



RFA 11-03 CIRM Basic Biology Awards IV

Appendix for Partner PIs from France

GOAL

The ANR is joining the **CIRM RFA (Request for Applications, termed Call for Proposals in France) 11-03 BASIC BIOLOGY AWARDS IV** to fund collaborative research projects between Californian researchers and French researchers.

The objective of this call for proposals is to fund basic research projects that tackle outstanding issues in relation to understanding the biology of human stem cells. As described in the RFA, CIRM funding under this initiative will be prioritized towards studies utilizing human cells, although CIRM will exceptionally fund research necessitating the use of animal model systems if the proposed studies are groundbreaking and highly innovative. The ANR, however, does not have any restrictions regarding the “material” used to address the scientific questions (i.e. human stem cell lines or animal models & cells). What is important for the evaluation of the **French-Californian joint proposals is that they must show an added value to the collaborative work, with complementary approaches that should lead to a higher impact for the project.**

GRANT SUBMISSION

Submission of an application for this RFA involves a two-step process, as described in section VIII of RFA 11-03. Grant Pre-Applications and, if invited, Full Applications, must be submitted jointly by a coordinator from each country/state: a Californian coordinator, termed principal investigator (**PI**), and a French coordinator, termed **Partner PI**. The PI and Partner PI each coordinate the work in their country and are respectively the main contact persons for CIRM and ANR.

Other researchers (**called partners in France**) may participate in a proposal. These partners are called "**key personnel**" in the text of the call for proposals (RFA-11-3), and in the Full-Application form. The CIRM procedure specifies that the "key personnel" do not appear in pre-application form. The ANR, however, would like to know the names of these partners. Therefore, the French coordinator will have to complete a French annex (« **fiche annexe française** ») with a description of the requested budget for each French partner (maximum of 6 French partners). Please visit <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/Cellules-souches-ANR-CIRM> for further information.

EVALUATION

The evaluation process has been agreed upon by ANR and CIRM. Funding agencies involved in this call will work together to nominate members to the Grants Working Group (GWG), the panel of scientists from which the 15 member evaluation panel will be drawn. The agencies will also work together to identify specialists to participate in the review of Pre- and Full-Applications. The ANR team will attend the evaluation panel meeting as observers. The CIRM is managing the submission and evaluation process.

FUNDING BY ANR

Please note that the Californian part of the collaboration will be funded by the CIRM, whereas the French part of the grant will be funded by the ANR. **If selected for funding, each French partner (partner PI and key personnel) involved in a given project will have to sign a grant with the ANR. French applicants are therefore subject to the ANR eligibility criteria and the funding of French applicants will be regulated according to the ANR rules.** The main considerations of the French rules are listed below, but for details please read the French Appendix on the ANR website (“Annexe pour les participants Français”).

- The ANR can support public and private research institutions located in France. For applicants from public research institutes such as EPST, EPIC, universities, up to 100% of the marginal costs can be funded. For private companies, the maximum rate of support for SMEs is 45% of total costs, and for companies other than SMEs it is 30% of total costs.
- The following categories of expenses can be financed within this program: 1) personnel costs for temporary staff; 2) small equipment; 3) consumables and animal costs; 4) travel; and 5) subcontracting if necessary to carry out the proposed activities (subcontracting costs of max 50% of requested budget per partner).
- Temporary staff (post-docs, technicians, “CDD”,...) can be assigned to the project. Except in special cases, for the entire project, the corresponding effort (in persons month) giving rise to an ANR funding should not exceed 50% of the total effort involved on the project. The ANR will not fund PhD students in this program.
- The ANR does not have a maximum funding per grant; the amount depends on the scientific need and justification for the budget. However, there is a minimum amount per partner: 15 000 €.
- The ANR will avoid double funding and will not finance projects or parts of projects that are funded through other calls.
- In this program, funding is granted for a minimum of two years and a maximum of three years.

The **scientific follow up and reporting** of funded projects will be done jointly by the ANR and the CIRM. In addition, the ANR will ask the French Partner PI of funded projects complementary administrative information for the follow up.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

ANR website: <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/Cellules-souches-ANR-CIRM>

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