



TO: Members of the Science Subcommittee of the ICOC
FROM: C. Scott Tocher, Deputy General Counsel
DATE: September 14, 2016
RE: Research Program Budget Policy and Process

Executive Summary

Historically, the full Board determined budgets for each round of a given research program, and later made funding decisions regarding applications for the programs. As a result, the Board could exceed the budget for a particular program if it determined that additional applications merited funding.

Under current policies, the Board continues to determine the budget for a program through its approval of concept plans and budget allocations, while a subcommittee of the Board, the Application Review Subcommittee, makes funding decisions on specific applications. As a result, the Application Review Subcommittee is bound by the budget set by the Board and may not exceed that budget. To address the process by which the Board and Application Review Subcommittee make budget allocation and funding decisions, the CIRM team proposes the following:

RESEARCH PROGRAM BUDGET POLICY AND PROCESS

1. On an annual basis, CIRM will present for the Board's consideration a calendar-year budget for each of its on-going research programs (CONF, DISC, TRAN AND CLIN).
2. Any funds allocated to a program for a particular calendar year that are not awarded by the Application Review Subcommittee (i.e., approved for funding) in that calendar year will revert to general research funding bucket to be re-allocated as part of the Board's consideration of research budgets for subsequent calendar years.
3. The calendar-year budget for a particular program includes all awards approved for funding by the Application Review Subcommittee for that program during that calendar year.

4. The proposed budget for each program will specify the proposed number of opportunities to submit applications (i.e., cycles) for that program during the calendar year (e.g., 12 CLIN cycles for 2017; 4 CONF (Mechanism 1) cycles for 2017).

5. The Application Review Subcommittee may not exceed the budget for a particular program, even if all of the funds have been awarded before each cycle is complete. As a result, the number of cycles will be automatically reduced if the funds for that program have been exhausted, unless the Board allocates additional funds for that program.

Requested Action: CIRM requests that the Board approve the research budget allocation policy.