

Do not password protect any files of the application package, including the Project Narrative.

Table 1. Full Application Submission Guidelines

Extramural Submissions	Intramural DOD Submissions				
Application Package Location					
Download application package components for W81XWH-22-DMDRP-TRA from Grants.gov (https://grants.gov) and create a Grants.gov Workspace. Workspace allows online completion of the application components and routing of the application package through the applicant organization for review prior to submission.	Download application package components for W81XWH-22-DMDRP-TRA from eBRAP (https://ebrap.org).				
Full Application Package Components					
SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form: Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.1, for detailed information.	Tab 1 – Summary: Provide a summary of the application information. Tab 2 – Application Contacts: This tab will be pre-populated by eBRAP; add Authorized Organizational Representative.				
Descriptions of each required file can be found under Full Application Submission Components: • Attachments • Research & Related Personal Data • Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) • Research & Related Budget • Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form • Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form	Tab 3 – Full Application Files: Upload files under each Application Component in eBRAP. Descriptions of each required file can be found under Full Application Submission Components: • Attachments • Key Personnel • Budget • Performance Sites Tab 4 – Application and Budget Data: Review and edit proposed project start date, proposed end date, and budget data prepopulated from the Budget Form.				

Extramural Submissions

Intramural DOD Submissions

Application Package Submission

Create a Grants.gov Workspace.

Add participants (investigators and Business Officials) to Workspace, complete all required forms, and check for errors before submission.

Submit a Grants.gov Workspace Package. An application may be submitted through Workspace by clicking the "Sign and Submit" button on the "Manage Workspace" page, under the "Forms" tab. Grants.gov recommends submission of the application package at least 24-48 hours prior to the close date to allow time to correct any potential technical issues that may disrupt the application submission.

Note: If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or needs to be modified, an updated Grants.gov application package must be submitted via Grants.gov as a "Changed/Corrected Application" with the previous Grants.gov Tracking ID prior to the application submission deadline. Do not password protect any files of the application package, including the Project Narrative.

Submit package components to eBRAP (https://ebrap.org).

Tab 5 – Submit/Request Approval Full Application: After all components are uploaded and prior to the full application submission deadline, enter your password in the space provided next to "Enter Your Password Here" and press the "Submit Full Application" button. eBRAP will notify your Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official by email. Do not password protect any files of the application package, including the Project Narrative.

Application Verification Period

The full application package submitted to Grants.gov may be viewed and modified in eBRAP until the end of the application verification period. During the application verification period, the full application package may be modified with the exception of the Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form.

After eBRAP has processed the full application, the organizational Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official and PI(s) will receive email notification of this status and will be able to view and modify application components in eBRAP. During the application verification period, the full application package may be modified with the exception of the Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form. Your Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official should log into eBRAP to review and to approve prior to the application verification deadline.

Extramural Submissions	Intramural DOD Submissions			
Further Information				
Tracking a Grants.gov Workspace Package. After successfully submitting a Workspace package, a Grants.gov Tracking Number is automatically assigned to the package. The number will be listed on the "Confirmation" page that is generated after submission.	Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV, for further information regarding eBRAP requirements.			
Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, for further information regarding Grants.gov requirements.				

Early-Career Partnering PI Option: The CDMRP requires separate full application package submissions for the Initiating PI and each Partnering PI, even if the PIs are located within the same organization. Initiating and Partnering PIs will each be assigned a unique eBRAP log number. Each full application package must be submitted using the unique eBRAP log number.

Note: All associated applications (Initiating PI's and the Partnering PI's) must be submitted by the full application submission deadline.

The full application package must be submitted using the unique eBRAP log number to avoid delays in application processing.

II.D.2.b.ii. Full Application Submission Components

Application Components for the PI or Initiating PI

• Extramural Applications Only

SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form: Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.1, for detailed information.

Extramural and Intramural Applications

Attachments:

Each attachment to the full application components must be uploaded as an individual file in the format specified and in accordance with the formatting guidelines listed in the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4.

For all attachments, ensure that the file names are consistent with the guidance. Attachments will be rejected if the file names are longer than 50 characters or have incorrect file names that contain characters other than the following: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore, hyphen, space, and period. In addition, there are file size limits that may apply in some circumstances. Individual attachments may not exceed 20 megabytes (MB), and the file size for the entire full application package may not exceed 200 MB.

Attachment 1: Project Narrative (15-page limit): Upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf". The page limit of the Project Narrative applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs (uniform resource locators) that provide additional information to expand the Project Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

Describe the proposed project in detail using <u>one</u> of the two outlines below, depending on whether or not a clinical trial is proposed. *Inclusion of preliminary data relevant to DMD and the proposed project is required.* All applications must address at least one of the FY22 DMDRP TRA Focus Areas.

Outline for projects without a clinical trial:

- Background: Present the scientific rationale behind the proposed research; include relevant literature citations, preliminary data, and/or preclinical data that led to the development of the proposed study. Any preliminary data provided should be from the laboratory of the PI or member(s) of the collaborating team.
- Hypotheses/Objectives: State the hypotheses/study questions and overall objective(s) to be reached.
- **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project's specific aims. If this application is part of a larger study, present only tasks that this award would fund.
- Research Strategy and Feasibility: Describe the experimental design, methods, and analyses, including appropriate controls, in sufficient detail for analysis. Clearly describe how data will be collected and analyzed in a manner that is consistent with the study objectives. Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches. If animal studies are proposed, describe how they will be conducted in accordance with the ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 (https://arriveguidelines.org/arrive-guidelines) to achieve reproducible and rigorous results, including the choice of model and the endpoint/outcomes to be measured. If human subjects or human biological samples will be used, include a detailed plan for the recruitment of subjects or the acquisition of samples. For clinical research, describe the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities in the clinical research appropriate to the objectives of the study, including a description of the composition of the proposed study population in terms of sex/gender, race, and/or ethnicity, and an accompanying rationale for the selection of subjects.
- Research Team: Describe how the combined backgrounds and DMD-related expertise of the research team will enable successful conduct of the project.
- Data Collection and Statistical Analysis Plan: Describe how data will be collected
 and analyzed in a manner that is consistent with the study objectives. Detail a
 statistical analysis plan for the resulting outcomes. If applicable, include a complete
 power analysis to demonstrate that the sample size is appropriate to meet the

objectives of the study. Describe how data will be reported and how it will be assured that the documentation will support a regulatory filing with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), if applicable.

Outline for projects with a clinical trial:

Note: The Project Narrative is NOT the formal clinical trial protocol. Instead, all elements of the proposed clinical trial necessary for peer review must be described as indicated below. If recommended for funding, the clinical trial protocol will be requested during award negotiation.

- **Background:** Present the scientific rationale behind the proposed research; include relevant literature citations, preliminary data, and/or preclinical data that led to the development of the proposed clinical trial. Any preliminary data provided should be from the laboratory of the PI or member(s) of the collaborating team.
 - Clearly support the choice of study variables and explain the basis for the study questions and/or study hypotheses. Establish the relevance of the study and explain the applicability of the proposed findings.
 - If the proposed clinical trial was initiated using other funding prior to this application, explain the history and background of the clinical trial and declare the source of prior funding. Specifically, identify the portions of the study that would be supported with funds from this award.
- Hypotheses/Objectives: State the hypotheses/study questions and overall objective(s) to be reached.
- **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project's specific aims. If this application is part of a larger study, present only tasks that this award would fund.
- Clinical Trial: Provide detailed plans for initiating, conducting, and completing the clinical trial during the period of performance. As appropriate, briefly outline a plan for obtaining an Investigational New Drug (IND) or Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) status (or other FDA approvals). Describe the type of clinical trial to be performed (e.g., prospective, randomized, controlled) and outline the proposed methodology in sufficient detail to show a clear course of action. Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches.
 - Describe the intervention to be studied, how it will be applied, and the projected outcomes of the study.
 - Define the study variables, describe how they will be measured, and include a description of appropriate controls and the endpoints to be tested.
 - Describe the availability of, and access to, critical reagents (e.g., therapeutic molecules) necessary for the clinical trial.

- Describe the methods that will be used to recruit a sample of human subjects from the accessible population (e.g., convenience, simple random, stratified random).
 Provide information on the availability of and access to sufficient subjects for the clinical trial.
- Inclusion of Women and Minorities in Study. Consistent with the Belmont Report, "Ethical Principles and Guidelines for the Protection of Human Subjects," and congressional legislation, special attention is given to inclusion of women and/or minorities in studies funded or supported by the USAMRDC. This policy is intended to promote equity both in assuming the burdens and in receiving the benefits of human subjects research. Describe the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities in the clinical research appropriate to the objectives of the study, including a description of the composition of the proposed study population in terms of sex/gender, race, and/or ethnicity, and an accompanying rationale for the selection of subjects.
- Describe the human subject-to-group assignment process (randomization, block randomization, stratified randomization, age-matched controls, alternating group, or other procedures), if applicable. Explain the specific actions to accomplish the group assignment (e.g., computer assignment, use of table of random numbers).
- Research Strategy (include only if laboratory research studies are proposed as a component of the application): Describe the laboratory research studies that will be performed under this award and how they are clearly linked to the clinical trial. Describe the experimental design and methodology, including reagents, assay validation, statistical analysis, potential pitfalls, and alternative approaches. Where relevant, describe the availability of, and access to, the requisite data and/or critical reagents (e.g., therapeutic molecules, human samples) necessary for the proposed research. Provide a well-developed, well-integrated research strategy that supports the feasibility of the approach. If the methodology is new or unusual, provide sufficient details for evaluation.
- Data Collection and Statistical Analysis Plan: Describe how data will be collected and analyzed in a manner that is consistent with the study objectives. Detail a statistical analysis plan for the resulting outcomes. If applicable, include a complete power analysis to demonstrate that the sample size is appropriate to meet the objectives of the study and lead to meaningful results. Specify the approximate number of human subjects/samples that will be accrued. If multiple study sites are involved, state the approximate number to be enrolled at each site. Describe how data will be reported and how it will be assured that the documentation will support a regulatory filing with the FDA, if applicable.
- Clinical Team: Describe the composition of the clinical trial team. Provide details on how the team (including investigator(s), study coordinator, statistician) possesses the appropriate expertise in conducting clinical trials.

• Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation: Combine and upload as a single file named "Support.pdf". Start each document on a new page. If documents are scanned to PDF, the lowest resolution (100 to 150 dpi) should be used. The Supporting Documentation attachment should not include additional information such as figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, or drawings. These items should be included in the Project Narrative.

There are no page limits for any of these components unless otherwise noted. Include only those components described below; inclusion of items not requested or viewed as an extension of the Project Narrative will result in the removal of those items or may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

- References Cited: List the references cited (including URLs, if available) in the
 Project Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e.,
 author[s], year published, title of reference, source of reference, volume, chapter,
 page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
- List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols: Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols.
- Facilities, Existing Equipment, and Other Resources: Describe the facilities and equipment available for performance of the proposed project and any additional facilities or equipment proposed for acquisition at no cost to the award. Indicate whether or not government-furnished facilities or equipment are proposed for use. If so, reference should be made to the original or present government award under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is no form for this information.
- Publications and/or Patents: Include a list of relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If articles are not publicly available, then copies of up to five published manuscripts may be included in Attachment 2. Extra items will not be reviewed.
- Letters of Organizational Support: Provide a letter (or letters, if applicable) signed by the Department Chair or appropriate organization official, confirming the laboratory space, equipment, and other resources available for the project. Letters of support not requested in the program announcement, such as those from members of Congress, do not impact application review or funding decisions.
- Letters of Collaboration (if applicable): Provide a signed letter from each collaborating individual or organization that demonstrates that the PI has the support or resources necessary for the proposed work. If an investigator at an intramural organization is named as a collaborator on an application submitted through an extramural organization, the application must include a letter from the collaborator's Commander or Commanding Officer at the intramural organization that authorizes the collaborator's involvement.

- Availability of, and access to, quality control for all data, critical reagents (e.g., therapeutic molecules, human samples), and/or cohorts
- Availability of, and access to, appropriate patient population(s).
- Intellectual Property: Information can be found in 2 CFR 200.315, "Intangible Property."
 - Intellectual and Material Property Plan (if applicable): Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.
 - Commercialization Strategy (if applicable): Describe the commercialization plan. The plan should include intellectual property, market size, financial analysis, strengths and weaknesses, barriers to the market, competitors, and management team. Discuss the significance of this development effort, when it can be anticipated, and the potential commercial use for the technology being developed.
- Data and Research Resources Sharing Plan: Describe how data and resources generated during the performance of the project will be shared with the research community. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section K, for more information about the CDMRP expectations for making data and research resources publicly available.
- Inclusion Enrollment Plan (if applicable): Provide an anticipated enrollment table(s) for the inclusion of women and minorities appropriate to the objectives of the study with the proposed enrollment distributed on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity. The Public Health Service (PHS) Inclusion Enrollment Report is a three-page fillable PDF form, which can be downloaded from eBRAP at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm.
- Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "TechAbs.pdf". The technical abstract is used by all reviewers. Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly. Do not include proprietary or confidential information. Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

Of particular importance, programmatic reviewers typically do not have access to the full application, and therefore rely on the technical abstract for appropriate description of the project's key aspects. Therefore, clarity and completeness within the space limits of the technical abstract are highly important. Technical abstracts should be written using the outline below.

- **Background:** Present the scientific rationale behind the proposed work.
- **Objective/Hypothesis:** State the objective to be reached/hypothesis to be tested. Provide evidence or rationale that supports the objective/hypothesis.

- **Specific Aims:** State the specific aims of the study.
- **Study Design:** Briefly describe the study design, including appropriate controls.
- Impact: Briefly describe how the proposed project will have an impact on at least one of the <u>FY22 Translational Research Award Focus Areas</u> and on preserving and improving the function and quality of life, and extending the lifespan of all individuals with Duchenne.
- Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "LayAbs.pdf". The lay abstract is used by all reviewers. Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly. *Do not include proprietary or confidential information. Do not duplicate the technical abstract.* Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

Do not duplicate the technical abstract. Minimize the use of acronyms and abbreviations, where appropriate. The lay abstract is an important component of the application review process because it addresses issues of particular interest to the consumer community. Lay abstracts should be written using the outline below.

- Describe the scientific objective and rationale for the proposed project in a manner that will be readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine.
 - State the <u>FY22 Translational Research Award Focus Area(s)</u> the project addresses.
- Describe the ultimate applicability of the research.
 - What types of patients will it help, and how will it help them?
 - What are the potential clinical applications, benefits, and risks?
 - What is the projected time anticipated to achieve a clinically relevant outcome?
 - What are the likely contributions of this study to advancing the field of DMD research and/or patient care?
- Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf". The suggested SOW format and examples specific to different types of research projects are available on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm). Recommended strategies for assembling the SOW can be found at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm.

For the Translational Research Award, refer to either the "Suggested SOW Strategy Clinical Research" or "Suggested SOW Strategy Generic Research", whichever format

is most appropriate for the proposed effort, and use the blank SOW format titled "Suggested SOW Format". The SOW must be in PDF format prior to attaching.

Early-Career Partnering PI Option: Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW. The contributions of the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI should be noted for each task.

- Attachment 6: Impact Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Impact.pdf". The Impact Statement should be written in plain language for lay persons. Describe how the proposed research is relevant to at least one of the Translational Research Award Focus Areas in a way that is consistent with the program's goals. Explain how the proposed research will make a significant impact on DMD research and/or patient care, including how the new understanding may ultimately contribute to the goal of preserving and improving the function and quality of life, and extending the lifespan of all individuals with Duchenne.
- Attachment 7: Animal Research Plan (required if application includes research on animal models; five-page limit): Upload as "AnimalPlan.pdf."

If the proposed study involves animals, the applicant is required to submit a summary describing the animal research that will be conducted. Applicants should not submit a verbatim replica of the protocol(s) to be submitted to the IACUC as the Animal Research Plan. The Animal Research Plan should address the following points for each proposed animal study:

- Briefly describe the research objective(s) of the animal study. Explain how and why
 the animal species, strain, sex, and model(s) being used can address the scientific
 objectives and, where appropriate, the study's relevance to human biology.
- Summarize the procedures to be conducted. Describe how the study will be controlled.
- Describe the randomization and blinding procedures for the study, and any other measures to be taken to minimize the effects of subjective bias during animal treatment and assessment of results. If randomization and/or blinding will not be utilized, provide justification.
- Provide a sample size estimate for each study arm and the method by which it was derived, including power analysis calculations.
- Describe how data will be handled, including rules for stopping data collection, criteria for inclusion and exclusion of data, how outliers will be defined and handled, statistical methods for data analysis, and identification of the primary endpoint(s).
- Describe how the animal studies will be conducted in accordance with the ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 (https://arriveguidelines.org/arrive-guidelines).

Attachment 8: Regulatory Strategy (applicable only if proposing a clinical trial; no page limit): If submitting multiple documents, start each document on a new page.
 Combine and upload as a single file named "Regulatory.pdf".

Describe the regulatory strategy using the following outline and provide supporting documentation as applicable.

State the product/intervention name.

For products/interventions that do not require regulation by the FDA or an international regulatory agency:

Explain why the product/intervention is exempt from oversight. Provide confirmation that the trial does not require regulation by the FDA/regulatory agency in writing from the IRB of record or the FDA/regulatory agency. If the clinical trial will be conducted at international sites, provide equivalent information relevant to the regulatory requirements of the host country(ies). No further information for this Attachment is required.

For products/interventions that require regulation by the FDA or an international regulatory agency:

- State whether the product is FDA-approved, -licensed, or -cleared and marketed in the U.S.
- If the product/intervention <u>has</u> already received FDA approval:
 - Provide a copy of the acceptance letter from the FDA.
 - If the product is marketed in the U.S., state the product label indication. State whether the proposed research involves a change to the approved label indication for the route of administration, dosage level, and/or subject population. Indicate whether the proposed research involves a change that increases the risks associated with using the product. State whether the product is being promoted for an off-label use (where promotion involves the sale of a marketed product).
- If the product/intervention <u>has not</u> already received FDA approval:
 - State the planned indication/use. Indicate whether the product would be classified as a drug, device, biologic, or combination product. Indicate whether the FDA has confirmed the proposed classification.
 - Identify the regulatory sponsor. Include a signed sponsor commitment letter acknowledging the regulatory sponsor's understanding of all sponsor responsibilities and commitment to oversee execution of the study.
 - Describe the overall regulatory strategy and product development plan that will support the planned product indication. Include a description of the numbers and

- types of studies proposed to reach approval, licensure, or clearance, and the types of FDA meetings that will be held/planned. Include considerations for compliance with current Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), and Good Clinical Practice (GCP) guidelines.
- If an IND or IDE is required to initiate the proposed research project, it must be submitted to the FDA prior to the FY21 DMDRP Translational Research Award application submission deadline. The IND or IDE should be specific for the investigational product (i.e., not a derivative or alternate version of the product) and indication to be tested in the proposed clinical trial. Provide the date of submission, application number, and sponsor for any existing FDA applications in place. If there are any existing cross-references in place, provide the application number and associated sponsor. Provide an explanation of the status of the application (e.g., past the critical 30-day period, pending response to questions raised by the FDA, on clinical hold). Provide a summary of previous meetings with the FDA on development of this product, if appropriate. A copy of the agency meeting minutes should be included if available. Provide copies of communications from the FDA relevant to the most recent status of the IND or IDE application. The government reserves the right to withhold or withdraw funding if an IND or IDE is necessary but has not been submitted to the FDA by the application submission deadline, or if documented status of the IND or IDE has not been obtained within 9 months of the award date.
- If the clinical trial will be conducted at international sites, provide equivalent information and supporting documentation relevant to the product indication/label and regulatory approval and/or filings in the host country(ies).
- If a drug is to be used in the proposed clinical trial, describe the current status for manufacturing development (e.g., manufacturer's name, GMP-compliant lots available, status of stability testing), non-clinical development (e.g., test facility name, status of pivotal GLP toxicology studies to support phase 1 testing), and clinical development (e.g., clinical site name, safety profile, status of any completed or ongoing clinical trials).
- If a device is to be used in the proposed clinical trial, indicate who holds the intellectual property rights to the intervention, if applicable, and how the PI has obtained access to those rights for the conduct of the clinical trial.
- Attachment 9: Partnership Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Partnership.pdf". (Attachment 9 is only applicable and required for applications submitted under the Early-Career Partnering PI Option.) Describe the experience of the Initiating and Early-Career Partnering PIs and indicate how the award will help to enhance research capacity within the DMD field. Describe the contribution and the time commitment of each PI toward the proposed research project. Describe how the partners' combined experience will better address the research question and explain why the work should be done together rather than through separate efforts.

- Attachment 10: Representations, if applicable (extramural submissions only): Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf". All extramural applicants must complete and submit the Required Representations template available on eBRAP (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm). For more information, see the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, Section B, Representations.
- Attachment 11: Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format, if applicable: Upload as "MFBudget.pdf". If a military facility (Military Health System facility, research laboratory, medical treatment facility, dental treatment facility, or a DOD activity embedded with a civilian medical center) will be a collaborator in performance of the project, complete a separate budget, using "Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format", available for download on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm), including a budget justification, for each military facility as instructed. The costs per year should be included on the Grants.gov Research & Related Budget Form under subaward costs. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.8, for detailed information.

• Extramural and Intramural Applications

To evaluate compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC 1681[a] et seq.), the DOD is collecting certain demographic and career information to be able to assess the success rates of women who are proposed for key roles in applications in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics (STEM) disciplines. To enable this assessment, each application must include the following forms completed as indicated.

Research & Related Personal Data: For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.3, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.2, for detailed information.

Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded): For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.

- o PI Biographical Sketch (five-page limit): Upload as "Biosketch_LastName.pdf". The suggested biographical sketch format is available on the "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) in eBRAP. The NIH Biographical Sketch may also be used. All biographical sketches should be submitted in uneditable PDF format.
- PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support LastName.pdf".
 - For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, for detailed information.

- For intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.
- Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (five-page limit each): Upload as "Biosketch_LastName.pdf".
- Key Personnel Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support LastName.pdf".
 - For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, for detailed information.
 - For intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.

Research & Related Budget: For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.4, for detailed information.

Budget Justification (no page limit): Upload as "BudgetJustification.pdf". The budget justification for the entire period of performance must be uploaded to the Research & Related Budget after completion of the budget for Period 1.

Early-Career Partnering PI Option: Initiating and Partnering PIs must have a separate budget and justification specific to their distinct portions of the effort that the applicant organization will submit as separate Grants.gov or eBRAP application packages. The Initiating PI should not include budget information for the Partnering PI even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed information.

Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form: For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.6, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.5, for detailed information.

Extramural Applications Only

Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable): Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.7, for detailed information.

• Extramural Subaward: Complete the Research & Related Subaward Budget Form through Grants.gov. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.7, for detailed information.) Verify subaward budget(s) and budget justification forms are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period.

o Intramural DOD Collaborator(s): Complete the "Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format" and upload to Grants.gov attachment form as <u>Attachment 11</u>. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.4, for detailed information.) Each Intramural DOD Collaborator should include costs per year on the Grants.gov Research & Related Budget Form under subaward costs.

Suggested DOD Military Budget Format: A military facility collaborating in the performance of the project (but not participating as a Partnering PI) should be treated as a subaward for budget purposes. *Note:* Applicants should complete a separate military budget using "Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format" (available for download on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page [https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm]) (Attachment 11 to show all direct and indirect costs. The costs per year should be included on the Grants.gov Research & Related Budget Form under subaward costs. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.8, for detailed information.

Application Components for the Partnering PI if applying under the Early-Career Partnering PI Option

The Partnering PI must follow the link in the email from eBRAP and, if not registered in eBRAP, complete the registration process prior to the application submission deadline in order to associate their full application package with that of the Initiating PI.

For the Partnering PI, the Initiating PI must identify if the Partnering PI will be named on an extramural or intramural application (in accordance with the guidelines in <u>Section II.C.1.a.</u>, <u>Organization</u>) and the appropriate mode of submission (Grants.gov for extramural and eBRAP for intramural). The Partnering PI must verify their contact information and mode of submission within eBRAP to ensure proper submission of their application.

The application submission process for the Partnering PI uses an abbreviated full application package that includes:

• Extramural and Intramural Applications

Attachments:

- Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf". Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.2, for detailed information on completing the SOW. Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW. The contributions of the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI should be noted for each task.
- Attachment 10: Representations (extramural submissions only): Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf". All extramural applicants must complete and submit the Required Representations template available on eBRAP (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/ public/Program.htm). For more information, see the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, Section B, Representations.

Attachment 11: Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format: Upload as "MFBudget.pdf". Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.4, for detailed information. The costs per year should be included on the Grants.gov Research & Related Budget Form under subaward costs.

Research & Related Personal Data: For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov) refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.3, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.2, for detailed information.

Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded): For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.

- o PI Biographical Sketch (five-page limit): Upload as "Biosketch_LastName.pdf". The suggested biographical sketch format is available on the "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) in eBRAP. The NIH Biographical Sketch may also be used. All biographical sketches should be submitted in the PDF format that is not editable.
- PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support_LastName.pdf".
 - For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, for detailed information.
 - For intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.
- Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (five-page limit each): Upload as "Biosketch_LastName.pdf".
- Key Personnel Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support LastName.pdf".
 - For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, for detailed information.
 - For intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.

Research & Related Budget: For extramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5, and for intramural submissions, refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.4, for detailed information.

Budget Justification (no page limit): Upload as "BudgetJustification.pdf".

Initiating and Partnering PIs must each submit a budget and justification specific to their own portion of the efforts as part of their separate Grants.gov or eBRAP application packages. The Research & Related Budget for the Partnering PI should not include budget information for the Initiating PI, even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed information.

Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form: For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.6, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.5, for detailed information.

Extramural Applications Only

Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form:

- Extramural Subaward: Complete the Research & Related Subaward Budget Form through Grants.gov. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.7, for detailed information.)
- o **Intramural DOD Collaborator(s):** Complete a separate DOD military budget, using Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format (available for download on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page [https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm]), and upload to Grants.gov attachment form as Attachment 11. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.8, for detailed information.)

II.D.3. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)

The applicant organization must be registered as an entity in SAM (https://www.sam.gov/SAM/) and receive confirmation of an "Active" status before submitting an application through Grants.gov. As published in the Federal Register, July 10, 2019, (https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/07/10/2019-14665/unique-entity-id-standardfor-awards-management), the UEI for awards management generated through SAM will be used instead of the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number as of April 2022. All federal awards including, but not limited to, contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements will use the UEI. USAMRDC will transition to use of the UEI beginning with FY22 announcements and utilize the latest SF424, which includes the UEI. The DUNS will no longer be accepted. Applicant organizations will not go to a third-party website to obtain an identifier. During the transition, your SAM registration will automatically be assigned a new UEI displayed in SAM. (For more information, visit the General Services Administration: https://www.gsa.gov/aboutus/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-awardenvironment-iae/iae-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update.) Current SAM.gov registrants are assigned their UEI and can view it within SAM.gov. Authorized Organizational Representatives with existing eBRAP accounts should update their organizational profile to include the UEI prior to submission of the full application to Grant.gov (see Section II.D.4,

Submission Dates and Times below). Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, for further information regarding Grants.gov requirements.

II.D.4. Submission Dates and Times

All submission dates and times are indicated in <u>Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity</u>. Pre-application and application submissions are required. The pre-application and application submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. There are no grace periods. Failure to meet either of these deadlines will result in submission rejection.

Applicant Verification of Full Application Submission in eBRAP

For Both Extramural and Intramural Applicants: eBRAP allows an organization's representatives and PIs to view and modify the full application submissions associated with them. Following retrieval and processing of the full application, eBRAP will notify the organizational representatives and PI by email to log into eBRAP to review, modify, and verify the full application submission. eBRAP will validate full application files against the specific program announcement requirements, and discrepancies will be noted in an email to the PI and in the "Full Application Files" tab in eBRAP. eBRAP does not confirm the accuracy of file content. Application viewing, modification, and verification in eBRAP are strongly recommended, but not required. It is the applicant's responsibility to review all application components and ensure proper ordering as specified in the program announcement. If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or needs to be modified, an updated full application package must be submitted prior to the application submission deadline. The Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline. Other application components may be changed until the end of the application verification period. Verify that subaward budget(s) and budget justification forms are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period. After the end of the application verification period, the full application cannot be modified.

Extramural Submission: The full application package submitted to Grants.gov may be viewed and modified in eBRAP until the end of the application verification period. During the application verification period, the full application package, with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form, may be modified.

Intramural DOD Submission: After eBRAP has processed the full application, the organizational Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official and PI(s) will receive email notification of the status and will be able to view and modify application components in eBRAP. During the application verification period, the full application package, with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form, may be modified. The Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official should log into eBRAP to review and to approve the application package prior to the application verification deadline.

For All Submissions: Verify that subaward budget(s) with budget justification are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period.

II.D.5. Funding Restrictions

The maximum period of performance is 3 years.

Application submissions with a single PI:

• The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance will not exceed \$1.25M. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate. No budget will be approved by the government exceeding \$1.25M direct costs or using an indirect cost rate exceeding the organization's negotiated rate.

Application submissions with the Early-Career Partnering PI Option:

- The anticipated combined direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance in the applications of the Initiating PI and the Early-Career Partnering PI will not exceed \$1.35M. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate. Collaborating organizations should budget associated indirect costs in accordance with each organization's negotiated rate. The combined budgeted direct costs approved by the government will not exceed \$1.35M or use an indirect cost rate exceeding each organization's negotiated rate.
 - A separate award will be made to each PI's organization.
 - The PIs are expected to be partners in the research, and direct cost funding should be divided accordingly unless otherwise warranted and clearly justified.

All direct and indirect costs of any subaward or contract must be included in the total direct costs of the primary award.

The applicant may request the entire maximum funding amount for a project that may have a period of performance less than the maximum 3 years.

For this award mechanism, direct costs may be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Travel in support of multidisciplinary collaborations, including travel.
- Travel costs for one investigator to travel to one scientific/technical meeting per year. The intent of travel costs to this scientific/technical meeting is to present project information or disseminate project results of the FY22 DMDRP Translational Research Award.

For extramural awards with an intragovernmental component, direct transfer of funds from an extramural award recipient to a DOD or other federal agency is not allowed except under very limited circumstances. Funding to intramural DOD and other federal agencies will be managed

through a direct funds transfer. Intramural applicants are responsible for coordinating through their agency's procedures the use of contractual or assistance funding awards or other appropriate agreements to support extramural collaborators.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5, for budget regulations and instructions for the Research & Related Budget. For federal agencies or organizations collaborating with federal agencies, budget restrictions apply as are noted in the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5.

II.D.6. Other Submission Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, for detailed formatting guidelines.

II.E. Application Review Information

II.E.1. Criteria

II.E.1.a. Peer Review

To determine technical merit, all applications will be evaluated according to the following scored criteria, which are of equal importance:

For applications without a clinical trial:

• Research Strategy and Feasibility

- How well the scientific rationale for the proposed study and its feasibility is supported by the preliminary data, critical review and analysis of the literature, and/or laboratory and/or preclinical evidence.
- How well the study aims, hypotheses or objectives, experimental design, methods, and analyses are developed.
- How well the application acknowledges potential problems and addresses alternative approaches.
- If animal studies are included, how well they are designed to achieve reproducible and rigorous results, including the choice of model and the endpoints/outcomes to be measured.
- o If human subjects or human anatomical samples will be used, how well the plan for the recruitment of subjects or the acquisition of samples is justified and appropriate to accomplish the proposed work.
- o If applicable, whether the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities and distribution of proposed enrollment are appropriate for the proposed research.

• Whether there is documented availability of, access to, quality control for all data and/or critical reagents, and/or cohorts, where relevant.

Statistical Plan

- Whether an appropriate statistical analysis plan is provided, including power analysis.
- o If applicable, whether data will be appropriately reported and documented to support a regulatory filing with the FDA.

Impact

- How well the proposed research addresses at least one of the <u>Translational Research</u> Award Focus Areas.
- o To what degree the proposed study could make a significant impact on DMD research and/or patient care, including the goal of preserving and improving the function and quality of life, and extending the lifespan of all individuals with Duchenne.

Personnel

- How the PI has assembled an appropriate and robust research team with their combined backgrounds and DMD-related expertise to enable successful conduct of the project.
- Whether the levels of effort are appropriate for the successful conduct of the proposed project.
- Early-Career Partnering PI Option (if applicable): How the partners' combined expertise will better address the research question and to what extent the award will help to enhance research capacity within the DMD field.

For applications with a clinical trial:

Clinical Trial

- Whether the type of clinical trial (e.g., prospective, randomized, controlled) proposed is appropriate to meet the project's objectives.
- How well the clinical trial is designed with appropriate study variables, controls, and endpoints.
- How well the application demonstrates the availability of and access to the appropriate patient population(s), as well as the ability to accrue a sufficient number of subjects.
- Whether the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities and distribution of proposed enrollment are appropriate for the proposed research.
- Whether the clinical trial design, methods, and analysis plan meet the requirements for applying for and obtaining IND/IDE status (or other FDA approval), if appropriate.

- Whether potential problems and alternative methods and approaches are appropriately identified.
- To what degree the SOW indicates a feasible plan and timeline to conduct the clinical trial and provides clearly defined milestones to be accomplished by the end of each year in the period of performance.

Regulatory Strategy

- How the regulatory strategy and development plan to support the product indication or product label change, if applicable, are appropriate and well described.
- Whether the application includes documentation that the study is exempt from FDA regulation, or that the IND or IDE application has been submitted to the FDA, as appropriate.
- For investigator-sponsored regulatory exemptions (e.g., IND, IDE), whether there is
 evidence of appropriate institutional support, including capabilities to ensure monitoring
 as required by the FDA.
- Whether plans to comply with GMP, GLP, and GCP guidelines are appropriate.

• Research Strategy (applicable only to applications that include laboratory research studies)

- How well the scientific rationale for the proposed study and its feasibility is supported by the preliminary data, critical review and analysis of the literature, and/or laboratory and/or preclinical evidence.
- o To what extent the study aims, hypotheses or objectives, experimental design, methods, and analyses are designed to clearly answer the clinical objective.
- How well the application acknowledges potential pitfalls and addresses alternative approaches.
- Whether there is documented availability of, access to, quality control for all data and/or critical reagents, and/or cohorts, where relevant.
- Whether the proposed laboratory research studies are clearly linked to the proposed clinical trial.
- o If applicable, whether data will be appropriately reported and documented to support a regulatory filing with the FDA.
- How well the SOW indicates a feasible plan and timeline to conduct the research and provides clearly defined research milestones to be accomplished by the end of each year in the period of performance.

Statistical Plan

- Whether an appropriate statistical analysis plan is provided, including power analysis.
- Whether the clinical trial is designed with enough statistical power to lead to meaningful results.

Impact

- How well the proposed research addresses at least one of the <u>Translational Research</u> Award Focus Areas.
- o To what degree the proposed study could make a significant impact on DMD research and/or patient care, including the goal of preserving and improving the function and quality of life, and extending the lifespan of all individuals with Duchenne.

Personnel

- How the PI has assembled an appropriate and robust research team with their combined backgrounds and DMD-related expertise to enable successful conduct of the project.
- Whether the levels of effort are appropriate for successful conduct of the proposed project.
- Early-Career Partnering PI Option (if applicable): How the partners' combined expertise will better address the research question and to what extent the award will help to enhance research capacity within the DMD field.

In addition, the following **unscored criteria** will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application:

• Budget

- Whether the **direct** costs exceed the allowable direct costs as published in the program announcement.
- Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research.

• Environment

- To what extent the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed research project.
- How well the research requirements are supported by the availability of and accessibility to facilities and resources.
- To what degree the quality and extent of institutional support are appropriate for the proposed research.

o If applicable, to what degree the intellectual and material property plan is appropriate.

• Application Presentation

o To what extent the writing, clarity, and presentation of the application components influence the review.

II.E.1.b. Programmatic Review

To make funding recommendations and select the application(s) that, individually or collectively, will best achieve the program objectives, the following criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

- Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers
- Relevance to the mission of the DHP and FY22 DMDRP, as evidenced by the following:
 - Adherence to the intent of the award mechanism
 - Program portfolio composition
 - Relative impact

II.E.2. Application Review and Selection Process

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and consumers in a two-tier review process. The first tier is **peer review**, the evaluation of applications against established criteria to determine technical merit, where each application is assessed for its own merit, independent of other applications. The second tier is **programmatic review**, a comparison-based process in which applications with high scientific and technical merit are further evaluated for programmatic relevance. Final recommendations for funding are made to the Commanding General, USAMRDC. *The highest-scoring applications from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Funding recommendations depend on various factors as described in Section II.E.1.b, Programmatic Review.* Additional information about the two-tier process used by the CDMRP can be found at https://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess. An information paper describing the funding recommendations and review process for the award mechanisms for the DMDRP will be provided to the PI(s) and posted on the CDMRP website.

All CDMRP review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the merit-based selection process. Panel members sign a statement declaring that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the panel. Violations of confidentiality can result in the dissolving of a panel(s) and other corrective actions. In addition, personnel at the applicant or collaborating organizations are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review and approval process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process. Violations of these prohibitions will result in the administrative withdrawal of the organization's application. Violations by panel members or applicants that compromise the confidentiality of the review and approval process may also result in suspension or

debarment from federal awards. Furthermore, the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information of one party to another third party is a crime in accordance with 18 USC 1905.

II.E.3. Integrity and Performance Information

Prior to making an assistance agreement award where the federal share is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in 2 CFR 200.1, over the period of performance, the federal awarding agency is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is available in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS).

An applicant organization may review FAPIIS, accessible through SAM, and submit comments to FAPIIS on any information about the organization that a federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently available in FAPIIS.

The federal awarding agency will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under federal awards when determining a recipient's qualification prior to award, according to the qualification standards of the Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoDGARs), Section 22.415.

II.E.4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

All application review dates and times are indicated in <u>Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity</u>.

Each PI and organization will receive email notification of posting of the funding recommendation in eBRAP. Each PI will receive a peer review summary statement on the strengths and weaknesses of the application.

II.F. Federal Award Administration Information

II.F.1. Federal Award Notices

Awards supported with FY22 funds are anticipated to be made no later than September 30, 2023. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for additional award administration information.

After email notification of application review results through eBRAP, and if selected for funding, a representative from the USAMRAA will contact the Business Official authorized to negotiate on behalf of the PI's organization.

Pre-Award Costs: An institution of higher education, hospital, or non-profit organization may, at its own risk and without the government's prior approval, incur obligations and expenditures to cover costs up to 90 days before the beginning date of the initial budget period of a new award. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5.

Only an appointed USAMRAA Grants Officer may obligate the government to the expenditure of funds. No commitment on the part of the government should be inferred from discussions with any other individual. The award document signed by the Grants Officer is the official authorizing document.

Federal Government Organizations: Funding made to federal government organizations (to include intramural DOD organizations) will be executed through the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR) or Funding Authorization Document (FAD) process. Transfer of funds is contingent upon appropriate safety and administrative approvals. Intramural applicants and collaborators are reminded to coordinate receipt and commitment of funds through their respective Resource Manager/Task Area Manager/Comptroller or equivalent Business Official.

II.F.1.a. PI Changes and Award Transfers

Unless otherwise restricted, changes in PI will be allowed at the discretion of the Grants Officer, provided the intent of the award mechanism is met.

An organizational transfer of an award supporting the PI, Initiating PI, or Partnering PI is discouraged and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and only allowed at the discretion of the Grants Officer. The organizational transfer of an award supporting a clinical trial is strongly discouraged and in most cases will not be allowed. Approval of a transfer request will be on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Grants Officer.

An organizational transfer of an award will not be allowed in the last year of the (original) period of performance or any extension thereof.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section B, for general information on organization or PI changes.

II.F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Applicable requirements in the DoDGARs found in 32 CFR, Chapter I, Subchapter C, and 2 CFR, Chapter XI, apply to grants and cooperative agreements resulting from this program announcement.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for general information regarding administrative requirements.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, for general information regarding national policy requirements.

Refer to full text of the latest <u>DoD R&D General Terms and Conditions</u>; the <u>USAMRAA</u> <u>General Research Terms and Conditions with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Non-Profit Organizations: Addendum to the DoD R&D General Terms and Conditions</u>; and the <u>USAMRAA General Research Terms and Conditions with For-Profit Organizations</u>, for further information.

New Requirement: Certification Regarding Disclosure of Funding Sources. The proposing entity must comply with Section 223(a) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, which requires that the PI, Partnering PIs (if applicable), and all key personnel:

- Certify that the current and pending support provided on the application is current, accurate, and complete;
- Agree to update such disclosure at the request of the agency prior to the award of support and at any subsequent time the agency determines appropriate during the term of the award; and
- Have been made aware of the requirements under Section 223(a)(1) of this Act.

False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may result in criminal, civil, or administrative penalties (18 USC 1001).

II.F.3. Reporting

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section A, for general information on reporting requirements. If there are technical reporting requirement delinquencies for any existing USAMRAA-sponsored awards at the applicant organization, no new awards will be issued to the applicant organization until all delinquent reports have been submitted.

Annual progress reports as well as a final progress report will be required.

The Award Terms and Conditions will specify if more frequent reporting is required.

Award Expiration Transition Plan: An Award Expiration Transition Plan must be submitted with the final progress report. Use the one-page template "Award Expiration Transition Plan," available on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) under the "Progress Report Formats" section. The Award Expiration Transition Plan must outline if and how the research supported by this award will progress and must include source(s) of funding, either known or pending.

PHS Inclusion Enrollment Reporting Requirement *(only required for clinical research studies)*: Enrollment reporting on the basis of sex/gender, race, and/or ethnicity will be required with each annual and final progress report. The PHS Inclusion Enrollment Report is available on the "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm) in eBRAP.

Awards resulting from this program announcement may entail additional reporting requirements related to recipient integrity and performance matters. Recipient organizations that have federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10M are required to provide information to FAPIIS about certain civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings that reached final disposition within the most recent 5-year period and that were connected with performance of a federal award. These recipients are required to disclose, semiannually, information about criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings as specified in the applicable Representations (see General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, Section B).

II.G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts

II.G.1. eBRAP Help Desk

Questions related to program announcement content or submission requirements as well as questions related to the pre-application or intramural application submission through eBRAP should be directed to the eBRAP Help Desk, which is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. Response times may vary depending upon the volume of inquiries.

Phone: 301-682-5507

Email: <u>help@eBRAP.org</u>

II.G.2. Grants.gov Contact Center

Questions related to extramural application submission through Grants.gov portal should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed on U.S. federal holidays). Note that the eBRAP Help Desk is unable to provide technical assistance with Grants.gov submission.

Phone: 800-518-4726; International 1-606-545-5035

Email: support@grants.gov

Sign up on Grants.gov for "send me change notification emails" by following the link on the "Synopsis" page for the program announcement or by responding to the prompt provided by Grants.gov when first downloading the Grants.gov application package. If the Grants.gov application package is updated or changed, the original version of the application package may not be accepted by Grants.gov.

II.H. Other Information

II.H.1. Program Announcement and General Application Instructions Versions

Questions related to this program announcement should refer to the program name, the program announcement name, and the program announcement version code 702b. The program announcement numeric version code will match the General Application Instructions version code 702.

II.H.2. Administrative Actions

After receipt of pre-applications or applications, the following administrative actions may occur:

II.H.2.a. Rejection

The following will result in administrative rejection of the pre-application:

• Preproposal Narrative exceeds page limit.

• Preproposal Narrative is missing.

The following will result in administrative rejection of the application:

- Submission of an application for which a letter of invitation was not received.
- Project Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Project Narrative is missing.
- Budget is missing.

II.H.2.b. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specific limits will be removed prior to review for all documents other than the Preproposal Narrative and Project Narrative.
- Documents not requested will be removed.

II.H.2.c. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application or application:

- An FY22 DMDRP Programmatic Panel member is named as being involved in the research proposed or is found to have assisted in the pre-application or application processes including, but not limited to, concept design, application development, budget preparation, and the development of any supporting documentation. A list of the FY22 DMDRP Programmatic Panel members can be found at https://cdmrp.army.mil/DMDRP/panels/panels22.
- The application fails to conform to this program announcement description.
- Inclusion of URLs, with the exception of links in References Cited and Publication and/or Patent Abstract sections.
- Page size is larger than 8.5 inches x 11.0 inches (approximately 21.59 cm x 27.94 cm).
- To preserve the integrity of its peer and programmatic review processes, the CDMRP discourages inclusion of any employee of its review contractors having any role in the preparation, research or other duties for submitted applications. For FY22, the identities of the peer review contractor and the programmatic review contractor may be found at the CDMRP website (https://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess). Applications that include names of personnel from either of these companies may be administratively withdrawn.
- Personnel from applicant or collaborating organizations are found to have contacted persons involved in the review or approval process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process.
- Applications from extramural organizations, including non-DOD federal agencies, received through eBRAP may be withdrawn.

- Applications submitted by an intramural DOD organization may be withdrawn if the intramural organization cannot coordinate the use of contractual, assistance, or other appropriate agreements to provide funds to extramural collaborators.
- Submission of the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.
- The invited application proposes a different research project than that described in the preapplication.
- The pre-application or application does not address at least one of the <u>Translational Research</u> Award Focus Areas.
- The PI does not meet the eligibility criteria.
- Failure to submit all associated (Initiating and Early-Career Partnering PI) applications by the deadline.

II.H.2.d. Withhold

Applications that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending organizational investigation. The organization will be required to provide the findings of the investigation to the USAMRAA Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

II.H.3. Application Submission Checklist

Application Components	Action	Single or Initiating PI Completed	Partnering PI Completed
SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance (extramural submissions only)	Complete form as instructed		•
Summary (Tab 1) and Application Contacts (Tab 2) (intramural submissions only)	Complete tabs as instructed		
Attachments	Project Narrative: Upload as Attachment 1 with file name "ProjectNarrative.pdf" Supporting Documentation: Upload as Attachment 2 with file name "Support.pdf" Technical Abstract: Upload as Attachment 3 with file name "TechAbs.pdf" Lay Abstract: Upload as Attachment 4 with file name "LayAbs.pdf" Statement of Work: Upload as Attachment 5 with file name "SOW.pdf" Impact Statement: Upload as Attachment 6 with file name "Impact.pdf" Animal Research Plan: Upload as Attachment 7 with file name "AnimalPlan.pdf" Regulatory Strategy: Upload as Attachment 8 with file name "Regulatory.pdf" Partnership Statement: Upload as Attachment 9 with file name "Partnership.pdf" Representations (extramural submissions only): Upload as Attachment 10 with file name "RequiredReps.pdf" Suggested Collaborating DOD Military Facility Budget Format: Upload as Attachment 11 with file name		
Research & Related Personal Data	"MFBudget.pdf" if applicable Complete form as instructed		

Application Components	Action	Single or Initiating PI Completed	Partnering PI Completed
Research & Related	Attach PI Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field Attach PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field	•	•
Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)	Attach Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field Attach Previous/Current/Pending (Support_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field		
Research & Related	Complete as instructed. Attach Budget		
Budget (extramural submissions only)	Justification (BudgetJustification.pdf) to the appropriate field		
Budget (intramural submissions only)	Complete the Suggested DOD Military Budget Format, including justification		
Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form	Complete form as instructed		
Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form	Complete form as instructed		

APPENDIX 1: ACRONYM LIST

ACURO Animal Care and Use Review Office

ARRIVE Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments
CDMRP Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

CFR Code of Federal Regulations
DHP Defense Health Program

DMDRP Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Research Program

DOD Department of Defense

DoDGARs Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations

DUNS Data Universal Numbering System

eBRAP Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal

EC Ethics Committee
ET Eastern Time

FAD Funding Authorization Document

FAPIIS Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System

FY Fiscal Year

HRPO Human Research Protection Office

IACUC Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

IPR In-Progress Review

IRB Institutional Review Board

LOI Letter of Intent

M Million
MB Megabytes

MDCC Muscular Dystrophy Coordinating Committee
MIPR Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request

NIH National Institutes of Health

ORCID Open Researcher and Contributor ID, Inc.

ORP Office of Research Protections
PDF Portable Document Format

PHS Public Health Service
PI Principal Investigator

SAM System for Award Management

SOW Statement of Work

STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, and/or Mathematics

TRA Translational Research Award

TRA-CT Translational Research Award – Clinical Trial

TRA-ECPPIO Translational Research Award with Early-Career Partnering PI Option

TRA-ECPPIO-CT Translational Research Award with Early-Career Partnering PI Option –

Clinical Trial

URL Uniform Resource Locator
UEI Unique Entity Identifier

USAMRAA U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity

USAMRDC U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command

USC United States Code

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs