

Discovery Awards (DISC4)

Video Guide

August 29, 2025

Note: The purpose of this video is to provide high level understanding of the program, review processes, resources, and a walkthrough of the application and all associated material



Quick Announcements

- PDF version of slides is available on the [DISC4 Landing Page](#)
- Applications are due by **November 12, 2025, 2pm PST**
- **Consultations are now available for specific program-related questions** - please contact discovery@circm.ca.gov to schedule a time
 - For questions related to allowable costs, co-funding or matching funds, budget limits, award management, the application portal, and AOO verification, reach out to grantsmanagement@circm.ca.gov
 - For questions related to the scientific review process or issues related to document uploads, reach out to review@circm.ca.gov

Consultation Requests



Review DISC4 program announcement and application materials, and compile any scientific/programmatic questions



Email discovery@cirm.ca.gov to request a consultation form



Submit consultation request form (10-20 mins)



Wait for CIRM to provide a (1) written response or (2) a link to schedule time with Science Officers

CIRM's Discovery & Education Team



Kelly Shepard
Director



Chan Lek Tan
Sr. Science Officer



Uta Grieshammer
CIRM Fellow



Janie Byrum
Sr. Science Officer



Daisy Xin
Science Officer



Catherine Schweppe
Science Officer



Ruby Karimjee
Project Manager

Panelists



Chan Lek Tan
Sr. Science Officer,
Discovery & Education



Uta Grieshammer
CIRM Fellow,
Discovery & Education



Linda Nevin
Sr. Science Officer,
Portfolio Development & Review



Mira Sarwal
Sr. Grants Management Officer,
Grants Management Office

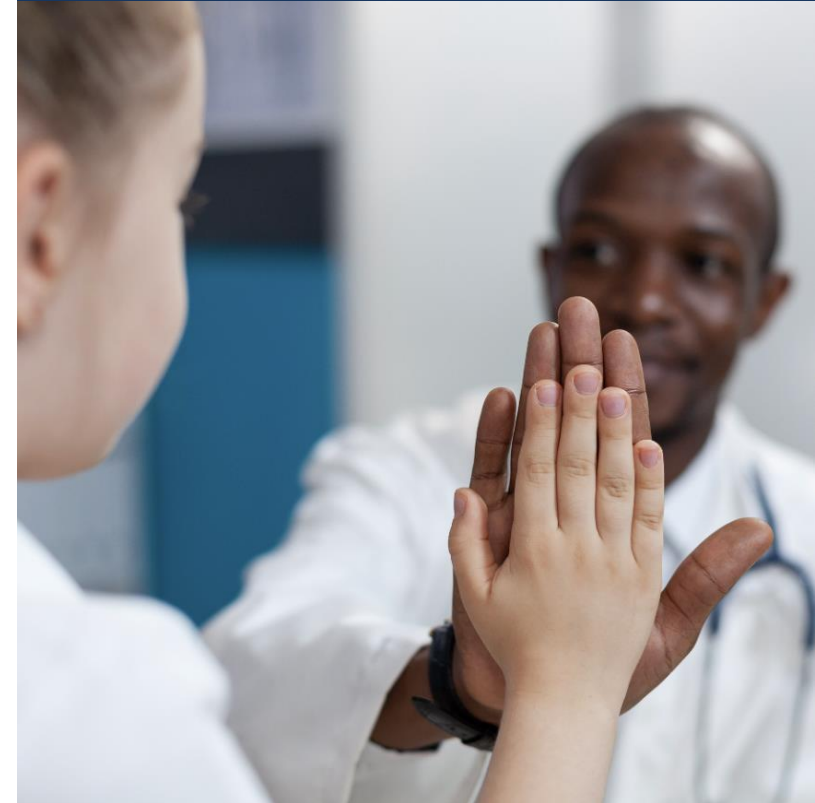
Agenda

1. Program Overview
2. Review Process and Criteria
3. Application Walkthrough
4. Information & Resources

Program Overview

Our Mission

Accelerating world class science to deliver transformative regenerative medicine treatments in an equitable manner to a diverse California and world



Award Structure

	DISC4
Applicant	California non-profit or for-profit research institutions <i>Institutions may submit multiple applications per cycle</i>
Core Team	At least 5 California-based investigators* (1 PI + 4 Co-I)
Max Budget	\$13M (Total Cost, inclusive of overhead) <i>Up to \$14M (with matching funds)</i>
Max Duration	4 years

* Must be employed by California Organization at the time of application and throughout the project duration

Scope and Expected Outcomes

Expansive, cross-disciplinary and integrated studies led by large collaborative teams applying a range of technologies and approaches

Projects should aim to achieve one or more of the following outcomes by the end of the award duration:

- Discovering novel mechanistic insights or advance our understanding of the pathobiology of human diseases
- Extending understanding of disease mechanisms to all affected populations
- Identification and validation of novel therapeutic strategies, targets, and/or biomarker(s)

Project Eligibility

To be eligible all projects must:

1. Address a key knowledge gap or research bottleneck in the study of human diseases
2. Include studies that employ human stem cells or genetic research* as part of the central approach or hypothesis
3. Provide strong justification for any proposed use of non-human models

CIRM defines genetic research as studies that alter genomic sequences of cells (edit, remove or add DNA sequences); or introduce or directly manipulate nucleic acids (e.g., coding and non-coding RNAs, antisense oligonucleotides) in human cells.

* Research that alters genomic sequences of cells (edit, remove or add DNA sequences); or introduces or directly manipulates nucleic acids (e.g., coding and non-coding RNAs, antisense oligonucleotides) in human cells

Out of Scope Activities (**DISC4 will NOT fund**)

- X Therapeutic or other commercial development activities including lead optimization, manufacturing, pre-clinical toxicology, and pharmacology studies and other activities targeted by CIRM's PDEV and CLIN programs
- X Costs of activities performed by a separate out-of-state organization that retains intellectual property or independent publication rights in any intellectual property (e.g., invention, technology, data) arising out of the CIRM-funded project
- X Costs incurred before the date of ICOC approval
- X Activities already budgeted or paid for under a prior, existing or pending CIRM award, or which are already supported by another funder

What Research Activities are Required and Allowable?

Required

- Activities associated with managing, preserving, and sharing data and knowledge from the study

Allowable

- Research activities contributing to achievement of the expected outcomes and align with eligibility requirements

Illustrative list only; Not exhaustive

- Study or use of stem cells and derivatives
- Genetic research/Genomics
- Reverse translation studies
- Bioengineering/Biomaterials
- Computational biology/Bioinformatics
- Study of primary human tissues
- Tool/tech development
- Target and biomarker discovery

What Non-Research Activities Will CIRM Fund?

- ✓ Partnering activities with patient-centered organizations or other project-relevant community groups
- ✓ Activities to support outreach or communication of research plans or outcomes with the wider public
- ✓ [Travel and accommodation expenditures](#) associated with attendance of CIRM organized meetings and conferences
- ✓ Engagement activities with trainees supported through CIRM's EDUC or INFR programs

Team Eligibility

	Eligibility Requirements
Applicant Org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California non-profit or for-profit research institutions
Core Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Core team members must be employed by a California organization at the time of application and throughout the project duration 1 Principal Investigator (min 15% effort) 4 or more Co-Investigators (min 10% effort) Multi-Institutional (at least 1 Co-I employed by a different institution than PI) No investigator may be listed on more than 2 different core teams
Broader Team (including Key Personnel)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 1 Key Personnel with relevant clinical expertise Minimum 1 Key Personnel with relevant computational expertise Minimum 1 Key Personnel with relevant industry/translational expertise Minimum 1 Data Project Manager

Matching Fund Contributions

Maximum total project costs may be **increased up to an additional \$1M per award** (maximum \$14M per award) **IF** an equivalent (or larger) amount of eligible matching fund contributions is provided

The following contribution types (from any non-CIRM source) are eligible:

- **Unique resources** that will be leveraged by the project team (cell-lines, samples, computing resources, etc.)
- **Independently-funded activities** undertaken during the award period to generate data or resources that will be leveraged by the project team during the award period

Review Process & Criteria

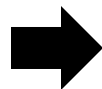
Scientific Review Criteria

1. **Significance:** Evaluate the project's significance and potential for impact
2. **Innovation:** Evaluate the project for innovation relative to the current state of research
3. **Rationale:** Evaluate the scientific rationale in the proposal
4. **Plan & Design:** Evaluate the project plan and design
5. **Population Impact:** Evaluate the extent to which the project considers the impact of successful outcomes across affected populations

GWG Composition and Roles

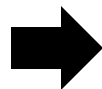
Who participates and how they contribute

Scientific GWG
Members ('GWG')



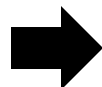
- Scientific evaluation based on broad subject area or methods expertise
- Final scores for **every** application

GWG Board
Members ('ICOC
GWG')



- Patient perspective on significance and potential impact, oversight on process
- Optional recommended scores

Visiting Specialists



- Scientific evaluation based on specialized expertise
- Recommended scores

Application Review Format

- Assigned reviewers state their preliminary scores
- Primary reviewer introduces proposal and presents their critique
- Two secondary reviewers present their critiques
- Chair moderates full panel discussion
- Assigned reviewers state their final scores
- All scientific GWG members* enter scores for the application in CIRM's online portal
 - Scores do not need to fall within the range of stated scores

*Specialists and GWG Board Members do not enter final scores

Scoring Scheme

Interpreting the 1 to 100 Scale

- The final score for an application is the median of GWG scores
 - **Score of 85 to 100:** Application has exceptional merit and warrants funding
 - **Score of 1 to 84:** Application does not warrant funding
- GWG are encouraged to make full use of the scoring range to signal their enthusiasm for each project
- As CIRM's board makes final funding decisions, scoring is not the ultimate determinant of which projects are funded

Application Walkthrough

Application | Getting Started

- Log-in at <http://grants.cirm.ca.gov/>
- Click on **Open Programs**
- Start a DISC4 application
 - *Note: Only PIs of invited teams will see this view – if they do not, please email review@cirm.ca.gov*

[Home](#) / Open Programs

Action Items Needing Your Attention

You have no action items at this time...

Open Programs

RFAs and Programs Open For Applications	Actions
CLIN 2 CIRM Clinical Trial Stage Projects: CLIN2 Grant Application	Start a CLIN2 Grant Application
DISC 4 - A discovery stage funding opportunity Grant Application	Start a DISC 4 - A discovery stage funding opportunity Grant Application

The PI/PD of all applications/pre-applications/LOIs created here will be the person whose name is listed at the top of this page. You cannot use these links to create applications for any other PI/PD.

Application | Components

ONLINE SECTION

- Eligibility
- Personnel
- Project
- Funding
- Certifications

UPLOADS SECTION (Attachments)

Required– must use templates provided

- Proposal
- Biographical Sketches for Key Personnel
- Budget Justification & Worksheet
- Milestones and Timeline
- PI and Co-I Other Support
- Solvency Worksheet & Documentation (for-profit applicants only)
- Matching Funds (if applicable)

Optional

- Letters of Support
- Quotes
- IP, Licenses, MTA

All sections are required

Status will change from "Empty" or "Incomplete" to "Complete"

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Complete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Complete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Comp (9)
Project	
Title & Duration	Complete
Information for Review	Complete
Review Exclusions	1 Entry
Public Information	Complete
Keywords	Complete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Complete
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Complete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Complete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | Eligibility

All certifications must be checked to proceed

All textbox require a response, can enter 'NA'

1. Organizational eligibility (CA Org)
2. Organization in “good standing”
3. Team eligibility
 - Checkbox certifications
 - Ensure information is entered in Personnel section
4. Project eligibility (2 sections **require** short narrative)
 - Identify significant workflows that do not use stem cells or genetic research – Aim # with brief description and justification
 - Identify significant workflows that employ non-human model systems – Aim # with brief description and justification

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Complete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Complete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Comp (9)
Project	
Title & Duration	Complete
Information for Review	Complete
Review Exclusions	1 Entry
Public Information	Complete
Keywords	Complete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Complete
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Complete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Complete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | Personnel

Must add required details for:

1. Principal Investigator (PI)
2. Authorization Organization Official (AOO)
 - *New or returning awardees without an existing verified AOO should grantsmanagement@cirm.ca.gov to start the verification process*
3. Co-Investigators (Co-I)
 - *Enter at least 4 named Co-Investigators with CA addresses. Select Co-Investigator role*
4. Data project manager (DPM)
5. Other Key Personnel (KP)
6. Partners (optional)

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Complete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Complete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Comp (9)
Project	
Title & Duration	Complete
Information for Review	Complete
Review Exclusions	1 Entry
Public Information	Complete
Keywords	Complete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Complete
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Complete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Complete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | Proposal

- Executive Summary, Overall Objective and Major Aims (up to 2 pages)
- Statement of Significance and Impact (up to 1 page)
- Statement of Innovation (up to 1 page)
- Statement of Population Impact (up to 1 page)
- Rationale and Research Plan (up to 18 pages)
- Vision for Progression (up to 1 page)
- Data Sharing Overview (up to 1 page)
- Principal Investigator, Co-Investigators and Team (up to 6 pages)
- Project Organization and Management Plan (up to 1 page)
- Resources and Environment (up to 5 pages)
- References (No page limit)

Total: Up to 37 pages + References

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Complete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Complete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Comp (9)
Project	
Title & Duration	Complete
Information for Review	Complete
Review Exclusions	1 Entry
Public Information	Complete
Keywords	Complete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Complete
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Complete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Complete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | Proposal DOs and DON'Ts



- Use the **current DISC4 Word Template**
- **Adhere** to prescribed page limits
- **Follow instructions** for each section
- **Convert to PDF** when finished to upload
- **Do NOT** use a **“DIY”** template
- **Do not alter** margins, font size, etc.
- **Do not** leave sections **incomplete**

Application | Milestones and Timeline

- For each project aim, list **associated milestones, activities, responsible owner, and durations**
- Include all activities, including **subcontracts and those funded by matching funds**
- **Limit descriptions to 1–2 sentences**; provide additional details and success criteria in Proposal
- Please see instructions tab for detailed guidance

Major Aims	Milestone #	Responsible Lead(s)	Milestone description	Success criteria	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Aim 1: Understand effect of treatment X on patient derived cortical organoids and PBMC	Milestone 1	Jane Smith	Obtain patient iPSC lines (~25) from repository ABC and make master bank at UCBC	QC data for 25 lines including karyotyping, SNP array.	x	x								
	Milestone 2	Jane Smith	Obtain matched patient PBMC and blood sample	QC data for 25 patient PBMC		x	x							
	Milestone 3	Jane Smith	Differentiation of iPSC lines in cortical organoids	Share QC data (marker IHC and scRNAseq) for 5 lines per quarter from Y1Q3 to Y3Q2.			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Milestone 4	Jane Smith	Treatment and phenotyping with scRNASeq	Complete treatment of mutant and isogenic control organoids (at least 5 lines each) with drug A (3 doses, 2 timepoints). Library QC and final analysis results shared with CIRM.						x	x	x	x	x
Aim 2: Spatial proteomic analysis of patient tissue	Milestone 5	Bob Cranston												
	Milestone 6	Bob Cranston												
	Milestone 7	Bob Cranston												
	Milestone 8	Bob Cranston												
	Milestone 9													
	Milestone 10													
	Milestone 11													

Application | Funding Section

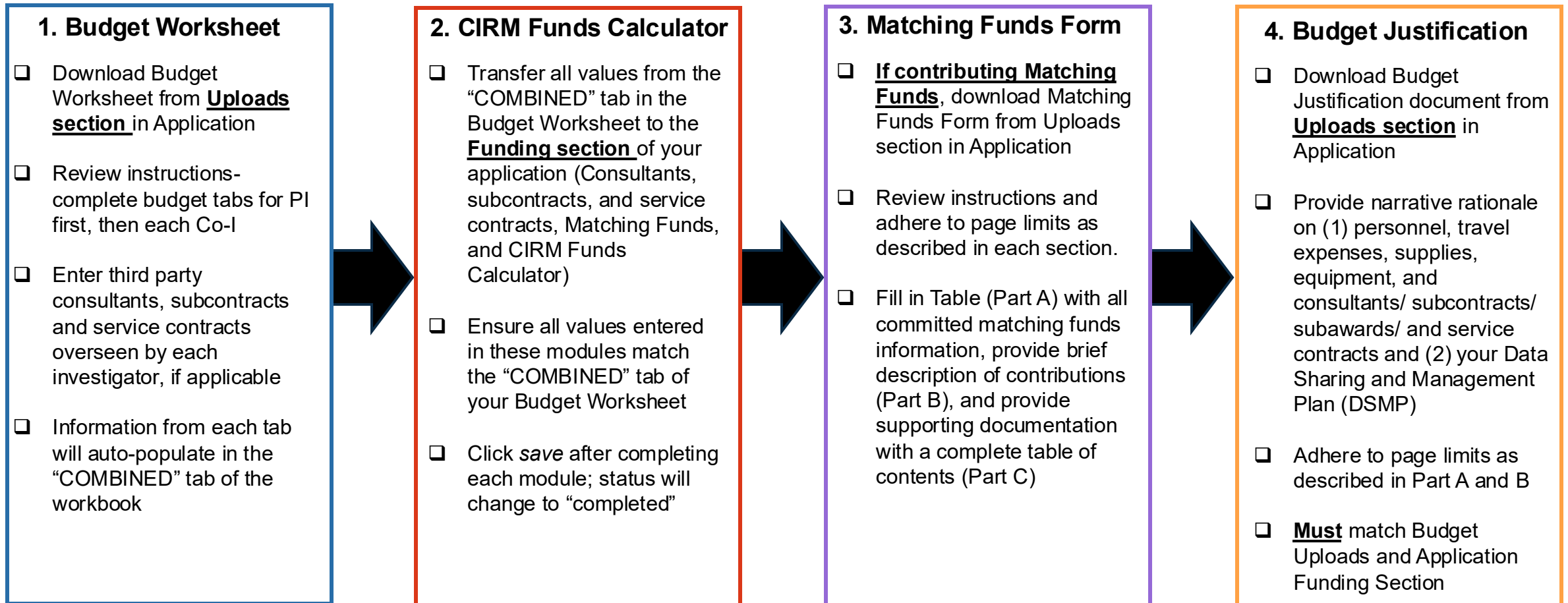
Overview

- Complete **Budget Worksheet** first
- Click **Save in all 3 modules** to complete section
- Enter **Subcontracts & Matching Funds** manually
- Values in these sub-sections auto-pull into **CIRM Funds Calculator**
- Ensure all module entries **match the COMBINED tab** of the Budget Worksheet upload
- No Budget Justification section → must be uploaded using provided template in **Uploads**

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Complete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Complete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Comp (9)
Project	
Title & Duration	Complete
Information for Review	Complete
Review Exclusions	1 Entry
Public Information	Complete
Keywords	Complete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Complete
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Complete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Complete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | Budget Completion Sequence and Checklist

Start here:



Application | Budget Worksheet – PI Tab

Enter Application # and PI name

Enter total subcontract costs for all third-party contracts overseen by PI

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	CIRM Application #:	DISC4-XXXXX														
2	Principal Investigator:															
3		Enter PI portion of overall project in this tab, and each Co-I in separate tabs. Be sure to indicate if the Co-I is at the same institution as the PI. The resulting "Combined" tab should then be transferred to the online CIRM Funds Calculator.														
4																
5	Hand-enter cells in white; Green Cells are calculated	PI Costs Requested (Year 1)	PI Costs Requested (Year 2)	PI Costs Requested (Year 3)	PI Costs Requested (Year 4)	PI Costs Requested (All Years)										
6	Direct Project Costs						The purpose of this worksheet is to calculate the portion of subcontracted costs excluded from overhead. Enter the total cost of each third-party contract over 25K that are in your (subcontract) budget.									
7	Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Contract Name	Year 1 Amount	Excluded Portion (Y1)	Year 2 Amount	Excluded Portion (Y2)	Year 3 Amount	Excluded Portion (Y3)	Year 4 Amount	Excluded Portion (Y4)	
8	Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
9	Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
10	Travel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
11	Data Sharing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
12	Subcontracts (from subcontract table)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
13	Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
14	Direct Project Costs - Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
15	Excluded Expenses						Note: list the PI's subcontracts here, not including those attributed to each co-investigator institution. The total of the co-investigator contracts will be added in the Combined worksheet.									
16	Consultants/Subcontracts/Service Contracts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
17	Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
18	Trainee Annual Tuition & Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
19	Excluded Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
20	Adjusted Project Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
21																
22	For-Profit: Facilities Costs															
23	Facilities Rate	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%										
24	For-Profit Facilities Costs - Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
25																
26	Non-Profits: Facilities Costs - A															
27	Rate for Operation/Maintenance Expenses	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%										
28	Rate for Library Expenses	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%										
29	Sum of Category A Rates	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%										
30	Category A Costs Requested	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
31	Non-Profits: Facilities Costs - B1															
32	Rate for Depreciation or Use Allowances	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%										
33	Rate for Interest on Capital Debt	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%										
34	Sum of Category B(1) Rates	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%										
35	Category B(1) Costs Requested	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
36	Non-Profits: Facilities Costs - B2															
37	Actual out-of-pocket lease costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
38	Non-Profit Facilities Costs - Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
39																
40	Indirect Costs															
41	Adjusted Direct Project Cost + Facilities Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
42	Indirect Cost Rate	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%										
43	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
44																
45	Total CIRM Funds Requested															
46	Total CIRM Funds Requested	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
47																

Enter annual allowable direct costs, facilities, and indirect costs for PI. [white cells only; green cells auto-calculate]

Application | Budget Worksheet – COMBINED Tab

Application number and PI name auto-populates

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	CIRM Application #:							
2	Principal Investigator:							
3								
4								
5	Hand-enter cells in white; Green Cells are calculated	Total Costs Requested (Year 1)	Total Costs Requested (Year 2)	Total Costs Requested (Year 3)	Total Costs Requested (Year 4)	Total Costs Requested (All Years)		
6	Direct Project Costs							
7	Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	enter total for each year in online CIRM Funds Calculator	
8	Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
9	Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
10	Travel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
11	Data Sharing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
12	Subcontracts (includes total for third-party co-investigators)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	enter in online CIRM Funds Calculator - see subcontract table at B52	
13	Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
14	Direct Project Costs - Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	This should match the online CIRM funds calculator	
15	Excluded Expenses							
16	Consultants/Subcontracts/Service Contracts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	This should match the online CIRM funds calculator	
17	Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
18	Trainee Annual Tuition & Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
19	Excluded Expenses - Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	This should match the online CIRM funds calculator	
20	Adjusted Project Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
21								
22	For-Profits: Facilities Costs							
23	Facilities Rate	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		enter percent for each year in online CIRM Funds Calculator (FOR-PROFIT only)	
24	For-Profit Facilities Costs - Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
25								
26	Non-Profits: Facilities Costs - A							
27	Rate for Operation/Maintenance Expenses	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		enter percent for each year in online CIRM Funds Calculator (NON-PROFIT only)	
28	Rate for Library Expenses	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%			
29	Sum of Category A Rates	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%			
30	Category A Costs Requested	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	This should match the online CIRM funds calculator	
31	Non-Profits: Facilities Costs - B1							
32	Rate for Depreciation or Use Allowances	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		enter percent for each year in online CIRM Funds Calculator (NON-PROFIT only)	
33	Rate for Interest on Capital Debt	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%			
34	Sum of Category B(1) Rates	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%			
35	Category B(1) Costs Requested	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	This should match the online CIRM funds calculator	
36	Non-Profits: Facilities Costs - B2							
37	Actual out-of-pocket lease costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	enter total for each year in online CIRM Funds Calculator (if applicable)	
38	Non-Profit Facilities Costs - Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
39								
40	Indirect Costs							
41	Adjusted Direct Project Cost + Facilities Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
42	Indirect Cost Rate	0%	0%	0%	0%		enter percent for each year in online CIRM Funds Calculator (NON-PROFIT only)	
43	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	This should match the online CIRM funds calculator	
44								
45	Total CIRM Funds Requested							
46	Total CIRM Funds Requested	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	This should match the online CIRM funds calculator	
47	Total Matching Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
48								
49								
50								
51								
52								
53								
54								
55								

Green cells auto-calculate from PI and Co-I tabs

CIRM Funds Calculator Entry Instructions

Manually enter matching funds

For each subcontract below, enter total for each year in online CIRM application "Subcontracts" section

Contract Name	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
None				

Subcontract expenses auto-calculate from PI and Co-I tabs

Application | Funding Section

Consultants/Subcontracts/Service Contracts

1. Complete budget worksheet PI and Co-I tabs including subcontracts
2. Enter auto-populated subcontracts from COMBINED tab (Row 52) here
3. All cells must be filled - enter "0" for empty cells
4. Values will auto-populate into CIRM Funds Calculator

Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts									
Entity Name	Contract Name	Contract Type	Completion Status	Actions	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Jane Doe - UC Berkeley	Co-I Institution	Subcontract	Complete	Edit Delete	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	1,800,000
John Smith - UC DAVIS	Co-I Institution	Subcontract	Complete	Edit Delete	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	160,000
Meta Analysis Inc	Data analysis consultant	Consultant	Complete	Edit Delete	0	0	4,000	0	4,000
May Belle UC DAVIS	Co-I Institution	Subcontract	Complete	Edit Delete	35,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	1,085,000
Consultants/Subcontracts/Service Contracts Costs in Excess of \$25,000 Each					450,000	840,000	840,000	840,000	2,970,000

[Save](#)

[Add Subcontract](#)

Entity Name:

Contract Name:

Contract Type:

Role Description and Justification (no more than 500 characters):

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Incomplete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Incomplete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Incomp (1)
Project	
Title & Duration	Incomplete
Information for Review	Incomplete
Review Exclusions	0 Entries
Public Information	Incomplete
Keywords	Incomplete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Empty
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Incomplete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Incomplete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | Funding Section

Matching Funds

1. Complete budget worksheet; enter matching funds in COMBINED tab
2. Enter matching funds from COMBINED tab (Row 47) here
3. Add title of matching fund contribution > click save
4. New row will auto-populate into table with title entered

Matching Funds Overview							
Organization Name	Completion Status	Actions	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
You haven't listed any matching funds.							
Total Matching Funds			0	0	0	0	0

[Save](#)

[Add Matching Funds](#)

Source of matching funds

[Save](#)

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Incomplete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Incomplete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Incomp (1)
Project	
Title & Duration	Incomplete
Information for Review	Incomplete
Review Exclusions	0 Entries
Public Information	Incomplete
Keywords	Incomplete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Empty
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Incomplete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Incomplete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | Funding Section

Matching Funds

1. Add annual matching fund contributions
2. Click save when all values have been entered
3. Status changes to complete
4. Repeat for each contribution
5. All cells must be filled. Enter "0" for empty cells

Enter contributions here after saving name entry

Matching Funds Overview							
Organization Name	Completion Status	Actions	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Test	Incomplete	Edit Delete	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0
Total Matching Funds			0	0	0	0	0

[Save](#) [Add Matching Funds](#)

Status changes automatically when "Save" clicked

Matching Funds Overview							
Organization Name	Completion Status	Actions	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Test	Complete	Edit Delete	<input type="text" value="250,000"/>	<input type="text" value="250,000"/>	<input type="text" value="250,000"/>	<input type="text" value="250,000"/>	1,000,000
Total Matching Funds			250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	1,000,000

[Save](#)

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Incomplete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Incomplete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Incomp (1)
Project	
Title & Duration	Incomplete
Information for Review	Incomplete
Review Exclusions	0 Entries
Public Information	Incomplete
Keywords	Incomplete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Empty
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Incomplete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Incomplete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Application | CIRM Funds Calculator

Instructions	
Print View	
Eligibility	
Eligibility	Incomplete
Personnel	
PI and AOO	Incomplete
Co-Investigators & Key Personnel	Incomp (1)
Project	
Title & Duration	Incomplete
Information for Review	Incomplete
Review Exclusions	0 Entries
Public Information	Incomplete
Keywords	Incomplete
Funding	
Consultants, Subcontracts and Service Contracts	Empty
Matching Funds	Empty
CIRM Funds Calculator	Incomplete
Certifications	
Institutional Approvals and Oversight	Incomplete
Uploads	
Document Uploads	Incomplete

Total CIRM Funded Direct Project Costs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Personnel	2,700,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	8,700,000
Supplies	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	400,000
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
Travel	0	0	0	0	0
Data Sharing	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Subcontracts (sum of the full subcontract amounts entered in the 'Consultants/Subcontracts/ServiceContracts' table)	490,000	490,000	490,000	490,000	1,960,000
Total CIRM Funded Direct Project Costs	3,290,000	2,590,000	2,590,000	2,590,000	11,060,000

Amounts Excluded for Facilities and Indirect Cost Calculation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Consultants/Subcontracts/Service Contracts Costs in Excess of \$25,000 Each	440,000	490,000	490,000	490,000	1,910,000
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
Trainee Annual Tuition and Fees	0	0	0	0	0
Amounts Excluded for Facilities and Indirect Cost Calculation	440,000	490,000	490,000	490,000	1,910,000

Adjusted Project Costs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Adjusted Project Costs	2,850,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	9,150,000

Facilities Costs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Category A					
Rate for Operation/Maintenance Expenses (percent)	5	1	1	1	
Rate for Library Expenses (percent)	1	1	1	1	
Sum of Category A Rates	6.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	
Category A Costs Requested	171,000	42,000	42,000	42,000	297,000
Category B - Claim Either Category B(1) or Category B(2)					
<input checked="" type="radio"/> B(1): Federally negotiated rates for depreciation & capital debt					
<input type="radio"/> B(2): Out-of-pocket lease costs					
Rate for Depreciation or Use Allowances (percent)	4	4	4	4	
Rate for Interest on Capital Debt (percent)	2	2	2	2	
Sum of Category B(1) Rates	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%	
Category B(1) Costs Requested	171,000	126,000	126,000	126,000	549,000
Category B Costs Requested	171,000	126,000	126,000	126,000	549,000
Facilities Costs	342,000	168,000	168,000	168,000	846,000

Indirect Costs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Indirect Cost Rate (percent: for-profits none allowed, non-profits no more than 20%)	20	20	20	20	
Indirect Costs	638,400.00	453,600.00	453,600.00	453,600.00	1,999,200

Total Project Funds	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Total Funds Requested from CIRM	4,270,400	3,211,600	3,211,600	3,211,600	13,905,200
Total Matching Funds	250,000	250,000	500,000	5,000	1,005,000
Total Project Funds	4,520,400	3,461,600	3,711,600	3,216,600	14,910,200

1. Complete budget worksheet PI and Co-I tabs
2. Enter all auto-calculated values from COMBINED tab here
3. Subcontracts and Matching Funds auto-populate from previous sections (must match budget worksheet)

Total requested funds MUST be less than \$14,000,000

IF total requested funds > \$13,000,00, total matching funds MUST be equal or higher than the difference

Application | Budget Uploads

Budget Worksheet

1. Check Budget Worksheet for Accuracy
2. Navigate to Uploads section of Application
3. Identify Budget Worksheet upload link and upload spreadsheet in EXCEL format
4. MUST upload a complete Budget Worksheet at the time of Application submission

Document Uploads					
Document Name	Status	Template	Uploaded Files	Acceptable File Types	Upload
Proposal Please refer to the template for instructions.	Incomplete	MSWord	none	pdf	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
Biographical Sketches for Key Personnel Please refer to the template for instructions.	Incomplete	MSWord	none	pdf	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
Budget Justification Please refer to the template for instructions.	Incomplete	MSWord	none	pdf	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
Budget Worksheet Please refer to the template for instructions.	Incomplete	MSExcel	none	xls, xlsx	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
Milestones and Timeline Please refer to the template for instructions.	Incomplete	MSExcel	none	xls, xlsx	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
PI and Co-Investigator Other Support Please refer to the template for instructions.	Incomplete	MSWord	none	pdf	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
Letters of Support If Applicable In a single PDF, provide any signed letters documenting the following: 1. Institutional support 2. Collaborations	Complete	none	none	pdf	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
Quotes and Other Budget Data If Applicable In a single PDF, provide any signed letters documenting copies of important contract work proposed in the budget. This information will be used in the evaluation of the budget.	Complete	none	none	pdf	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>
IP, Licenses and Material Transfer Agreements If Applicable	Complete	none	none	pdf	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/>

Application | Budget Uploads

Matching Fund Contributions Form (if applicable)

Part A. Matching Fund Contribution Table (no page limit)

<Delete this text and the sample entries in red and fill in the table below with brief information on all committed matching fund contributions.>

Organization	Contribution (resource or activities)	Source of Support	Brief Description	Total Value (\$)	Timeline (months / years)	Documentation
Biome Tech	Resource		Unique engineered stem cell lines	\$75,000	As needed Jan through Dec 2026	Letter of Support. Estimate of valuation
Laboratory of genetics, University of Riverside	Activities	Independent research funds at University of Riverside	Chemical library screening of 300K compounds	\$150,000	April 2026 – May 2028	Letter of Support. Estimate of valuation

Part A: Fill in table with committed matching fund contributions information

Part B: Provide brief justification of contributions (2 pages max)

Part C: Include supporting documentation and complete table of contents

Combine form and all supporting documentation into one PDF- upload to designated location in Uploads section at the time of submission

Part B. Matching fund contributions justification and description (2 pages max)

<Delete this text and provide narrative descriptions of committed matching fund contributions listed above and how they contribute to the success of the overall project.>

Part C. Supporting documentation (no page limit)

<Delete this text and append all supporting documentation (i.e. letters of support, quotes, etc.) that are relevant to matching fund contributions after this page. Below, delete the sample entries in red and complete the Table of Contents to help CIRM staff navigate your documentation.>

Table of Contents

Document Description	Starting Page Number
Collaborating institution XYZ Letter of Support dated 08/31/2025	2
Biome Tech Letter of Support dated 09/01/2025	3
Professor ABC Letter of Support dated 07/07/2025	5
Prego AI Quote Dated 08/10/2025	10

Matching Funds

Complete

Please refer to the template for instructions. (For Applicants providing matching fund contributions only)

Application | Budget Uploads

Budget Justification

Part A: Provide brief justification of direct costs for PI and all Co-I Investigators. 3 pages max per investigator

Part B: Provide a brief budget justification for the proposed Data Sharing and Management Plan (DSMP) 1 page max

Upload complete Budget Justification in designated location of Uploads section at the time of submission.

Part A: Budget Justification per Investigator (3 pages max per investigator)

Provide a budget justification for direct costs attributed to the PI, followed by direct costs attributed to each Co-Investigator. **Each investigator is allowed up to 3 pages of budget justification.**

- For each PI and Co-I, provide a yearly breakdown by cost category (Personnel, Supplies, Travel, Equipment, Consultants/Subcontracts/Subawards/Service Contracts).
- Provide sufficient explanation and detail to enable CIRM staff and the Grants Working Group (GWG) to clearly understand the rationale and reasonableness of amounts proposed in all budget categories.
- Ensure all costs are budgeted in proportion to the benefit they provide the proposed project.
- Limits for specific cost categories must be observed.
- Refer to the [CIRM Grants Administration Policy for Discovery, Translation, and Education Projects](#) for more detail on Allowable Project Costs for Research funded by CIRM.

When you have finished, convert the final document into a PDF, ensure that the page limits are not exceeded, and upload the completed file to your online application.

Part B: Data Sharing and Management Plan (DSMP) Budget Justification (1 page max)

Provide a budget justification for the proposed DSMP. **This justification must be no more than 1 page.**

1. State the total amount of direct project costs that are specifically allocated to support implementation of the Data Sharing and Management Plan.
2. Justify any additional costs for data sharing and management activities that have not already been accounted for in the above categories.
3. Refer to CIRM Data Sharing and Management Budget Justification Guidelines in [CIRM Data Sharing and Management](#) for more information.

Budget Justification

Incomplete

Please refer to the template for instructions.

Application | Delegate Users

Delegation allows another user to act on your behalf in GMS

1. Delegate users must already be registered in GMS
2. PI, AOO, FAOO or TTO → click “EDIT PROFILE” → scroll to Delegates table
 - a. Enter delegate’s email, check agreement box, click “ADD”

Your Delegates			
Email	Name	Institution	Actions
None			

[Specify a new delegate](#)

[Back](#)

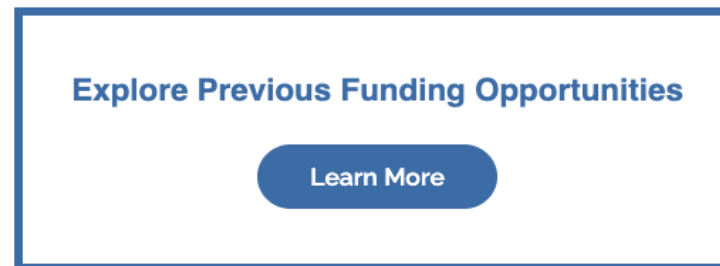
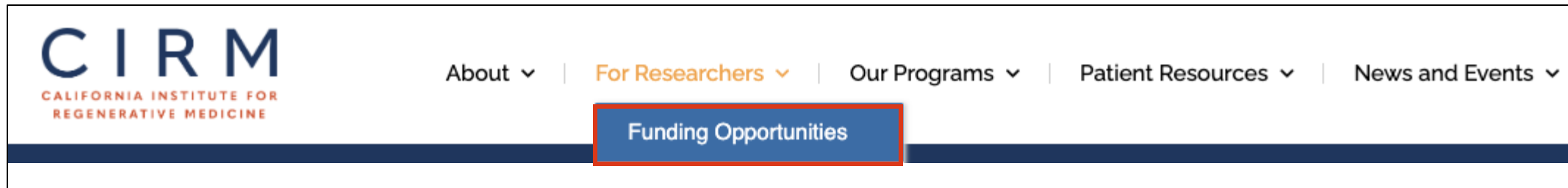
3. Delegate logs in → Clicks their name on Menu bar → “Become Delegate”
4. Click arrow to the left of user's name to assume their role

Note: Applications are prepared and initially submitted by the PI, then reviewed and fully submitted by the AOO; The AOO cannot access the Application until the PI completes the initial submission

Information and Resources for Applicants

Previous DISC Review Summaries

Navigate to "[Previous Funding Opportunities](#)" to learn more about how previous DISC awards have been evaluated



CIRM Data Sharing Requirement

Application

- Data Sharing Overview

Award

- Develop a Data Sharing and Management Plan (DSMP)
 - Metadata Catalog
 - Data Use Limitations (DUL) Institutional Certification
- Deposit data in data repositories by end of award

The screenshot shows the CIRM website navigation menu with the following items: About, For Researchers, Our Programs, Patient Resources, and News and Events. The 'For Researchers' menu is expanded, showing 'Funding Opportunities' and 'Information for Applicants'. A red arrow points from 'Information for Applicants' to a content box titled 'Data Sharing and Management'.

Data Sharing and Management

The sharing of data and knowledge produced from CIRM-funded projects is key to advancing the field of regenerative medicine and accelerating the discovery, validation and development of treatments for patients.

CIRM requires awardees to manage and preserve raw data, processed data, and metadata, and make applicable data and metadata available to the broader scientific community. CIRM also requires applicants to allocate funds in their proposed budget for personnel and/or activities related to managing and sharing data produced from the funded project.

Detailed information about data sharing and management requirements at the application and award stages, plus general resources on repositories and data sharing, are described in [CIRM Data Sharing and Management](#).

Shared Resources Labs for Stem Cell-Based Modeling

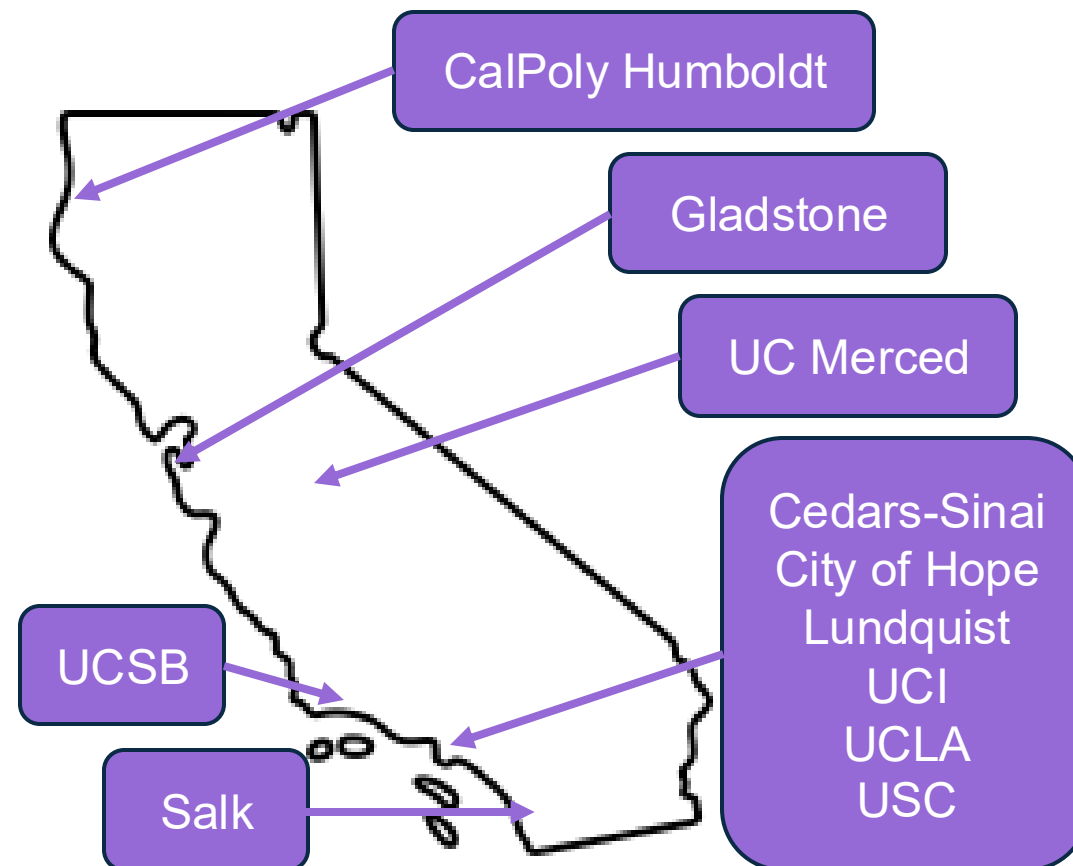
CIRM-funded infrastructure program to support California researchers and educators by:

- Providing access to core facility, specialized services, and equipment
- Sharing models/expertise and resources for research **broadly across CA**
- Training researchers
- Providing educational resources / activities (including formal techniques courses)

General information: <https://www.cirm.ca.gov/shared-labs/>

Browse offerings: <https://cirmhub.cirm.ca.gov/page/public-resources>

Contact: ugrieshammer@cirm.ca.gov



Shared Resources Labs

Stem Cell-Based Modeling Expertise & Technologies

SRL	Organs / Tissues Modeled (2D, organoids)	Technologies / Services (Also available: omics, CRISPR, imaging, flow cytometry)
Cedars-Sinai	brain, heart, bone, blood, gut, lung, liver	automation, metabolism, organ-on-chip
COH	brain, heart, breast	single cell proteomics , electrophysiology, bioprinting , hypoxic incubators
Gladstone	brain, heart, immune	automated cell culture and imaging, LNP delivery , HTP drug screening
Humboldt	brain	
Lundquist	brain, heart, blood, lung, bone, cartilage, intestine, pancreas	metabolism
Salk	brain (aging)	metabolism, direct reprogramming
UCI		imaging mass cytometry , 3D bioprinting
UCLA	brain, skeletal muscle	automated cell culture and imaging, small molecule screening
UCM	vascular	small animal models for stem cell-based model characterization, microfluidic microvascular networks
UCSB	brain, retina, embryo (neuro dev)	HTP drug screening , HTP lenti generation , HTP ELISAs
USC	brain, kidney, intestine, cartilage	electrophysiology

Contacts and Deadlines

Applications due by November 12, 2025, 2pm PST

Programmatic Questions
discovery@cirm.ca.gov

Review Questions
review@cirm.ca.gov

Budget and Grants Admin Questions
grantsmanagement@cirm.ca.gov



Discovery

www.cirm.ca.gov/DISC4

**Please reference documents
on our website for guidance**