Program Announcement for the Defense Health Agency

Pancreatic Cancer Research Program Idea Development Award

Funding Opportunity Number: HT942526PCARPIDA

Pre-Application Due: July 7, 2026

Application Due: October 7, 2026

This program announcement must be read in conjunction with the General Application Instructions, version CD26_01.

Content

Before You Begin

- **Active SAM.gov, eBRAP.org and Grants.gov registrations are required for application submission.** User registration for each of these websites can take several weeks or longer. Each applicant must ensure their registrations are active and up to date prior to application preparation.
- **Read this funding opportunity announcement in the order it is written before beginning to prepare application materials.** It is the responsibility of the applicant to determine whether the proposed research meets the intent of this funding opportunity and that all parties meet eligibility requirements.
- **To support application preparation, additional resources are available** including an application process FAQ, a Guide for Intragovernmental & Intramural Applicants and a CDMRP Video Series detailing the application process.

Who to Contact for Support

eBRAP Help Desk

301-682-5507
help@eBRAP.org

Questions regarding funding opportunity submission requirements, as well as technical assistance related to pre-application or intramural application submission.

Grants.gov Support Center

800-518-4726
International: 1-606-545-5035
support@grants.gov

Questions regarding Grants.gov registration and Workspace.

This document uses internal links; you can go back to where you were by pressing the Alt + left arrow keys (Windows) or command + left arrow keys (Macintosh) on your keyboard.

Click ⓘ to be taken to additional guidance and instructions within the General Application Instructions (GAI).

1. Basic Information About the Funding Opportunity

Summary: The fiscal year 2026 (FY26) Pancreatic Cancer Research Program (PCARP) Idea Development Award supports the development of innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that could lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate progress in improving outcomes for individuals with pancreatic cancer. This award mechanism supports innovative ideas with the potential to yield impactful data and new avenues of investigation. All applications must address at least one of the FY26 PCARP Focus Areas.

Distinctive Features:

- This award mechanism requires preliminary data relevant to the proposed project. Applications can support clinical research studies; however, this mechanism does not allow clinical trials.
- **Partnering Principal Investigator (PI) Option for Early-Career Investigator:** This funding mechanism offers a higher level of funding for applications that propose to partner an experienced PI (i.e., Initiating PI, who will serve as the mentor) with an Early-Career Investigator (i.e., Partnering PI) wishing to pursue a career in pancreatic cancer research. For this option, only the Initiating PI will submit a pre-application, but both PIs will need to submit at the full application stage. The partnering PI's application is an abbreviated package specific to their distinct portion of the research project. Be advised, all associated applications for a research project may be withdrawn if the initiating or partnering application is rejected or administratively withdrawn.

Funding Details: The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) expects to allot roughly $9.90 million (M) to fund approximately 12 Idea Development Award applications with total cost caps of $0.70M for a single PI or combined total cost caps of $0.95M for the Partnering PI Option. The maximum period of performance is 3 years. It is anticipated that awards made from FY26 funding opportunity will be funded with FY26 funds, which will expire for use on September 30, 2032. Awards supported with FY26 funds will be made no later than September 30, 2027.

Submission and Review Dates and Times

- **Pre-Application (Preproposal) Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET), July 7, 2026
- **Invitation to Submit an Application:** August 13, 2026
- **Application Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, October 7, 2026
- **End of Application Verification Period:** 5:00 p.m. ET, October 13, 2026
- **Peer Review:** December 2026
- **Programmatic Review:** January 2027

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: HT942526PCARPIDA

Assistance Listing Number: 12.420

2. Eligibility Information

2.1. Eligible Applicants

2.1.1. Organization

Extramural and intramural U.S. Department of War (DOW) organizations are eligible to apply, ***including foreign and domestic organizations, for-profit and nonprofit organizations, and public or private entities***.

2.1.2. Principal Investigator

Investigators affiliated with an eligible organization are eligible to be named PI, Initiating PI or Partnering PI on the application, regardless of ethnicity, nationality or citizenship status.

Single PI Applications:

Independent investigators at any career level are eligible to be named PI on the application.

Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator Applications: At the time of the application deadline, investigators eligible to be named Initiating or Partnering PI on the application must meet the following criteria:

- **Mentor**
  - Independent investigator at any career level.
- **Early-Career Investigator**
  - No more than eight years from first faculty appointment, i.e., instructor level or above, or equivalent, excluding time spent on family medical leave. The application should explain lapses in research time or appointments as denoted in the biographical sketch.
- The Initiating PI (mentor) and the Partnering PI (Early-Career Investigator) may hold positions at different institutions.

An investigator may be named on only one FY26 PCARP Idea Development Award application as PI, Initiating PI or Partnering PI.

2.2. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing is not an eligibility requirement.

2.3. Other

Awards are made to eligible ***organizations***, not to individuals. Refer to the GAI for additional recipient qualification requirements.

3. Program Description

The Defense Health Agency Contracting Activity (DHACA) is soliciting applications to this funding opportunity using delegated authority provided by United States Code, Title 10, Section 4001 (10 USC 4001). The CDMRP is the program office managing this FY26 funding opportunity as part of the PCARP. The CDMRP is located within the Defense Health Agency Research and Development (DHA R&D), which is a part of the Department of Defense, DOD, herein referred to using the secondary title Department of War, DOW. Congress initiated the PCARP in 2020 to provide support for pancreatic cancer research of high potential impact and exceptional scientific merit. Appropriations for the PCARP from FY20 through FY24 totaled $66M. The FY26 appropriation is $20M.

The vision of the PCARP is to reduce the burden of pancreatic cancer among Service Members, Veterans, their Families, and the American public. The mission of the PCARP is to promote rigorous, innovative, high-impact pancreatic cancer research that leads to prevention, earlier diagnosis, new therapeutic tools, and improved outcomes.

3.1. Award History

The PCARP Idea Development Award mechanism was first offered in FY20. Since then, 271 Idea Development Award applications were received, and 62 were recommended for funding.

3.2. Intent of the Idea Development Award

The PCARP Idea Development Award supports the development of innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that could lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate progress in improving outcomes for individuals with pancreatic cancer. Innovative ideas with the potential to yield impactful data and new avenues of investigation are the focus of this mechanism.

3.2.1. Focus Areas for the Idea Development Award

- Early detection research.
- Identification and characterization of risk.
- Supportive care, quality of life and survivorship research.
- Understanding metabolic disruptions and their systemic effects, including diabetes and cachexia.
- Understanding tumor development from precursors to metastasis.
- Biomarkers to predict therapeutic response and guide management strategies.
- New therapeutic targets and approaches.

3.2.2. Key Elements for the Idea Development Award

Impact: The proposed research must have the potential to make an important and original contribution to advancing the understanding of pancreatic cancer and ultimately lead to improved outcomes for individuals with pancreatic cancer. Applications should articulate the project's impact on both pancreatic cancer research and patient care, even if clinical impact is not an immediate outcome.

I**nnovation:** Innovative research may represent a new paradigm, challenge existing paradigms, look at existing problems from new perspectives or exhibit other highly creative qualities. The research may demonstrate innovation through study concepts, research methods or technology, or adaptations of existing methods or technologies. For this award mechanism, innovative research does not include incremental advances on previously published work.

Preliminary Data: This award mechanism ***requires preliminary data***. Although the proposed research must have direct relevance to pancreatic cancer, the required preliminary data may originate from outside the pancreatic cancer research field. This data may include unpublished results from the PI's laboratory, the research team or named collaborators. A sound scientific rationale that is established through logical reasoning and a critical review and analysis of the literature must serve as the basis for the research.

Personnel: Personnel are a crucial element of the FY26 PCARP Idea Development Award. At least one member of the research team should demonstrate experience in pancreatic cancer research through recent publications and funding. The PCARP encourages the inclusion of a biostatistician as a member of the study team.

Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator: The FY26 Idea Development Award mechanism offers a higher level of funding for applications that propose to partner an experienced PI (i.e., Initiating PI, who will serve as the mentor) with an Early-Career Investigator (i.e., Partnering PI) wishing to pursue a career in pancreatic cancer research. The Initiating PI must mentor and collaborate with the Early-Career Investigator (Partnering PI) to promote their career development in pancreatic cancer research. The Early-Career Investigator must meet the specific eligibility criteria described in Section 2.1.2, Principal Investigator. The Initiating PI will be responsible for the majority of the administrative tasks associated with application submission. Both PIs should contribute significantly to the development and execution of the proposed research project. If recommended for funding, each PI will be named on separate awards to the recipient organization(s). Each award will be subject to separate reporting, regulatory, and administrative requirements. For individual submission requirements for the Initiating and Partnering PI, refer to Section 5.3, Submission Instructions. **The PCARP encourages projects involving convergence science partnerships.**

3.2.3. Other Important Considerations for the Idea Development Award

This mechanism allows clinical research studies; however, it does not allow clinical trials.

In accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026, Section 732, CDMRP does not support the conduct of painful research (U.S. Department of Agriculture pain category D or E) involving domestic cats or dogs, except for studies relating to military or service animals.

All projects should adhere to a core set of standards for rigorous study design and reporting to maximize the reproducibility and translational potential of clinical and preclinical research, such as those described in the STROBE, CONSORT, SPIRIT and ARRIVE 2.0 guidelines.

Applications from investigators within the DOW and applications involving multidisciplinary collaborations among academia, industry, the DOW, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other federal government agencies are highly encouraged. These relationships can leverage knowledge, infrastructure and access to unique clinical populations that the collaborators bring to the research effort, ultimately advancing research that is of significance to Service Members, Veterans, their Families, and the American Public. If the proposed research relies on access to unique resources or databases, the application must describe the access at

the time of submission and include a plan for maintaining access as needed throughout the proposed research.

A congressionally mandated Metastatic Cancer Task Force was formed with the purpose of identifying ways to help accelerate clinical and translational research aimed at extending the lives of advanced state and recurrent patients. As a member of the Metastatic Cancer Task Force, CDMRP encourages applicants to review the recommendations and submit research ideas to address these recommendations provided they are within the limitations of this funding opportunity and fit within the FY26 PCARP priorities.

3.3. Funding Instrument

The funding instrument for awards made under the program announcement will be grants (31 USC 6304).

3.4. Funding Details

Period of Performance: The maximum period of performance is **3** years.

Cost Cap:

Application Submissions with a Single PI: The application's total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance should not exceed **$0.70M**.

Application Submissions with the Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator: The combined total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance in the applications of the Initiating PI and Partnering PI should not exceed **$0.95M**.

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 Application Submissions:

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.

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

The appropriateness of the budget for the proposed research will be assessed during peer review.

Direct Cost Restrictions: For this award mechanism, direct costs:

May be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Travel in support of multi-institutional collaborations.
- Costs for one investigator to travel to one scientific/technical meeting per year. The intent of travel to scientific/technical meetings should be to present project information or disseminate project results from the FY26 PCARP Idea Development Award.

- If applicable, research subject compensation and reimbursement for study-related out-of-pocket costs (e.g., travel, lodging, parking, costs associated with caregiving, and resources/equipment to enable participation).

Must not be requested for:

- Clinical trial costs.

4. Application Contents and Format

4.1. Application Overview

Application submission is a two-step process requiring both a ***pre-application*** submitted via the Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) and a ***full application*** submitted through eBRAP or Grants.gov. Depending on the submission portal, certain aspects of the application will differ.

Intramural DOW organizations submitting a full application should follow instructions for submission through eBRAP.

Extramural organizations submitting a full application must follow instructions for submission through Grants.gov.

4.2. Pre-Application Components

The Initiating PI must submit the following pre-application components.

Upload documents as individual PDF files unless otherwise noted. Files must comply with the formatting guidelines listed in the GAI.

- **Preproposal Narrative (Single PI Submission: two-page limit; Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator Submission: three-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 Idea:** State the hypothesis the research will test or the objective it will reach. State which FY26 PCARP Focus Area(s) the research will address. Detail the scientific rationale that forms the basis of the proposed project and briefly describe relevant preliminary data. If applicable, describe how the research team will accomplish the study in the defined study population. Concisely state the specific aims and provide a brief overview of the study design. ***Clinical trials are beyond the scope of this mechanism and not allowed.***
  - **Impact:** Describe the potential impact of this study on the outcomes of individuals with pancreatic cancer, their families/caregivers and/or the understanding of pancreatic cancer.
  - **Innovation:** Describe how the proposed project is innovative and how the research represents more than an incremental advance on published data.
  - **Personnel:** Clearly describe the pancreatic cancer experience of the proposed research team and how this will factor into the team's ability to successfully complete the project.
  - **Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator (if applicable)**: Describe how the Initiating PI's (mentor's) qualifications and experience position them to mentor the Partnering PI (Early-Career Investigator) toward a successful career in pancreatic cancer research. Briefly describe the Researcher Development Plan and how it will

contribute to fostering the Partnering PI's (Early-Career Investigator's) career development as a pancreatic cancer researcher.

- **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: *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.

4.3. Full Application Components

Applicants must receive an invitation to submit a full application. Uninvited full application submissions will be rejected.

Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator: The CDMRP requires separate full application package submissions for the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI, even if the PIs are located within the same organization. The application submission process for the Partnering PI uses an abbreviated full application package.

4.3.1. Full Application Components for the PI or Initiating PI

Each application submission must include the completed full application package for this program announcement. See Appendix 1 for a checklist of the full application components.

(a) SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form *(Grants.gov submissions only)*:

IMPORTANT: *When completing the SF424 R&R, enter the* ***eBRAP log number*** *assigned during pre-application submission into* ***Block 4a – Federal Identifier****.*

(b) Attachments:

Each attachment of the full application components must be uploaded as an individual file in the format specified and in accordance with the formatting guidelines in the GAI.

- **Attachment 1: Project Narrative (eight-page limit): Upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf".**

  Describe the proposed project in detail using the outline below.
  - **Background:** Present the scientific rationale behind the proposed research and include relevant literature citations. Describe and show the preliminary data to justify the rationale for the proposed project.
  - **Hypothesis(es)/Objective(s):** State the hypothesis(es) the project will test or the overall objective(s) it will reach.

- **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project's specific aims. If the proposed research 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 an assessment of overall project feasibility. Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches. Consult appropriate guidelines to ensure relevant aspects of rigorous and reproducible research are adequately planned for and, ultimately, reported.
  - Clearly describe the statistical plan, including an appropriate power analysis and the rationale for the statistical methodology. Explain how the proposed statistical analysis supports the relevance of any research outcomes to the FY26 PCARP Focus Area(s).
  - If the research includes animal studies, briefly describe the relevance of the proposed animal model and provide full details in the required Animal Research Plan (Attachment 8).
  - If applicable, describe and justify the appropriateness of the human subject population relative to the study objectives. Where relevant, describe the availability of, and access to, tissue, data, or human subjects. If applicable, provide appropriate letters of support provided as part of the application's Supporting Documentation (Attachment 2). ***This mechanism allows clinical research studies; however, it does not allow clinical trials*.**
  - If applicable, describe the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities appropriate to the objectives of the study, including a description of the composition of the proposed study population in terms of sex, racial, and ethnic group, and an accompanying rationale for the selection of subjects. Studies utilizing human biospecimens or datasets that cannot be linked to a specific individual, ethnicity, or race (typically classified as exempt from Institutional Review Board [IRB] review) are exempt from this requirement. Anticipated enrollment table(s) with the proposed enrollment distributed on the basis of sex, race, and ethnicity should be provided as part of the application's Supporting Documentation (Attachment 2).

- **Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation: Combine and upload as a single file named "Support.pdf".**

There are no page limits for these components unless otherwise noted. Include only 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 in the Project Narrative using a standard reference format (include URLs, if available).

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; include any additional facilities or equipment proposed for acquisition at no cost to the award. Indicate whether government-furnished facilities or equipment are proposed for use. If so,

reference the original or present government award under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is not a standardized 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 Support (one-page limit per letter is recommended): Provide individual letters signed by collaborating individuals and/or organizational officials demonstrating that each PI has the support and resources necessary for the proposed work. Letters from the PI's Department Chair, or appropriate organization official, should also confirm that the PI(s) meet eligibility criteria. If applicable, provide a letter of support, signed by the lowest-ranking person with approval authority, confirming participation of intramural DOW collaborator(s) and/or access to military populations, databases or DOW resources. If applicable, provide a letter of support signed by the VA Facility Director(s), or an individual designated by the VA Facility Director(s), confirming access to VA patients, resources and/or VA research space.

Sex as a Biological Variable (SABV) Strategy (two-page limit is recommended): Describe the strategy for how sex will be considered as a biological variable. This strategy should include a brief discussion of what is currently known regarding sex differences in the applicable research area. Clearly articulate how sex as a biological variable will be factored into the data analysis plan and how data will be collected and disaggregated by sex. If needed, provide a strong rationale for proposing a single-sex study, based on justification from scientific literature, preliminary data or other relevant considerations. Refer to the CDMRP Directive on Sex as a Biological Variable in Research for additional information.

Inclusion Enrollment Report *(only required if clinical research is proposed)*: Provide an anticipated enrollment table(s) for the inclusion of women and minorities using the "Public Health Service (PHS) Inclusion Enrollment Report", a three-page fillable PDF form, that can be downloaded from eBRAP. The enrollment table(s) should be appropriate to the objectives of the study with the proposed enrollment distributed on the basis of sex, race, and ethnicity. Studies utilizing human biospecimens or datasets that cannot be linked to a specific individual, ethnicity, or race (typically classified as exempt from IRB review) are exempt from this requirement.

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.

Research Sharing Plan: Describe the type of data or research resources to be made publicly available as a result of the proposed work. Describe the mechanism (e.g., direct sharing, repository, mixed mode) by which data and resources generated during the period of performance will be shared with the research community and other affected communities, including clinical research participants if applicable.

Specifically describe a plan to make animal models, tissue samples, and other resources developed as part of the proposed research project available to the scientific community, if applicable. Include the name of the repository(ies) where scientific data and resources arising from the proposed study will be archived, if applicable. Identify and provide the rationale for any data or resources that will not be shared (e.g., for intellectual property, feasibility, cost, or other considerations). The plan should also protect participant privacy, confidential and proprietary data, and performer/third-party intellectual property. Provide a milestone plan for disseminating data/results including when data and resources will be made available to other users. In cases where the study participant could potentially derive medical or other benefit from the information, explain whether the results of screening and/or study participation will be shared with the participant or their primary care provider, including results from any screening or diagnostic tests performed as part of the study.

Do not submit a copy of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Data Management and Sharing Plan or duplicate the Data Management Plan which will be requested only after a recommendation for funding is made.

Refer to the CDMRP Directive on Sharing Data and Research Resources for more information about the CDMRP's expectations for making data and research resources publicly available.

- **Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "TechAbs.pdf".**

Write the technical abstract using the outline below. Clarity and completeness within the space limits are highly important.

Background: Present the scientific rationale behind the proposed research project. State which FY26 PCARP Focus Area(s) the study will address.

Hypothesis/Objective(s): State the hypothesis the project will test and/or objective(s) it will reach.

Specific Aims: State the specific aims of the study.

Study Design: Describe the study design, including appropriate controls.

Innovation: Briefly describe how the proposed project uses innovation to yield critical discoveries, new avenues of investigation, or major advancements to improve the understanding of pancreatic cancer and ultimately to improve outcomes of individuals with pancreatic cancer.

Impact: Summarize how the proposed project is relevant to and will have an impact on the outcomes of individuals with pancreatic cancer, their families/caregivers and/or the understanding of pancreatic cancer.

Military Relevance: Describe how the proposed research is relevant to the health of Service Members, Veterans and/or their Families.

- **Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "LayAbs.pdf".**

The lay abstract should address the points outlined below ***in a manner that is readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine.*** Avoid overuse of scientific jargon, acronyms and abbreviations. ***Do not duplicate the technical abstract.***

- Summarize the objectives and scientific rationale for the proposed research.
- Identify which FY26 PCARP Focus Area(s) the research will address.
- Describe the innovative aspects of the proposed research project.
- Explain the impact that the proposed research project's results might have on the field of pancreatic cancer research and/or patient care, including the PCARP's vision of diminishing the burden of pancreatic cancer.
- Describe the impact, in the short-term or long-term, on individuals living with pancreatic cancer, their families/caregivers and/or the understanding of pancreatic cancer.
- Describe how the proposed research is relevant to the health of Service Members, Veterans and/or their Families.

- **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf".** Refer to eBRAP for the Suggested SOW Format.

  For guidance on preparing the SOW, refer to the Example: Assembling a Generic Statement of Work. Include milestones for data or research resource(s) sharing.

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

- **Attachment 6: Impact Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Impact.pdf".** Describe how the project addresses one or more of the FY26 PCARP Focus Areas. Describe how the anticipated short-term outcomes of the project will advance the field and may impact those with pancreatic cancer. Describe how the project has the potential to lead to advancements in pancreatic cancer research or improved health outcomes or quality of life for individuals with pancreatic cancer in the short-term and/or long-term. If applicable, describe how the anticipated outcomes of the proposed study will make an impact in understanding health differences between sexes.

- **Attachment 7: Innovation Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Innovation.pdf".** Summarize the innovation of the proposed research. State how the research challenges existing paradigms or presents new paradigms, technologies, evidence-based diagnoses and/or applications in the field of pancreatic cancer research. Describe how the proposed research represents more than the next logical step or an incremental advance on published data.

- **Attachment 8: Animal Research Plan (three-page limit): Upload as "AnimalResPlan.pdf".** ***(Attachment 8 is only applicable and required for applications proposing animal studies.)***

  If the proposed study involves animals, a summary describing the animal research that will be conducted must be included in the application. Consult the ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 (Animal Research: Reporting *In Vivo* Experiments) to ensure relevant aspects of rigorous animal research are adequately planned for and, ultimately, reported. The Animal Research Plan may not be an exact replica of the protocol(s) submitted to the IACUC. The Animal Research Plan should address the following points to achieve reproducible and rigorous results for each proposed animal study:

  Briefly describe the research objective(s) of the animal study. Explain how and why the animal species, strain, 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).

- **Attachment 9: Accomplishments Statement (four-page limit): Upload as "Accomplishments.pdf".** Using the outline below, provide pancreatic cancer or other cancer research accomplishments **from the past five years** for the PI, Initiating PI and/or Partnering PI (if applicable):
  - Past and current pancreatic cancer or other cancer research support from both federal and nonfederal sources (as applicable).
  - Any pancreatic cancer or other cancer publications.
  - Any honoraria, awards or other distinctions received for work in pancreatic cancer or other cancer research.
  - Any patents or other pancreatic cancer or other cancer research accomplishments.
- **Attachment 10: Early-Career Investigator Statement (one page recommended): Upload as "ECIStatement.pdf".** ***(Attachment 10 is only applicable and required for Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator applications.)*** The Partnering PI (Early-Career Investigator) should write the Early-Career Investigator Statement, demonstrating evidence of appropriate direction from the Initiating PI, who will serve as the mentor for this project.
  - The Early-Career Investigator should describe their accomplishments (i.e., academic performance, awards, honors and/or previous publications and funding) and how they indicate potential for a successful, productive, independent career in pancreatic cancer research.
  - The Early-Career Investigator should describe their career goals and how the proposed research project and mentored research experience will promote their career development in pancreatic cancer. The Early-Career Investigator should discuss their career/research plans after the completion of this award.
- **Attachment 11: Researcher Development Plan (two pages recommended): Upload as "ResearcherDevPlan.pdf".** ***(Attachment 11 is only applicable and required for Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator applications.)*** The Initiating PI (mentor) should write the Researcher Development Plan and articulate the following:
  - Clearly describe and outline the individualized Researcher Development Plan, including proposed training to support the development of the Early-Career Investigator's research skills. If the mentor and Early-Career Investigator are in the same laboratory, provide a plan that will provide a pathway of independence for the Early-Career Investigator.

- Highlight the unique features of this plan as it pertains specifically to pancreatic cancer research.
- Clearly articulate a strategy for the Early-Career Investigator to develop the necessary skills, competence and expertise to pursue a promising career in pancreatic cancer research.
- Describe how the Initiating PI's (mentor's) qualifications and experience position them to mentor the Early-Career Investigator toward a successful career in pancreatic cancer research.
- Describe how the research environment supports the Researcher Development Plan. Include a description of ongoing pancreatic cancer research at the institution(s) and information on collaborations with other investigators.
- Describe the Early-Career Investigator's role in the proposed research project.

- **Attachment 12: Letter of Eligibility (one-page limit): Upload as "Eligibility.pdf".** ***(Attachment 12 is only applicable and required for Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator applications.)*** Provide a signed letter in which the Partnering PI (Early Career Investigator) and the Department Chair, Dean or equivalent official verify that the Partnering PI meets eligibility criteria and is no more than eight years from first faculty appointment, i.e., instructor level or above, or equivalent, excluding time spent on family medical leave. Include the organizational commitment for independent laboratory space (if applicable).
- **Attachment 13: Representations *(Grants.gov submissions only)*: Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf".** All extramural applicants must complete and submit the Required Representations document available on eBRAP.
- **Attachment 14: Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form *(if applicable)*: Upload as "IGBudget.pdf".** If an intramural DOW organization will be a collaborator in the performance of the project, complete a separate budget for that organization using the Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget form available on eBRAP.

(c) Additional Application Materials:

The following are additional forms for application submission. Follow the instructions specific to the submission portal, as found within the GAI.

 Grants.gov

 eBRAP.org

i. Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

- **Biographical Sketch**
- **Current/Pending Support**

  Intragovernmental applicants must include their internally supported research and development programs.

ii. Research & Related Budget

Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigators: *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, or vice versa, even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to* ***Section 3.4. Funding Details****, for detailed budget information.*

iii. Project/Performance Site Location(s)

iv. Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) *(if applicable, Grants.gov submissions only)*

4.3.2. Full Application Components for the Partnering PI

Refer to the equivalent attachment above for details specific to each of the following application components. See Appendix 1 for a checklist of the full application components required for the Partnering PI.

(a) SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form *(Grants.gov Submissions Only)*:

(b) Attachments:

- **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf".** Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW.
- **Attachment 13: Representations *(Grants.gov submissions only)*: Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf".**
- **Attachment 14: Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form: Upload as "IGBudget.pdf".**

(c) Additional Application Materials:

The following are additional application materials for application submission. Follow the instructions specific to the submission portal found within the GAI.

Grants.gov eBRAP.org

i. Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

- **Biographical Sketch**
- **Current/Pending Support**

  Intragovernmental applicants must include their internally supported research and development programs.

ii. Research & Related Budget

*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 Partnering PI should not include budget information for the Initiating PI, or vice versa, even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to **Section 3.4, Funding Details**, for detailed budget information.*

iii. Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form

iv. Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form *(if applicable, Grants.gov submissions only)*

4.4. Other Application Elements

If recommended for funding, a data management plan compliant with Section 3.c, Enclosure 3, DoD Instructions 3200.12 will be requested.

The government reserves the right to request a revised budget, budget justification and/or additional information for applications recommended for funding.

5. Submission Requirements

5.1. Location of Application Package

Download the application package components for HT942526PCARPIDA from Grants.gov or eBRAP, depending on which submission portal will be used.

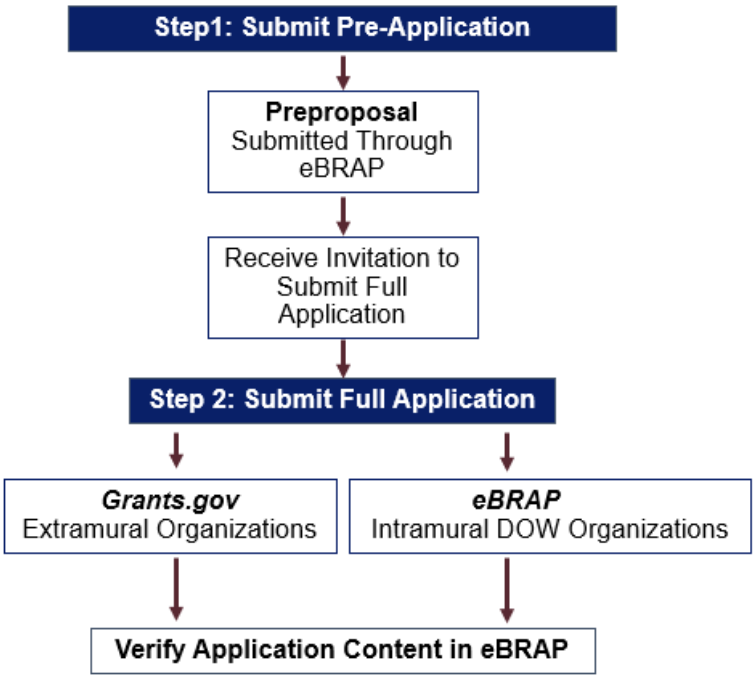
5.2. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

The applicant organization must be registered as an entity in the System for Award Management (SAM), SAM.gov, and receive confirmation of an "Active" status before submitting an application through Grants.gov. Organizations must include the unique entity identifier (UEI) generated by the SAM in applications to this funding opportunity and maintain an active registration in the SAM at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application under consideration.

5.3. Submission Instructions

The CDMRP uses two portal systems to accept pre- and full application submissions. The workflow below shows which portal system to use for pre- and full application submissions, respectively.

Application Submission Workflow



5.3.1. Pre-Application Submission

All pre-application components must be submitted by the PI or Initiating PI through eBRAP including the submission of contact information for the Partnering PI if selecting the Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator.

During the pre-application process, eBRAP assigns each submission a unique log number. This unique log number is required during the full application submission process. The eBRAP log number, application title 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. Contact the eBRAP Help Desk if any changes need to be made.

Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator: After the Initiating PI confirms submission of the pre-application, the Partnering PI will be notified of the pre-application submission via an email from eBRAP. ***The Partnering PI must follow the instructions provided in the email to associate the partnering pre-application with their eBRAP account.*** If not previously registered, the Partnering PI must register in eBRAP.

Partnering PIs should not initiate a new pre-application based on the same research project submitted by the Initiating PI. Partnering PIs are urged to associate the partnering pre-application with their eBRAP account as soon as possible. If this is not completed by the full application deadline:

- Any intramural Partnering PI will not be able to submit their full application package components to eBRAP.
- The Partnering PI will not be able to view and modify their full application during the verification period in eBRAP.

When starting the pre-application, PIs should select a Mechanism Option appropriate to their pre-application:

Application Includes:	Select Mechanism Option:
Single PI	Idea Development Award (IDA)
Initiating PI and Partnering PI	Idea Development Award – Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator (IDA-PPIO)

5.3.2. Full Application Submission

Grants.gov Submissions: Full applications from extramural organizations *must* be submitted through the Grants.gov Workspace.

eBRAP Submissions: Only intramural DOW organizations may submit full applications through eBRAP.

5.3.3. Applicant Verification of Full Application Submission in eBRAP

Independent of the submission portal, once the full application is submitted, it is transmitted to and processed in eBRAP; the transmission to eBRAP may take up to 48 hours. At this stage, the PI and organizational representatives will receive an email from eBRAP

instructing them to log in to eBRAP to review, modify and verify the full application submission. ***The Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline.*** Other application components, including subaward budget(s) and subaward budget justification(s), may be changed until the application verification period ends. The full application cannot be modified once the application verification period ends.

5.4. Submission Dates and Times

The pre-application and full application submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. Regardless of submission portal used, all pre- and full application components must be submitted by the deadlines stipulated in this program announcement. There are no grace periods for deadlines; failure to meet submission deadlines will result in application rejection. ***The DHACA cannot make allowances/exceptions for submission problems encountered by the applicant.***

Submission dates and times are specified in Section 1, Basic Information.

5.5. Intergovernmental Review

Not applicable for this funding opportunity.

6. Application Review Information

6.1. Application Compliance Review

Submitting applications that 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).

While it is allowable to propose similar research projects to different programs within the CDMRP or to other organizations, duplication of funding or accepting funding from more than one source for the same research is prohibited. See the CDMRP's Directive on Research Duplication.

Including classified research data within the application and/or proposing research that may produce classified outcomes or outcomes deemed sensitive to national security concerns, may result in application withdrawal.

Members of the FY26 PCARP Programmatic Panel must not be involved in any pre-application or full application including, but not limited to, concept design, application development, budget preparation and the development of any supporting documentation, including personal letters of support/recommendation for the research and/or PI. Programmatic panel members ***may*** provide letters to confirm PI eligibility and access to laboratory space, equipment and other resources necessary for the project if that is part of their regular roles and responsibilities (e.g., as Department Chair). ***A list of the FY26 PCARP Programmatic Panel members can be found on the CDMRP website.***

Additional restrictions and associated administrative responses are outlined in Section 9.2, Administrative Actions.

6.2. Review Criteria

6.2.1. Pre-Application Screening Criteria

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

- **Research Idea:** Whether the proposed research addresses one or more of the FY26 PCARP Focus Areas. How well the scientific rationale, preliminary data, study design and specific aims support the project's objective. If applicable, to what extent the PI(s) and research team can accomplish the proposed research with the defined study population.
- **Impact:** What potential impact this study will have on the outcomes of individuals with pancreatic cancer, their families/caregivers and/or the understanding of pancreatic cancer.
- **Innovation:** To what extent the research is innovative and represents more than an incremental advance on published data.
- **Personnel:** To what extent the PI(s) and research team's backgrounds and pancreatic cancer-related experience support their ability to successfully carry out the proposed research project.
- **Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator (if applicable):** To what extent the Initiating PI's (mentor's) qualifications and experience position them to mentor the Partnering PI (Early-Career Investigator) toward a successful career in pancreatic cancer

research. How well the Researcher Development Plan will contribute to fostering the Partnering PI's (Early-Career Investigator's) development as a pancreatic cancer researcher.

6.2.2. Peer Review Criteria

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

Note that high innovation and impact do not compensate for deficiencies in research strategy and feasibility.

- **Research Strategy and Feasibility**
  - To what extent the application states a clear hypothesis that is supported by scientific rationale, preliminary data and referenced literature citations.
  - How well the application develops the hypothesis or objectives and specific aims.
  - To what extent the experimental design, methods and analyses support achieving reproducible and rigorous results.
  - How well the application acknowledges potential problem areas and addresses alternative methods and approaches.
  - If applicable, how well the applicant designed the animal study (or studies) to achieve the objectives, including the choice of model(s) and endpoint(s).
  - If applicable, to what extent the application justifies the appropriateness of the human subject population and demonstrates the availability of, and access to, tissues, data or human subjects.
  - If applicable, whether the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities and distribution of proposed enrollment are appropriate for the proposed research. Studies utilizing human biospecimens or datasets that cannot be linked to a specific individual, ethnicity, or race (typically classified as exempt from IRB review) are exempt from this requirement.
  - Whether the strategy for considering sex as a biological variable is appropriate to the objectives of the study or whether the justification for a single-sex study is sufficiently strong.
  - To what extent the plan for sharing of project data and research resources is appropriate and reasonable and includes dissemination to affected communities, study participants and/or the scientific community. If applicable, whether specific repository(ies) are named where data and research resources arising from the project will be stored.
- **Impact**
  - How well the proposed research addresses at least one of the FY26 PCARP Focus Areas.
  - To what extent the anticipated short-term outcome(s) of the project may impact individuals with pancreatic cancer and/or improve understanding of pancreatic cancer.
  - To what extent the anticipated short-term and/or long-term gains from this research project may impact the pancreatic cancer community.

- To what extent the proposed project will ultimately improve the health outcomes or quality of life of individuals with pancreatic cancer.
- If applicable, to what extent the anticipated outcomes of the proposed study will make an impact in understanding health differences between sexes.

- **Innovation**
  - To what extent the proposed research will challenge existing paradigms or provide new paradigms, technologies, evidence-based diagnoses and/or applications for pancreatic cancer research.
  - To what extent the proposed research represents more than the next logical step or an incremental advance upon published data.
- **Statistical Plan**
  - To what extent the application describes an appropriate statistical plan, including power analysis, and rationale for the statistical methodology.
  - How well the proposed statistical analysis supports the relevance of any research outcomes to the FY26 PCARP Focus Area(s).
- **Personnel**
  - How appropriate the research team's background and experience are for successful conduct of the proposed research.
  - To what extent each PI's funding, publications, honoraria, awards, other distinctions, patents, and/or other research accomplishments demonstrate their experience and skill in the research areas of pancreatic cancer or other fields.

The following separately scored criteria evaluate only the merits of the proposed Partnering PI (Early-Career Investigator). These criteria are considered independent components of the application evaluation, and reviewers will consider them at the programmatic review to make funding recommendations for applications submitted under the Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator:

- **Early-Career Investigator**
  - To what extent the Partnering PI's (Early-Career Investigator's) achievements (as reflected by academic performance, awards, honors and/or previous publications and funding) indicate potential for a successful career as a pancreatic cancer researcher.
  - To what extent the Early-Career Investigator's stated career goals will promote their career development in pancreatic cancer research.
- **Researcher Development Plan**
  - How well the application outlined a detailed, individualized Researcher Development Plan that will effectively support the development and, if located in the same laboratory, a pathway for independence of the Early-Career Investigator's research skills in pancreatic cancer research.
  - To what extent the Initiating PI's (mentor's) qualifications and experience position them to mentor the Early-Career Investigator toward a successful career in pancreatic cancer research.
  - To what extent the research environment supports the Research Development Plan.

In addition, the following criteria will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application, but will not be individually scored and are therefore termed **unscored criteria**:

- **Budget**
  - Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research.
- **Environment**
  - To what extent the scientific environment and level of institutional support is appropriate for the proposed research project.
  - How well the research requirements are supported by the availability of and accessibility to facilities and resources.
- **Application Presentation**
  - To what extent the writing, clarity and presentation of the application components influence the review.

6.2.3. 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 peer reviewers
- Relevance to the priorities of the FY26 PCARP, as evidenced by the following:
  - Adherence to the intent of the funding opportunity
  - Program portfolio balance
  - Programmatic relevance to the FY26 PCARP Focus Areas
  - Relative impact and innovation

6.3. Application Review and Selection Process

6.3.1. Pre-Application

Following the pre-application screening, Initiating PIs will be notified as to whether they are invited to submit full applications. The estimated date when PIs can expect to receive notification of an invitation to submit a full application is indicated in Section 1, Basic Information about the Funding Opportunity. No feedback (e.g., a critique of the pre-application's strengths and weaknesses) is provided at this stage. Because the invitation to submit a full 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.

6.3.2. Full Application

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 subject to review and approval by a

designated official. ***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 6.2.3, Programmatic Review.*** Additional information about the two-tier process used by the CDMRP can be found on the CDMRP website.

Funding of applications received is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for this program, the number of applications received, the quality and merit of the applications as evaluated by peer 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.

6.4. Risk, 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 the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 2, Part 200.1 (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 SAM.

An applicant organization may review the SAM and submit comments on any information currently available about the organization that a federal awarding agency previously entered. 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.

In accordance with National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 and all associated laws, all fundamental research funded by the DOW must be evaluated for affiliations with foreign entities. All applicant organizations must disclose foreign affiliations of all key personnel named on applications. Failure to disclose foreign affiliations of key personnel shall lead to withdrawal of recommendations to fund applications. Applicant organizations may be presented with an opportunity to mitigate identified risks, particularly those pertaining to influence from foreign entities specified in law. Implementation of mitigation discussions and utilization of the DOD Component Decision Matrix must decrease risk of foreign influence in accordance with the above-mentioned laws and guidance prior to award.

7. Federal Award Notices

For each compliant full application received, the organizational representative(s) and PI will receive email notification when the funding recommendations are posted to eBRAP, typically within 6 weeks after programmatic review. At this time, each PI will receive a peer review summary statement on the strengths and weaknesses of the application and an information paper describing the application receipt and review process for the PCARP award mechanisms. The information papers and a list of organizations and PIs recommended for funding are also posted on the program's page within the CDMRP website. After all awards are made, the CDMRP includes individual award information in a searchable database.

If an application is recommended for funding, after the email notification is posted to eBRAP, a government representative will contact the person authorized to negotiate on behalf of the recipient organization.

Only an appointed DHACA Grants Officer may obligate the government to the expenditure of funds to an extramural organization. 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 (i.e., assistance agreement).***

Intragovernmental obligations of funding will be made according to the terms of a negotiated Inter-Agency Agreement and managed by a CDMRP Science Officer.

Funding obligated to ***intragovernmental and intramural DOW organizations*** will be sent through the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR), Funding Authorization Document (FAD) or Direct Charge Work Breakdown Structure processes. Transfer of funds is contingent upon appropriate safety and administrative approvals. Intragovernmental and intramural DOW investigators and collaborators must coordinate receipt and commitment of funds through their respective Resource Manager/Task Area Manager/Comptroller or equivalent Business Official.

An 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.

8. Post-Award Requirements

8.1. 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.

The GAI contain information regarding administrative requirements and national policy requirements.

Refer to full text of the latest DoD R&D Terms and Conditions and the DHACA Terms and Conditions for further information.

If there are delinquencies in technical reporting requirements for any existing DHA or U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command awards at the applicant organization, DHACA will not issue any new awards to the applicant organization until all delinquent reports have been submitted.

Applications recommended for funding that involve animals, human data, human specimens, human subjects or human cadavers must be reviewed for compliance with federal animal and/or human subjects protection requirements and must be approved by the DHA R&D Office of Research and Regulatory Compliance (ORRC), prior to implementation. This administrative review requirement is in addition to the local Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), IRB or Ethics Committee (EC) review.

8.2. Reporting

Annual technical progress reports as well as a final technical progress report will be required. Annual and final technical progress reports must be prepared in accordance with the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR).

PHS Inclusion Enrollment Reporting ***(Required for research proposing clinical research)***: Enrollment reporting on the basis of sex, race, and/or ethnicity will be required with each annual and final progress report. The PHS Inclusion Enrollment Report is available on eBRAP.

The Award Terms and Conditions will specify whether additional and/or more frequent reporting is required.

Award Expiration Transition Plan: An Award Expiration Transition Plan, using the template available on eBRAP, must be submitted with the final progress report.

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 the SAM about certain civil, criminal and administrative proceedings that reached final disposition within the most recent 5-year period and that were connected with their 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.

8.3. Additional Requirements

Unless otherwise restricted, changes in the PI, Initiating PI or Partnering PI will be allowed on a case-by-case basis, 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.

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

9. Other Information

9.1. Program Announcement Version

Questions related to this program announcement should refer to the program name, the program announcement name and the program announcement version code CD26_01d.

9.2. Administrative Actions

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

9.2.1. Rejection

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

- Preproposal Narrative is missing.

The following will result in administrative rejection of the full application:

- The Project Narrative is missing.
- The Budget is missing.
- Submission of an application for which a letter of invitation was not issued.

9.2.2. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specified limits will be removed prior to reviewing all documents.
- Documents not requested will be removed.

9.2.3. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the full application:

- A member of the FY26 PCARP Programmatic Panel is named as being involved in the development or execution of the research proposed or is found to have assisted in the pre-application or application processes.
- The application includes the name(s) of personnel from either of the CDMRP peer or programmatic review companies for which conflicts cannot be adequately mitigated. For FY26, the identities of the peer review contractor and the programmatic review contractor may be found on the CDMRP website.
- 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.
- The application from an extramural organization, including non-DOW federal agencies, is received through eBRAP.
- The federal government recipient organization (including an intramural DOW organization): (a) cannot accept and execute the entirety of the requested budget in FY26 funds; and/or (b)

cannot coordinate the use of contractual, assistance or other appropriate agreements to provide funds to collaborators.

- The application fails to conform to this program announcement description.
- The application includes URLs, with the exception of links in the References Cited and Publication and/or Patent sections.
- The application includes research data that are classified and/or proposes research that may produce classified outcomes, or outcomes deemed sensitive to national security concerns.
- The same research project is submitted to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.
- The invited application proposes a different research project than that described in the pre-application.
- Application does not address a FY26 PCARP Focus Area.
- Application proposes a clinical trial.
- The PI, Initiating PI (mentor) or Partnering PI (Early-Career Investigator) does not meet the eligibility criteria.
- If an investigator is named in multiple FY26 PCARP Idea Development Award applications as PI, Initiating PI or Partnering PI, only the first application received will be accepted; additional applications will be administratively withdrawn.
- **Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator:** Failure to submit all associated (Initiating and Partnering PI) applications by the deadline.

9.2.4. 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 DHACA Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

Appendix 1. Full Application Submission Checklist

Full Application Components	Uploaded	
	PI/Initiating PI	Partnering PI
SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance *(Grants.gov submissions only)*	☐	☐
Summary (Tab 1) and Application Contacts (Tab 2) *(eBRAP submissions only)*	☐	☐
Attachments		
Project Narrative – Attachment 1, upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf"	☐	
Supporting Documentation – Attachment 2, upload as "Support.pdf"	☐	
Technical Abstract – Attachment 3, upload as "TechAbs.pdf"	☐	
Lay Abstract – Attachment 4, upload as "LayAbs.pdf"	☐	
Statement of Work –Attachment 5, upload as "SOW.pdf"	☐	☐
Impact Statement – Attachment 6, upload as "Impact.pdf"	☐	
Innovation Statement – Attachment 7, upload as "Innovation.pdf"	☐	
Animal Research Plan – Attachment 8, upload as "AnimalRes.Plan.pdf"	☐	
Accomplishments Statement – Attachment 9, upload as "Accomplishments.pdf"	☐	
Early-Career Investigator Statement – Attachment 10, upload as "ECIStatement.pdf"	☐	
Researcher Development Plan – Attachment 11, upload as "ResearcherDevPlan.pdf"	☐	
Letter of Eligibility – Attachment 12, upload as "Eligibility.pdf"	☐	
Representations *(Grants.gov submissions only)* – Attachment 13, upload as "RequiredReps.pdf"	☐	☐
Suggested Intragovernmental Budget Form *(if applicable)* – Attachment 14, upload as "IGBudget.pdf"	☐	☐
Additional Application Materials		
Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)	☐	☐

Attach Biographical Sketch for Senior/Key Persons (Biosketch_LastName.pdf)	☐	☐
Attach Current/Pending Support for Senior/Key Persons (Support_LastName.pdf)	☐	☐
Research & Related Budget	☐	☐
Project/Performance Site Location(s)	☐	☐
Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) (*if applicable)*	☐	☐

Appendix 2. Acronym List

CDMRP	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DHA	Defense Health Agency
DHA R&D	Defense Health Agency Research and Development
DHACA	Defense Health Agency Contracting Activity
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
DoDGARs	Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations
DOW	U.S. Department of War
eBRAP	Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal
EC	Ethics Committee
ET	Eastern Time
FAD	Funding Authorization Document
FY	Fiscal Year
IACUC	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
IDA	Idea Development Award
IRB	Institutional Review Board
M	Million
MIPR	Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request
NIH	National Institutes of Health
ORRC	Office of Research and Regulatory Compliance
PCARP	Pancreatic Cancer Research Program
PDF	Portable Document Format
PHS	Public Health Service
PI	Principal Investigator
R&D	Research and Development
RPPR	Research Performance Progress Report
SABV	Sex as a Biological Variable
SAM	System for Award Management
SF424 R&R	Standard Form 424 (Application for Federal Assistance, Research & Related)
SOW	Statement of Work
UEI	Unique Entity Identifier
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
USC	United States Code
VA	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs