DISC2: Quest Awards FAQ

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PROJECT SCOPE & ELIGIBILITY

1. **What are the changes since the last DISC2 cycle?**

   Since the last DISC2 cycle, the DISC2 concept was amended (details here). The diagnostic/tool/device candidate track was replaced with a biomarker track and the overall award amounts increased.

2. **What is the objective and scope of DISC2?**

   As detailed in the Program Announcement, the objective of the Quest Awards Program is to (1) promote the discovery of promising new stem cell-based and genetic therapeutic candidates that can be translated for clinical use, OR (2) promote the discovery of promising new biomarker candidates that can be translated for clinical use, particularly in drug development. Pages 3-4 of the Program Announcement detail the scope of activities that DISC2 can support.

3. **Are there specific disease areas of interest for DISC2? Are projects addressing neurological disorders reviewed separately considering the $1.5 billion allocated to neuro research in Proposition 14?**

   At this time, the DISC2 opportunity is open to all disease areas or indications, and there are no separate review processes based on disease focus. Applicants should make the case for the impact and significance of their proposed research.

   The ReMIND Initiative is our discovery stage neuro-focused program and contains two distinct funding opportunities. Please visit the ReMIND site to learn more.

4. **What stage of research will DISC2 support?**

   As detailed in the Program Announcement, DISC2 supports activities that will lead to the selection of a novel therapeutic or biomarker candidate that is ready for translation by the end of the DISC2 award period. Please see pages 3-4 of the Program Announcement for more details.

5. **How far along in translation does a project need to be to be eligible for DISC2?**

   To be eligible for DISC2, a project must be designed to culminate in the identification of a development candidate that will be ready for translation by the end of the DISC2 award period. "Readiness for translation" is defined in the Program Announcement for the different eligible candidate types. While there are no formal entry criteria for DISC2 applications, strong proposals will include sufficient preliminary data to convince reviewers that the Expected Outcome can be achieved in the proposed time frame.

6. **Can I propose a therapeutic development candidate and biomarker development in the same application?**

   No, only one application per PI per funding opportunity cycle is allowed. Each application must select either a therapeutic or biomarker candidate track. An institution or organization may submit more than one application if they are submitted by different PIs.

7. **Is there a percentage of applications that will be allocated to therapeutic candidates vs. biomarker candidates?**

   No, there are no pre-defined quotas for therapeutic candidates vs. biomarker candidates.

8. **I am uncertain whether my proposed candidate (or proposed stem/progenitor cell, cancer stem cell) fulfills the eligibility requirements under the DISC2 mechanism.**

   Eligibility for therapeutic candidates is outlined in the Eligibility section of the DISC2 Program Announcement (page 7).

   For proposals where eligibility considerations include human stem/progenitor cells , please review CIRM's definition of these populations in the DISC2 PA. If necessary, the proposal should cite convincing evidence that the cells in question meet CIRM's definition of stem or progenitor cells. If such evidence is weak or lacking, the proposal may be viewed as less responsive or in some cases, ineligible.

   If you remain uncertain as to the eligibility of your candidate, please reach out to discovery@cirm.ca.gov to request a consultation to discuss the specifics.

9. **For biomarker candidates, is it allowable to include samples from a natural history study as part of the project?**

   Yes. Applicants may include any samples that are necessary to achieve the outcomes of the project.

10. **Is an AI-based approach for cell therapy acceptable for DISC2?**

    There are no restrictions on the approaches utilized as long as the proposed candidate meets DISC2 eligibility criteria. Please refer to the Eligibility Section of the Program Announcement (page 7) for more details. See allowable activities.

11. **Are in vivo experiments required for DISC2? Does disease-modifying activity have to be demonstrated in an animal model, or can it be in an iPSC model?**

    DISC2 applications must include experiments to establish disease modifying activity for the proposed candidates, but there is no prescribed requirement for choice of preclinical models or number of different models to be considered. Applicants should propose and justify the model(s) to be used based on individual project needs. However, for each specific therapeutic candidate type, there are additional expected outcomes and conditions pertaining to demonstration of DMA. These are listed in the Program Announcement on pages 5-6. Applicants must ensure that their proposed research is designed to achieve these outcomes as specified.

12. **If using human samples is problematic, then can we use non-human primate?**

    This would depend on the proposed use for the sample. It is advisable to consult with a Program Officer with questions of this nature in the context of a specific application.

13. **Is technology development (e.g., LNP for delivery of a gene therapy) eligible for this award?**

    Proposals seeking to develop stand-alone technologies or tools as the end goal, or those that fall short of selecting a specific therapeutic or biomarker candidate that is ready for translation by the end of the award period, are NOT eligible for DISC2, but may potentially be aligned with CIRM's DISC0 Foundation Award program. Please see our Discovery funding opportunity page to learn more.

    However, allowable activities in a DISC2 award can include optimization of a potential development candidate including its delivery vector. Therefore, technology development that occurs in support of

selecting and testing the therapeutic or biomarker candidate (to reach the Expected Outcome of a DISC2 award) may be supported.

14. Will an application that proposes new technologies based on a previously CIRM-funded proposal (ended) be competitive?

There are no explicit review criteria in DISC2 that favor or disfavor projects based on the outcomes of earlier CIRM awards.

15. What are the preliminary data requirements? Can these include data from animal studies? Can we use preliminary data from the literature as the basis of our grant?

Preliminary data are required to support the rationale and establish the feasibility of a given proposal. The amount of data required will be project-specific and may depend on many factors. Preliminary data may include data from animal studies and published work. The strongest types of preliminary data tend to support the rationale for the project, and the feasibility of executing the Research Plan to achieve the Expected Outcome in the course of the Award.

16. I'm uncertain whether to apply to Foundation (DISC0) or Quest (DISC2). How can I decide?

DISC0 and DISC2 are significantly different with respect to expected outcome, application requirements, and review criteria.

Generally speaking, the DISC0 program targets foundational or mechanistic studies that address a key knowledge gap or bottleneck in the field including the development of enabling tools and technologies. DISC2 awards support projects that are designed to culminate in a candidate therapeutic or biomarker that is ready for translational stage activities (early development) by the end of the award period.

17. What is the difference between DISC2 and TRAN?

DISC2 supports discovery of a development candidate. TRAN picks up where DISC2 ends, i.e. it supports the next stage where a development candidate has already been identified and is ready to begin early development activities such as GMP-process development. Please consult the TRAN program announcements for more information.

18. Our candidate has completed pre-IND efficacy, PK, and dose-ranging toxicology studies in rats. Is this appropriate for DISC2?

This candidate is likely too advanced for DISC2. Pre-IND and IND enabling studies with a development candidate are targeted by the TRAN and CLIN programs. Previously characterized candidates being repurposed for a new indication, however, may potentially be eligible for DISC2 to establish disease modifying activity in a new target indication.

19. Are activities to prepare for IND-enabling qualification runs in scope, such as production of GMP lentivirus? Can DISC2 be used to fund clinical trials?

As noted in page 5 of the Program Announcement, DISC2 funds generally **cannot** be used to support activities covered by CIRM's TRAN or CLIN Programs, including development of GMP-compliant processes, preparation for and filing of an IND, or preparing for/conducting clinical trials.

20. Do applicants need to disclose proprietary information such as targets, compounds, and chemical structure? How are confidentiality and IP maintained by CIRM during the review process?

The DISC2 Program Announcement (page 11) addresses confidentiality. All applications are considered confidential, and all reviewers are required to complete a Conflict-of-Interest check. Additionally, applicants may nominate up to 3 review exclusions (individuals or organizations).

Applicants are free to determine the scope of information included in their proposals and may elect not to disclose specific information for any reason. In withholding specific information, however, applicants must consider whether reviewers have sufficient information to evaluate the merits of the proposal.

21. **I have already submitted my project as an application to another funding agency. Is it still eligible for CIRM funding?**

    Yes, you may submit a DISC2 proposal that is similar to another submitted application. However, CIRM will evaluate other pending or funded support received by the PI to assess scientific overlap and if both projects are ultimately approved for funding, significant adjustments will need to be made.

22. **What are the policies around patenting or IP for the DISC2 application?**

    CIRM policies and requirements can be found on the Managing Your Grant page of our website, which includes a CIRM IP FAQ.

TEAM ELIGIBILITY

23. **Who can apply?**

    DISC2/Quest is open to both non-profit and for-profit California-based organizations. A California Organization is a for-profit or non-profit organization, or a wholly-owned subsidiary of a non-California organization, that (1) employs and pays more than 50% of its W-2 employees who are; part-time or full time, paid in any fashion (wage, salary, commission, equity, etc.), and are required to file California state income taxes in California, (2) directs and controls the award activities from California, and (3) retains exclusive rights to intellectual property arising out of the CIRM-funded project.

24. **How critical is it to show solvency for for-profit enterprises? How long of a cash run is sufficient for the purposes of this grant?**

    At time of application, for-profit applicants are required to demonstrate solvency. The applicant must provide documentation showing that they have cash-on-hand or a committed source of funding to stay afloat (i.e. cover operational expenses) for 180 days from time of application submission.

25. **Who can serve as the Principal Investigator (PI)? Does the PI need to be a group leader?**

    Principal Investigators are responsible for preparing, conducting, and administering the research grant, providing intellectual and logistic oversight of the project, and are responsible for managing collaborations and supervising the research team.

    CIRM requires that a PI must be an employee of the applicant organization or be accountable for the conduct of the proposed project to the applicant organization through a formal contract. Also, the PI must be authorized by the applicant organization to conduct the research and assume the responsibilities of the PI.

    There have been occasional circumstances where the applicant organization has provided a senior staff scientist with the support and authority to act as a PI, but this is not typical, and reviewers are asked to consider the relevant experience of the PI and the team during their evaluation.

26. **Can an individual serve as the PI if they work remotely from out-of-state for a California-based company?**

    An out-of-state individual may be contracted by the applicant organization to act as the PI, however, the 20% effort requirement of the PI must be expended in California.

27. **Do you need to have 50% of employees in California at the time of application, or at the time of award? Can a new company with seed round funds with founders, but no current employees, meet the criteria that says "pays more than 50% of its employees in California" or would they need at least one paid employee? If we have a contract with a US company to hire out-of-state employees and they outnumber CA-based employees, are we still eligible to apply?**

    Organizations must maintain more than 50% of employees in California both **at the time of application** and **throughout the award period.** An organization must have at least one employee paid in California to meet the definition of a California organization (at least 50% of employees paid in California).

28. **How does projected and planned hiring of additional employees for the completion of the grant factor into the biosketch and the research proposal?**

    An applicant can define and budget for needed personnel/roles in their proposal and choose TBD for someone yet to be hired that will be Key Personnel or budget a role by FTE as “Additional Unnamed Personnel” section of the Budget Justification section of the application.

29. **Does DISC2 require a project manager or a data project manager and what is the minimum % effort?**

    There is currently no requirement for a Project Manager or Data Project Manager in DISC2, although it may be a good idea to include one if the project involves large data generation or complex interdependencies.

30. **How important is a collaboration between an industry entity and academia for a compelling DISC2 application?**

    In general, collaborations between different entities, both academic and industry, are encouraged, especially where such collaborations enhance the technologies and resources available to the project. However, the value of such collaborations are project dependent.

    There is no requirement for such a collaboration in DISC2, and there are many examples of DISC2 programs that progressed into our TRAN1 program without any involvement of an industry or external collaborator.

31. **Can my DISC2 application include co-investigators?**

    ‘Co-PI’ is sometimes meant to describe a Key Person who separately receives fund distributions. CIRM does not offer a ‘co-PI’ role nor support this type of arrangement for DISC2. A DISC2 award is only given to a single PI / institution. However, collaborators, including investigators who share scientific and administrative leadership responsibilities with the PI, are allowed, and can be paid from the grant via a subcontract or as a Key Person. The specific roles and responsibilities each Key Person should be defined in the online portion of the DISC2 application.

32. **Can a faculty member be a PI on one proposal and a collaborator on another proposal?**

    A Principal Investigator on one CIRM application can be a collaborator (subcontractor or Key Person) on another application(s), even if the applications are submitted in response to the same PA/RFA or in the same application review cycle. CIRM rules state that a PI can submit only one application per round, but this person can be a collaborator on a separate application(s) in the same round.

33. **As a PI, can I commit 10% and have a Co-PI/collaborator who commits 10% to meet the 20% effort requirement?**

    No, the PI must commit 20% effort, salaried or not.

34. **In the case of large, collaborative team science, does each person need to be in the budget or can personnel commit time without requesting compensation?**

    Key Personnel may commit time/effort without requesting CIRM funding, however, it is important to clearly indicate this in the budget justification.

35. **Can I include non-CA and/or international collaborators in my DISC2 application? Can the award be used to support research conducted outside the state of California? If we have a collaborator who is outside California, how should we address this in a DISC2 application?**

    Yes, non-California-based (non-CA) collaborators or commercial entities may be funded through this award as Subcontracts, including salary support and lab supplies. However, CIRM requires that the California based applicant team exercises direction and control over the subcontracted activities. Furthermore, the out-of-state organization CANNOT retain the intellectual property or independent publication rights of any intellectual property (e.g., invention, technology, data) arising out of the CIRM-funded project.

An out-of-state collaborator should be entered in the Consultants/Subcontracts section of the online application, along with the budget associated with the subcontract (which will be justified in the application). You will need to provide a name, institution, and describe the role/responsibilities for each collaboration. If the collaborator's specific expertise or resources are important components of your project, a biosketch should be included.

Reminder: Any new IP generated from the use of CIRM funds outside the State of California must either stay, via assignment if necessary, with the California applicant organization/awardee or such rights must be waived. One option is to put into place an agreement wherein the out-of-state contractor will assign rights to any new IP to the CIRM applicant/awardee that comes from the CIRM funded project if they agree to take CIRM funds and receive a license-back for research development purposes. Any commercialization with CIRM-funded intellectual property may trigger revenue requirements in the CIRM IP regulations, which are on the CIRM website. This link is to CIRM's IP FAQ.

36. **Any IP arising from the work funded by CIRM will be based at a CA institution. Is it okay for the IP that the preliminary data is based on to be based at a non-CA institution?**

    Yes, this is allowed. If you require any special licenses or permissions to use this IP in your project, you should consider uploading any applicable information about IP, licenses, and/or material transfer agreements that support the feasibility of your proposal.

37. **If a grant is awarded to a university PI, can this award be transitioned to a for-profit organization to continue the work during the lifetime of the grant?**

    It is possible to request an award to be transferred to a different institution. The new institution must also be a California-based organization. The request would need to be reviewed and approved by CIRM to make sure that the project is still feasible at the new institution. Additionally, indirect costs that were a part of the award would need to be removed because for-profit organizations are not allowed to claim indirect costs. Finally, whoever is holding the grant must also hold the IP and anything developed from the IP.

38. **Is there a limit for budget % for the non-CA subcontract?**

    There are no restrictions on the proportion of award funds used to fund subcontracts outside of CA. However, applicants should exercise good judgement in the allocation of funds as applicants are required to justify their budgets including subcontracts, which will be assessed by reviewers.

39. **Does CIRM provide access to identified regulatory consultants or will it allow budget to be allocated toward such a person?**

    Award funds may be used to pay for consultants relevant to the project needs.

BUDGET, AWARD DURATION, AND AWARD NUMBER

40. **What is the award amount and duration?**

    The maximum duration of DISC2 awards is 3 years. Each DISC2 award will support direct project costs of up to $1.75 million for therapeutic candidates or $1.5 million for biomarker candidates.

41. **For therapeutic candidates, is it necessary for the project to last up to 3 years to budget for $1.75 million, or can a project last 2 years but still requires $1.75 million?**

    The DISC2 award Therapeutic Track has a maximum duration of 3 years and a maximum direct project costs of $1.75M, and it is not necessary to request the ma if the project can be completed sooner or with less funding.

    Please note, however, that while it is allowable to request the maximum budget with a shorter awards duration, any proposed budget that is equal to or exceeds $750,000 direct project costs in any single budget year will require strong justification, and the GWG will be instructed to consider that budget rationale in their scoring.

42. Is annual salary escalation allowed in the budget?

You may account for salary escalation in the budget you request, but be aware there are salary and stipend caps posted on CIRM's website that should not be exceeded within CIRM-grant support. There is also a tuition cap that is described in CIRM's Grant Administration Policy.

43. Does the $1.75 million budget cap for therapeutic candidate DISC2 awards pertain to the total award amount or the direct project costs only? What are the limits for indirect costs?

$1.75 million is the maximum allowed total **direct** project costs of the Therapeutic Track. The Biomarker Track maximum is $1.5 million direct project costs.

All applicants may additionally request facilities costs. Facilities costs for non-profit applicant organizations are limited to the current applicable, federally negotiated rates for the organization as defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-21 or A-122. Facilities rates for for-profit applicant organizations are limited to 35% of the direct project costs. Facilities rates are applied to direct project costs exclusive of the costs of equipment, tuition and fees, research patient care costs, as well as the costs of each individual subcontract, consultant, and service agreement in excess of $25,000. The facilities cost rates approved and in place at the time of the application are to be applied to the entire award project period.

Non-profit applicants may request indirect costs in addition to direct costs while for-profit organizations cannot claim indirect costs. For non-profit organizations, indirect costs are limited to 20% of allowable direct research funding costs awarded by CIRM (i.e., project costs and facilities costs), exclusive of the costs of equipment, tuition and fees, research patient care costs, as well as the costs of each individual subcontract, consultant, and service agreement in excess of $25,000. The indirect cost rate budgeted at the time of application is to be applied to the entire award project period.

44. Will this opportunity recur?

At the time of this document posting, the DISC2 Funding Opportunity is slated to recur annually.

45. How many applications will be funded? What is the historical funding rate?

This number can vary based on the number of recommended applications and the available budget. For the 2021-2023 cycles, CIRM has funded between 10-19 DISC2 grants per cycle. The funding rate varies from cycle to cycle and recently has ranged from 10-20%.

APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS

46. What is the application process?

Please visit https://www.cirm.ca.gov/about-cirm/funding-opportunities-discovery-stage-research/ for links and basic navigation of the online application portal (www.grants.cirm.ca.gov). All upload templates will be available within the online application portal. The Discovery webpage also contains links to the DISC2 Webinar (video recording and slide deck) with further guidance for specific application elements.

47. What documentation is required to apply?

Applicants will need to complete an online section and upload completed Proposal, Biosketch, and Other Support templates. For-profit applicants are also required to complete and upload the Financial Solvency Template and the Financial Feasibility Assessment and Solvency Form. Templates are available in the Uploads Section of the application.

Applicants may also include optional letters of support, quotes and other budget data, and IP, Licenses, and Material Transfer Agreements.

48. What are the page limits, formatting requirements for the Proposal sections described in the Program Announcement?

The full instructions (with page limits) are provided in the blank Proposal Template, which you will find within the DISC2 online application form in CIRM's Grants Management System (GMS; also called the CIRM Portal). This can only be accessed by creating a CIRM login, creating a new application, navigating to the Uploads section, and downloading the Proposal template.

Proposal Templates can only be downloaded once applications become live in GMS, typically 4-6 weeks prior to the due date. See the DISC2 webinar slides for screenshots of the Proposal Template and templates for other required documents.

Please be sure to download and use the most current version of all CIRM templates as they may be updated or changed in future calls.

49. I previously applied to DISC2 but was not funded. Do I need to submit my application as a resubmission?

If your prior application passed positive selection and received a score with reviewer comments, you may choose to return with a resubmission and address the critiques. Alternatively, you may choose to submit as a new application, but you'd be giving up the opportunity to address previously received critiques. If you came in as a new application and ignored those critiques, it's possible that someone on the review panel may have remembered it from the previous cycle.

If your prior application did not pass positive selection and was therefore not scored, please submit a new application.

50. Is there a limit on scores eligible for resubmission?

There is no limit on scores eligible for resubmission.

51. How do I submit a resubmission?

Indicate that the application is a resubmission by checking the "resubmission" box in the online application and entering the previous application number. In the Proposal document, use the Resubmission Statement to address reviewer comments and critiques from the previous review.

52. If I previously submitted a DISC2 application that was not funded, but think the project may be more suited to DISC0 (or *vice versa*), should I submit a new application or a resubmission?

Submitting a prior CIRM proposal under a different award program is not considered a resubmission and constitutes a new submission.

If your prior proposal was reviewed, our advice is to consider the Grants Working Group (GWG) feedback when reconceiving your application under a different award. Applicants should also bear in mind that even though there are some areas of overlap in the allowable activities for different awards, each award has distinct objectives, application and eligibility requirements, and review criteria.

You may request a consultation with CIRM science officers (discovery@cirm.ca.gov) to obtain advice on repositioning your application for a different award.

53. What is the review process and review criteria?

For information about the review process and criteria, please see the Application Review Information section of the Program Announcement (pages 10-12).

54. What is the positive selection process and criteria and how can I increase my chances of passing this first stage?

Positive Selection is detailed in the Program Announcement under Application Review Information (pages 10-11). The positive selection criteria are the same as that for full review which can be found in the Program Announcement on pages 11-12.

The Positive Selection Preview Page in the online application is a critical part of the application because it is the primary section GWG members use for selecting which applications move to the

second stage of review. In 2024, the Positive Selection Preview Page has been modified and expanded to support applicants in making a strong case for their proposals. Applicants are advised to ensure their responses here succinctly communicates the impact and feasibility of their proposal to a diverse GWG panel.

55. What are CIRM reviewers looking for in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) section?

CIRM provides guidance to reviewers for evaluating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the Program Announcement, under 'Does the project uphold principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)?' (page 12). This guidance is in the form of questions and is provided in the application critique form that reviewers fill out in advance of the review meeting:

- Does the project plan and design adequately address and account for the influence of race, ethnicity, sex and gender diversity?
- Would the project outcomes inform the development of a therapeutic or biomarker candidate that serves the unmet medical needs of the diverse California population, including underserved racial/ethnic communities?
- Does or will the applicant incorporate perspectives and experience from the population that will benefit from the proposed product in the implementation of the research project?

Applicants in general are advised to be specific and intentional in their responses and address all 3 subsections of the review criteria above. Applicants looking for additional advice on completing their DEI sections may reach out to discovery@cirm.ca.gov for a consultation.

Please note: Because CIRM is prohibited from taking race, ethnicity, national origin, and gender into account in making grant decisions, applicants should refrain from including race, ethnicity, national origin, or gender in describing the applicant team personnel.

56. If a project proposal focuses on a research area far outside/beyond the expertise of the review panel, will external reviewers be invited?

The CIRM GWG currently comprises about 200 reviewers with expertise in many subject areas; a listing is here: https://www.cirm.ca.gov/board-and-meetings/grants-review-working-group-members. When necessary, CIRM's Review Office recruits Specialist reviewers to provide expertise that is not fully covered by available members of the GWG. Feel free to send general suggestions to review@cirm.ca.gov; note that an expert you refer may not be invited to review your application(s) if a potential conflict exists.

57. What should I prioritize when revising and resubmitting a proposal that has been scored by the Grants Working Group?

Our advice is to be respectful of reviewer comments/feedback and address them to the best of your ability throughout your proposal, while summarizing your overall response using the Resubmission Statement page in the beginning of the Proposal Template.

58. When are DISC2 applicants notified about final award decisions?

GWG reviews occur approximately 60-90 days post submission. Board review and approval of funding occurs approximately 90-120 days post submission.

59. Does CIRM grant extensions to the submission deadline?

No, CIRM does not have a mechanism for illness, bereavement, or other types of deadline extension for applicants.

CIRM'S HPSC RESOURCES

60. Does CIRM offer guidance on picking a cell line for my allogeneic therapeutic candidate?

DISC2 grantees developing an allogeneic cell-based therapeutic candidate must employ a cell line that meets CIRM's definition of Clinically Compatible:

- Line can meet Good Tissue Practices (GTP) requirements for donor eligibility, or there is plan in place to address GTP; and
- Line has been appropriately consented by donor for intended use and for clinical development and sale.

CIRM provides a list of known clinically compatible hPSC line providers on its Information for Applicants page. CIRM also hosted a webinar on selecting the optimal cell line (link to recording).

Please note that IPSC lines from the CIRM IPSC Repository do not meet this definition.

61. Can cells from the CIRM IPSC Repository be used to develop a therapeutic in my DISC2 proposal?

This depends. The IPSCs in the CIRM Repository are for research use only, meaning, they are not appropriate for use in the manufacture of an allogenic cell therapy candidate.* However, if you are developing an autologous, iPSC-derived cell therapy candidate, these lines could be useful for establishing reproducibility of your therapeutic approach. Such lines could also be useful for testing of other types of candidates.

* Information about cell lines that may be appropriate for developing allogeneic PSC-derived cell therapies can be found on CIRM's Information for Applicants page.

62. Does the CIRM IPSC repository have any lines with bulk/single-cell RNASeq Data?

SNP data for 2166 CIRM lines and whole genome sequence data for 299 of the CIRM IPSC donors is available at dbGaP. A list of CIRM lines with WGS data can be found here.

63. Can the lines in CIRM IPSC repository be used without licenses by California companies?

No, research or commercial use by for-profit entities and commercial use by non-profit entities requires the entity to take a commercial license. Unlike other repositories, the commercial license terms were negotiated before the bank was made. If an entity takes a commercial license, that license applies to the entire bank whether the entity uses one line or all of the lines. The commercial license terms can be requested through fcdi-licensing@fujifilm.com.

CONTACT AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

64. What are CIRM's other discovery-stage funding opportunities?

CIRM's other recurring discovery stage funding opportunity is the DISC0 Foundation Awards. For details and deadlines, please visit our website at www.cirm.ca.gov/about-cirm/funding-opportunities-discovery-stage-research/.

CIRM's ReMIND (Research using Multidisciplinary, Innovative approaches in Neuro Diseases) Program supports the research and development of treatments for diseases and conditions of the brain and central nervous system (CNS). We expect the RFA and application for ReMIND-X for neuropsychiatric disorders to be available in the second half of 2024. Please visit our website at http://www.cirm.ca.gov/remind.

65. My question wasn't answered in this FAQ or in the RFA. Who can I contact with any questions about DISC2?

Questions regarding this award opportunity should be emailed to discovery@cirm.ca.gov.