

CIRM

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR
REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

Grants Working Group Recommendations

EDUC8 Bridges and COMPASS Awards

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Agenda

- ① EDUC8 Program Overview
- ② Review Process
- ③ Recommendations

EDUC8

Program Objective

To prepare undergraduate through master's level students in California for careers in regenerative medicine by identifying and supporting untapped talent and producing well-trained, adaptable, and committed professionals for the regenerative medicine workforce.

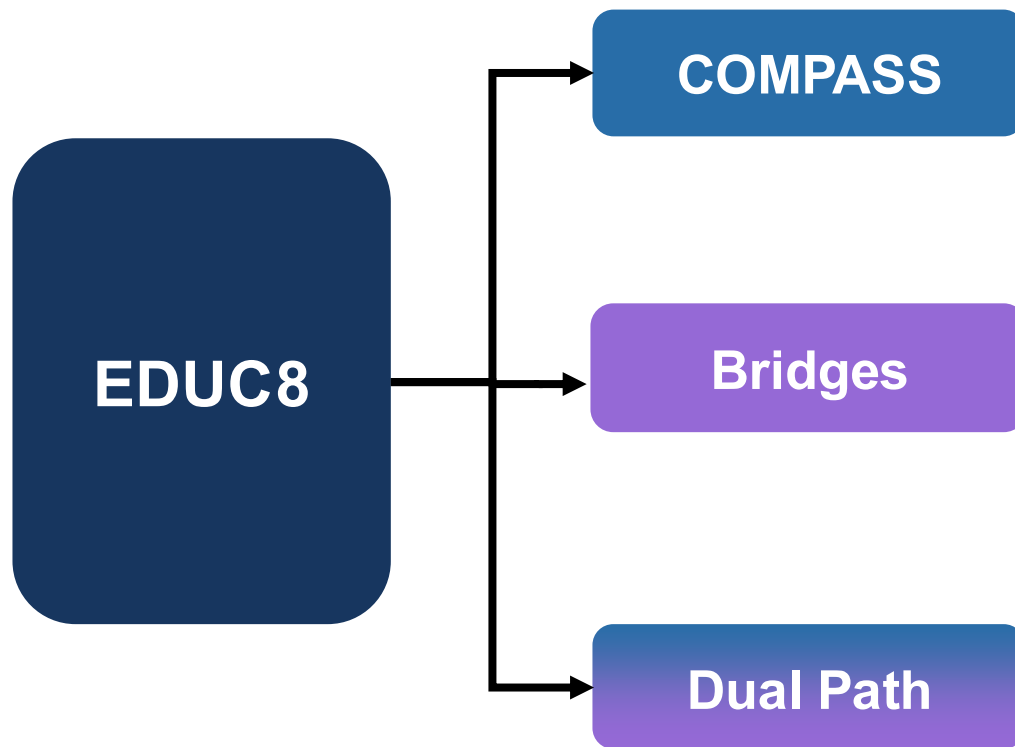


EDUC8 Program Contributes to These Impact Goals

Goal 6: Bolster CIRM's workforce development programs to address gaps and meet evolving demands in regenerative medicine

EDUC8 Structure

What distinguishes EDUC8 paths?



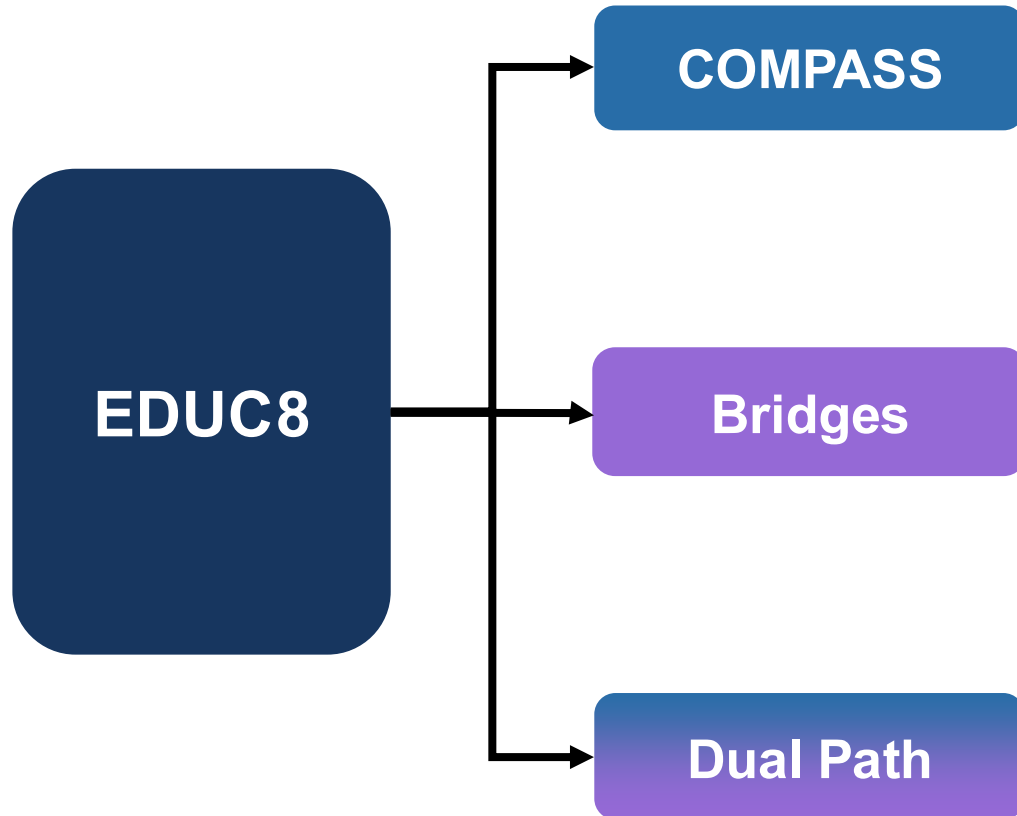
Undergraduate students who may not have had prior experiences in life sciences and are exploring career opportunities

Certificate program, undergraduate, or Masters student committed to transitioning into regenerative medicine careers or relevant next steps

Combination of trainee types, with potential for trainees to transition from COMPASS to Bridges under one mechanism

EDUC8 Structure

What distinguishes EDUC8 paths?



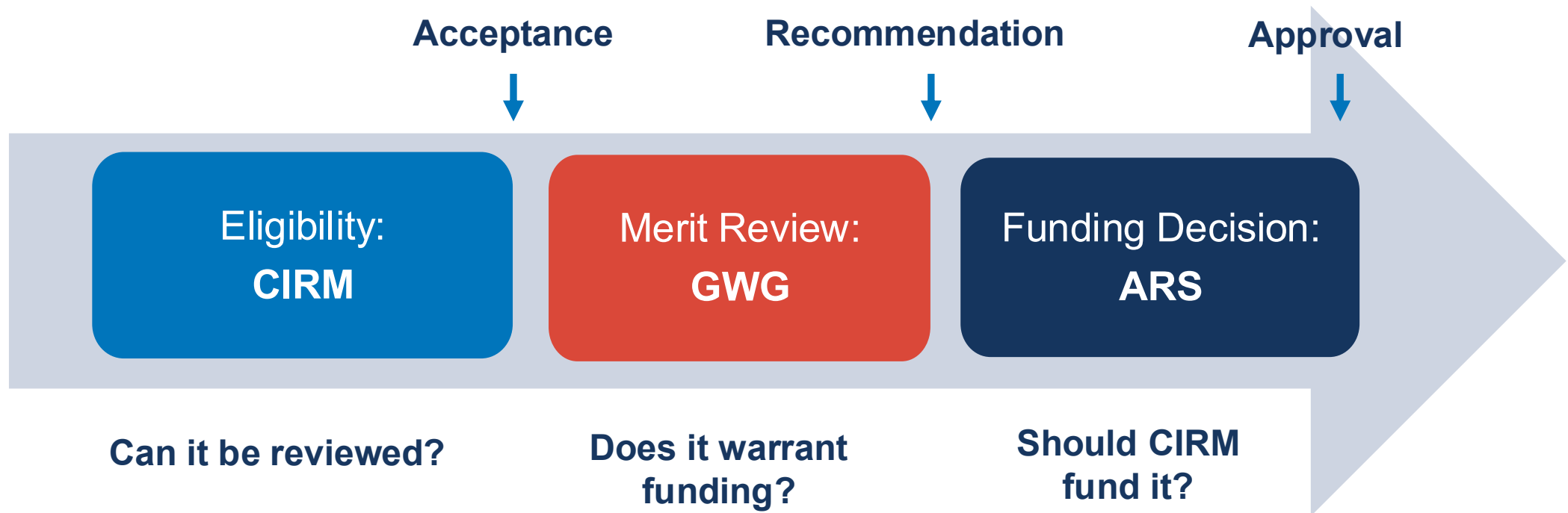
- Supports early-stage untapped talent
- 2–3-month internships
- Applicant institutions with Bachelor's programs
- Supports trainees preparing to transition to careers or more specialized training
- 6–12-month internships
- Applicant institutions without CIRM Major Facility or Regenerative Medicine research infrastructure
- Supports both COMPASS and Bridges-type trainees
- Potential for trainees to transition from COMPASS to Bridges under one mechanism
- Specifics depend on applicant proposal

EDUC8 Structure

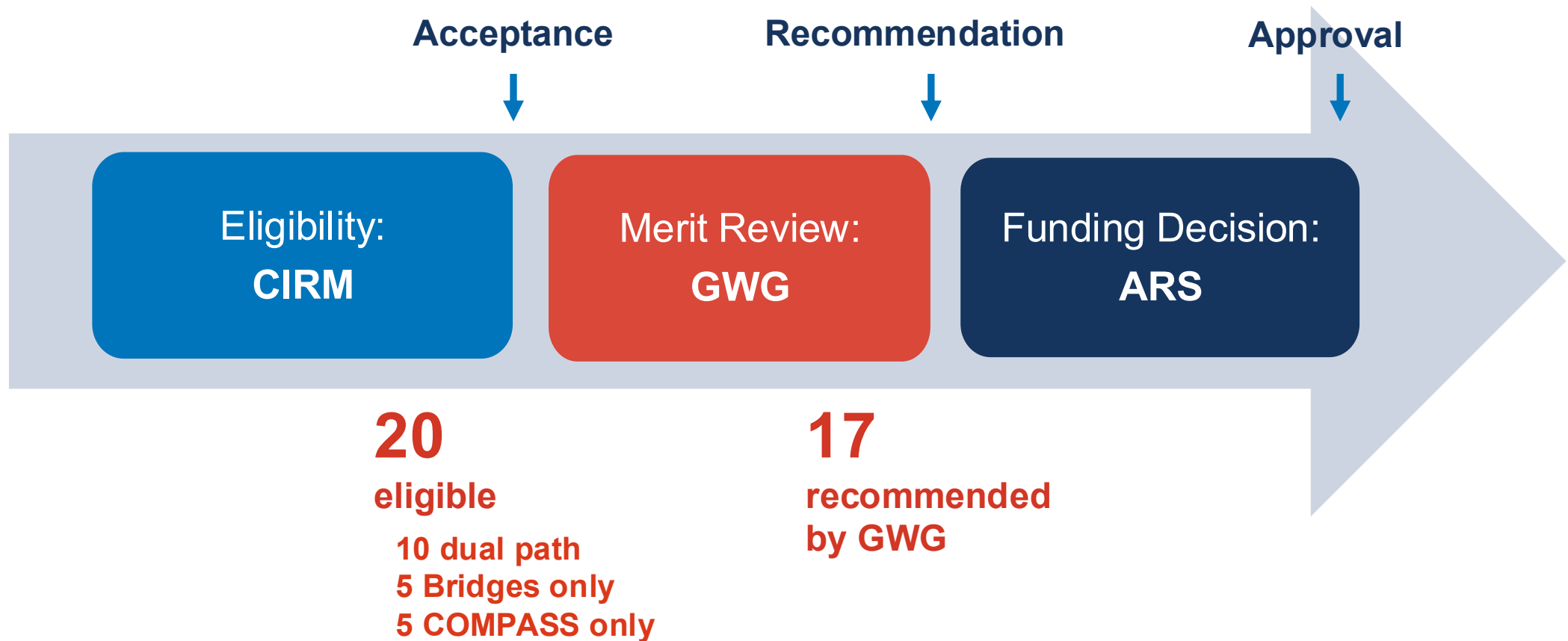
	EDUC8
Paths	COMPASS-type, Bridges-type, or dual path training programs
Recurrence	One cycle in 2026, one cycle in 2027
Max Duration	5 years
Applicant	California undergraduate/masters institutions
Leadership and Expertise	Program Director, Mentorship/Outreach Facilitators; Co-Director for dual path programs only
Max Award (total cost)	Bridges Only: Up to \$4.58M; COMPASS Only: Up to \$3.23M Dual Path: Up to \$6.91M
Awards/Year	15-18 Awards, 2026 Cycle 15-18 Awards, 2027 Cycle
Anticipated Trainees	1500-2500
Allocation 2026	\$99M

Review Process

EDUC8 Application and Review Process

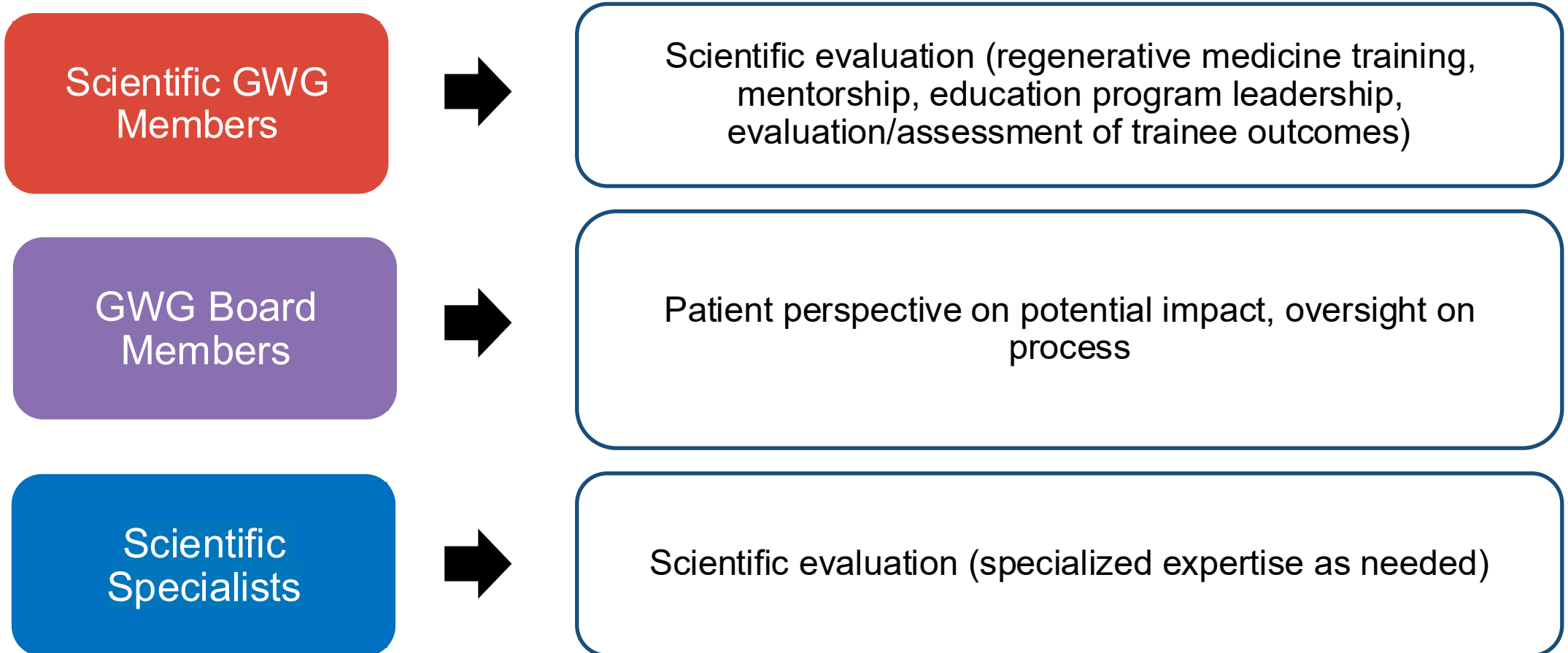


EDUC8 Application and Review Process



EDUC8 GWG Panel Composition and Roles

Who participates and how they contribute



Scientific Scoring System

Using the 1 to 100 scale

- **Median score of 85-100:** Exceptional merit and warrants funding, if funds are available.
- **Median score of 1-84:** Not recommended for funding.
- Scoring is holistic and based upon all facets of the expert review.
- GWG are encouraged to make full use of the scoring range to signal their enthusiasm for each program.

EDUC8 Scientific Review Criteria

- **Value Proposition** - Evaluate the program's value and potential for impact
- **Outreach and Assessment** - Evaluate the strategy for identifying talent and measuring success
- **Trainee Experience** - Evaluate the quality of the educational support framework to ensure successful trainee outcomes
- **Program Team and Resources** - Evaluate the expertise and resources that will be deployed to achieve the training program objectives
- **Population Impact** – Evaluate the extent to which the program considers the potential impact of proposed training across broad segments of California

Recommendations

GWG Recommendations

Recommendation	Number of Apps	Total Applicant Request	Funds Available
Recommended for funding	17	\$90,540,769	\$99,000,000
Not recommended for funding	3		

For each award, the final award amount shall not exceed the amount approved by the ICOC Application Review Subcommittee and may be reduced contingent on CIRM's assessment of allowable costs and activities.

CIRM Team Recommendations

The CIRM Team recommendation to the ARS:

- Fund the 17 applications recommended by the GWG for a total amount of \$90,540,769.
- Do not fund the remaining applications.