



SOMETHING BETTER THAN HOPE

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CIRM
CALIFORNIA / STEM CELL AGENCY

Research Budget Update

Unallocated Recovered Funds (as of Jan. 30, 2020)	\$2,280,659
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Proposed Allocation of Funds

1. CIRM Progression Awards

An incentive award for recipients of a Quest Award that successfully achieve funding to advance the Quest award candidate to translational stage activities (or into pre-clinical development).

2. CIRM Grantee Symposium

A meeting of CIRM grantees organized through a conference award.

CIRM Progression Awards

What it is

- The Quest Award (DISC2) program has an incentive mechanism that rewards successful advancement of a development candidate with an additional award of \$150,000 in direct project costs.
- Quest Awardees who achieve a Progression Event within one year of completing a Quest Award are eligible to receive a Progression Award to conduct a stem cell research project that aligns with the CIRM mission.
- A Progression Event occurs when new funds (from any source) have been committed to advance the project to the next stage of “translational” activities.

CIRM Progression Awards

How it works

- To qualify, Quest Awardees submit an application to CIRM that demonstrates achievement of a Progression Event and outlines eligible research activities to be conducted under a Progression Award.
- CIRM assesses eligibility and, if funds are available, issues a Progression Award (administered as a DISC1 Award) to eligible applicants.

CIRM Progression Awards

Current status

- Several Quest Awards are now, or are soon, at project completion.
- CIRM has received two applications for Progression Awards that if eligible would require approximately \$460,000 to issue awards.
- CIRM expects that we could receive up to 6 additional applications by mid-year that would call for an additional \$1,380,000.

CIRM Request

- CIRM requests allocation of \$1,840,000 to the Progression Award program (DISC2P) out of the available \$2.28M to allow funding of up to eight eligible projects.
- CIRM will provide an update in May on the number of new applications and status of recovered funds.

CIRM Grantee Meeting

Background

CIRM proposes to use the existing Conference Grant mechanism to solicit applications to organize and execute a meeting of grantees in 2020.

The meeting would invite CIRM grantees, members of the CIRM Governing Board, patient advocates, interested funding organizations and stakeholders, and the public to discuss advances and progress in the field of stem cell research in California.

CIRM Grantee Meeting

Meeting goals

- Provide a public forum to learn about the most recent advances in stem cell research in California.
- Encourage the sharing of information and data among CIRM grantees to foster collaboration and learning.
- Timely presentations to address and overcome key bottlenecks and challenges in the field to help advance existing projects.
- Showcase promising stem cell-based projects for partnership opportunities with investors, funders, or companies

CIRM Grantee Meeting

Format

- A 2-day meeting that would include scientific presentations by notable key speakers and CIRM investigators.
- Approximately 300-400 attendees
- To be held in latter half of 2020

Estimated cost

- \$250,000 (based on cost of similar meetings held in the past)

CIRM requests an allocation of \$250,000 to the Conference Grant program to issue an RFA and allow funding of a grant to realize this meeting.