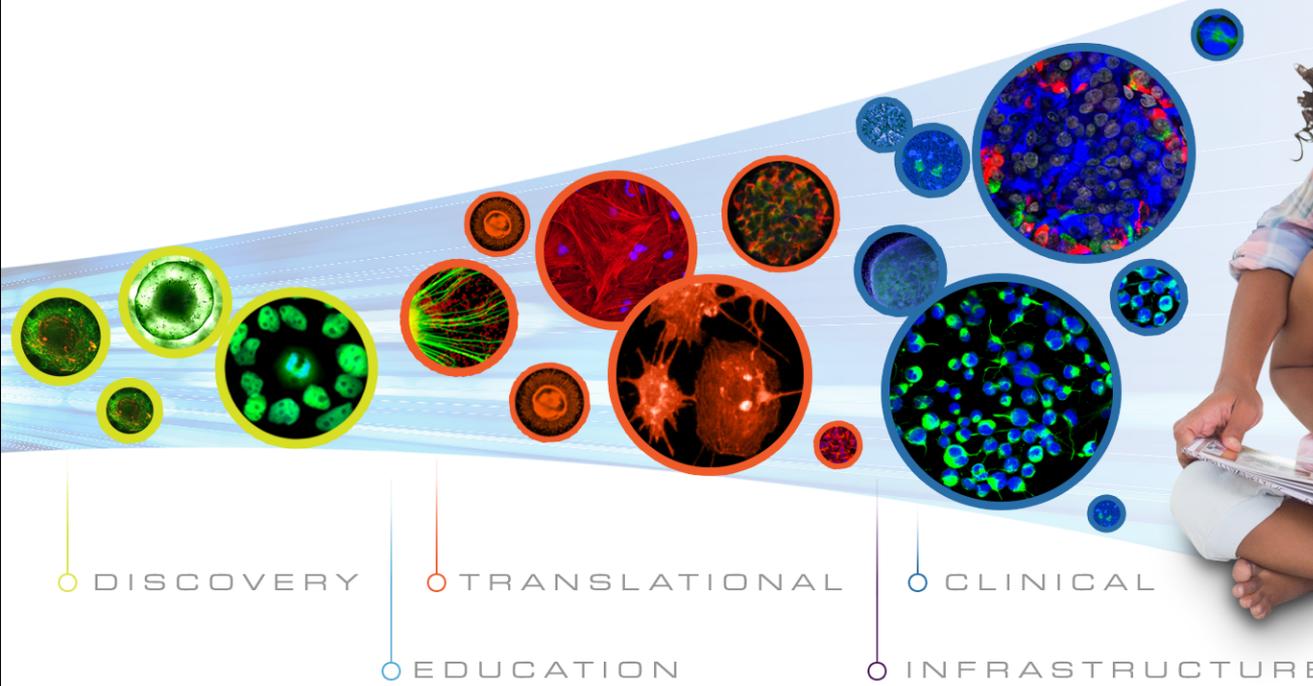


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CIRM 2.0

CALIFORNIA'S STEM CELL AGENCY



CIRM 2.0: Conference Grant Program Concept Proposal

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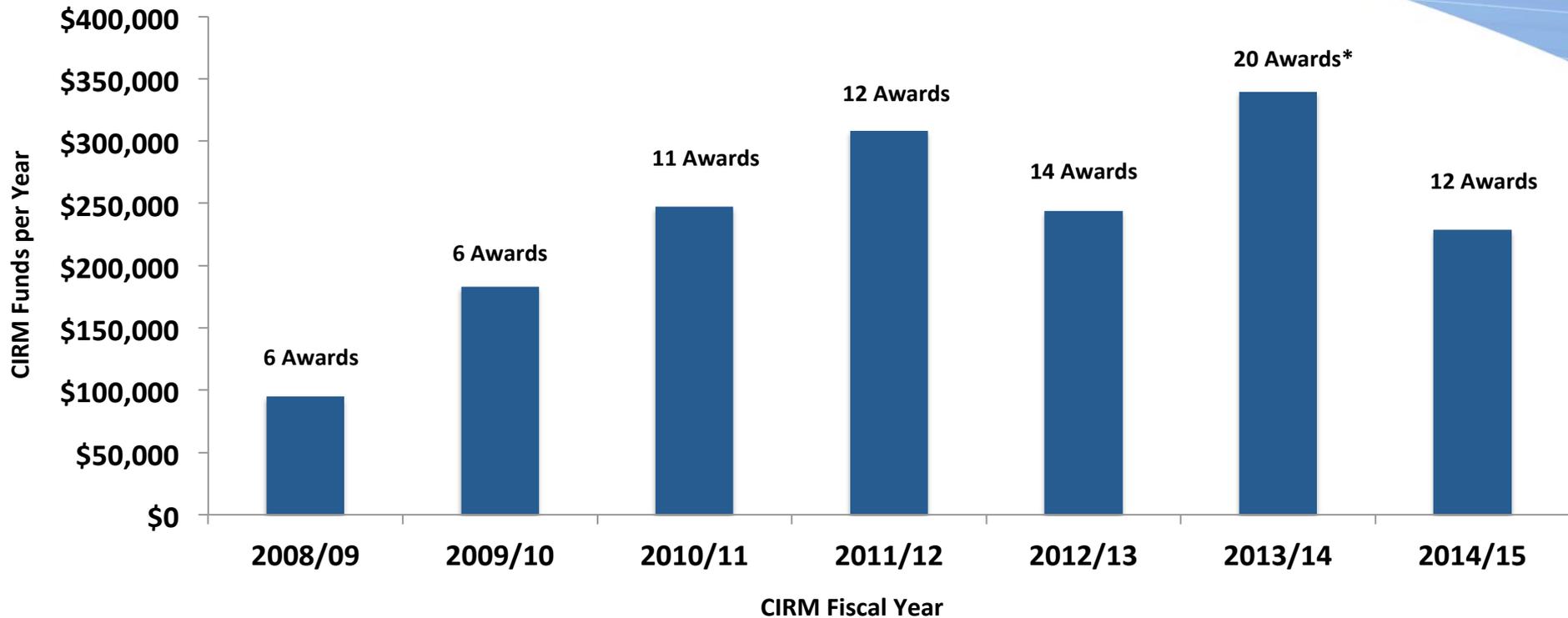
Current Conference Grant Program

Intent: To promote high quality scientific conferences that support and enhance CIRM's scientific mission

- Two paths of funding:
 - Category 1 (Open call for conferences): Grantee plans, directs, and executes the meeting
 - Category 2 (CIRM-initiated conference): Grantee plans, directs, and executes the meeting. CIRM oversees progress and offers content input
- ICOC allocated \$300K per FY and delegated authority to review and make funding decisions to the CIRM President
- Since 2008, 81 conferences have been supported with \$1.65M
 - Average awards/year:~11-12 awards
 - Average funds/year: ~ \$236,000
 - Average funds/award:~ \$20,370

Funding History

CIRM Conference Grant Funding by Fiscal Year



Why Change?

- CIRM 2.0
 - Opportunity to give the program a tune up
 - Make it more mission-driven
- CIRM underutilized Category 2
- Easier to maintain and improve oversight of funding used for CIRM Scientific Workshops

Concept Proposal for CIRM 2.0 Conference Grants

- Continue to foster and promote high quality scientific conferences directly relevant to CIRM's mission
- Request the ICOC to allocate \$2M biennially (initially, for Fiscal Years 2015/16 & 2016/17)
- Modify the 2 types of conference grants
 - Align eligibility requirements for Category 1 (now Mechanism 1) with CIRM 2.0's Mission Statement
 - Change eligibility requirements for Category 2 (now Mechanism 2) to increase its utility for CIRM 2.0
- Standardize attendance policy and actively engage entire CIRM team (CIRM Patient Advocates, ICOC members, and CIRM Staff)

General Eligibility Requirements

- Must establish relevance to CIRM's mission
- Must be held in California
- Program Director must be suitably qualified
- Mechanism 1 applications must show co-funding

Requested Funding Allocation

- \$2M biennially (initially for Fiscal Years 2015/16 and 2016/17)
- No indirect costs
- Examples of permitted uses for funds:
 - Rental of a conference room
 - Audio/Visual and internet connectivity
 - Transportation, lodging for speakers
 - Supplies needed for conduct of the conference and conference services
- Examples of non-permitted uses of funds:
 - Purchase of equipment, visas and/or passports
 - Entertainment, alcoholic beverages, food, and meals not related to travel
 - Organization dues, salary support for organizers, honoraria for speakers, and cash awards to attendees

Award Amounts

Mechanism 1 (Open Call for Conferences)

Mechanism 2 (CIRM-initiated Conferences)

The lesser of \$50K or 50% of the overall budget

Budget set by CIRM President

(Previously funded examples: Stem Cell Meeting on the Mesa, Rachmiel Levine Diabetes & Obesity, Cell Therapies in Trauma & Critical Care, Keystone Meetings)

(Proposed examples: Stakeholder Meeting, Bridges and Creativity Meetings, Clinical Network Annual Symposium, Therapeutic area-focused workshops)

Proposed Budget Items for FY 2015/16 & 2016/17

Conference	Mechanism	# Scheduled over 2 FYs	Total Funds Budgeted (Estimated)
8 Rounds of Open Call Funding	1	n/a	\$600,000
Stakeholders' Meeting	2	1	\$500,000
Clinical Network Annual Symposium	2	2	\$200,000
CIRM Bridges Meeting	2	2	\$300,000
CIRM Creativity Meeting	2	2	\$80,000
CIRM Conference & Workshops	2	TBD	\$320,000
TOTAL	---	---	\$2,000,000

Recommendation

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve new Concept Proposal for Conference Grants under CIRM 2.0.