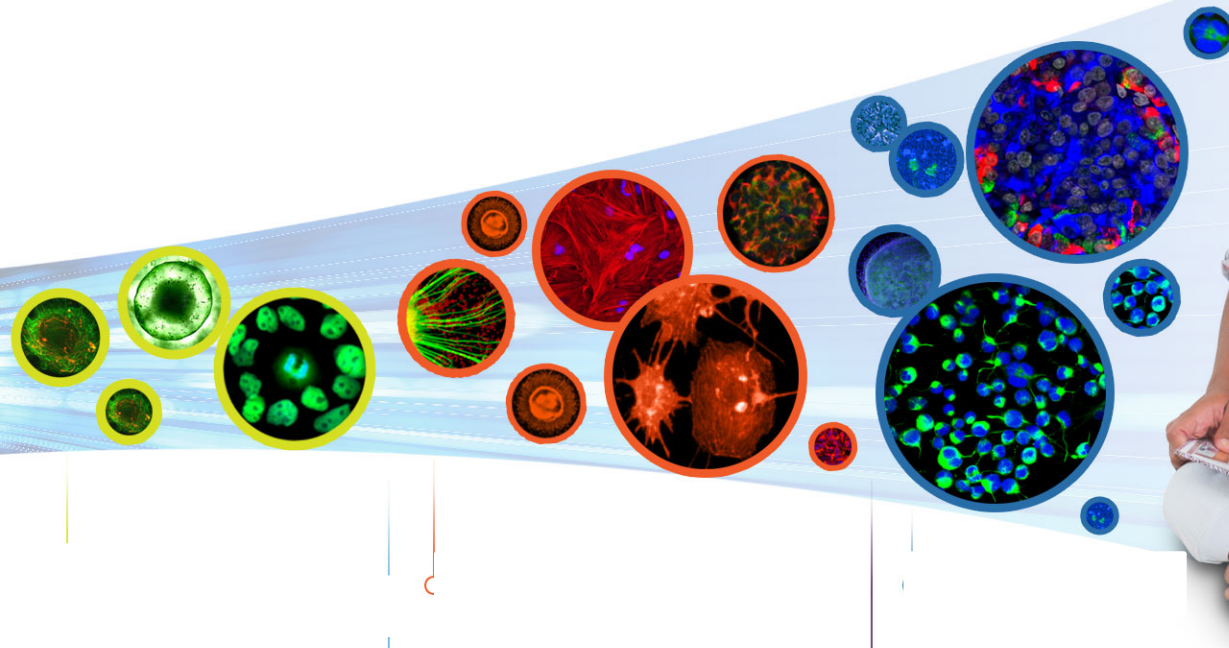


CIRM

CALIFORNIA'S STEM CELL AGENCY



Proposed Changes to DISC and TRAN Concepts

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Discovery Program: 2018

- 2018 Discovery budget: \$10M down from \$52M
- Recommend: Fund DISC2 Program
 - Rationale
 - Output is a direct feed into TRAN early development
 - CIRM's most popular program, based on application volume
 - Leverages past investments in basic research (progression)
 - Propose reduction in direct project cost caps to maximize budget allocation

Proposed DISC Concept Changes

- DISC2 (Quest) Concept Plan currently caps direct project costs as follows:
 - \$1.4 M for therapeutic candidate discovery
 - \$0.7 M for medical device, diagnostic and tool/technology candidate discovery
 - Rationale: Generally, more expensive to achieve a therapeutic candidate ready for development as compared to achieving a device, diagnostic or tool prototype ready for development
- Recommend: Reduce direct project cost caps as follows:
 - \$0.9 M for therapeutic candidate discovery
 - \$0.5 M for medical device, diagnostic and tool/technology candidate discovery
 - Rationale: Maximize reduced Discovery budget while maintaining quality pipeline

Proposed TRAN Concept Changes



- TRAN Concept Plan currently does not allow non-California applicants to apply for funding to conduct research in California.
 - This change to the concept plans for both DISC and TRAN programs was approved by the Board in December, 2016
- Recommend: For TRAN program, reinstate eligibility for non-California organizations
 - Rationale: Increase pool of quality awards (e.g. In 2017, 50% fewer applications funded compared to 2016)
 - CIRM funding for research activities:
 - Conducted in CA
 - Directly required to support research conducted in CA

Requested Actions

- Approve proposed amendment to the DISC concept plan
- Approve proposed amendment to the TRAN concept plan