

New Mexico IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (NM-INBRE)
Funding Opportunity: Developmental Research Project Program (DRPP)
(Clinical Trials NOT Allowed)

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Purpose

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded a parent grant to the New Mexico IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (NM-INBRE) under Funding Opportunity Announcement ([FOA PAR-23-100](#)), intended to strengthen the biomedical research capacity in IDeA eligible states. NM-INBRE invites applications for support of basic, applied, and/or community-based participatory research projects that address important biomedical problems or provide research experiences that prepares students to participate in the biomedical research workforce. The NM-INBRE program intends to provide funding for developmental research projects annually to faculty with regular positions at the Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs) and non-PUI institutions recognized as NM-INBRE partners (listed in section F and G below). Awards will include Research Projects (\$50K to \$125K annual direct costs) and Pilot Research Projects (\$10K to \$50K annual direct costs).

B. Programmatic assessment of NM-INBRE funded research progress includes the following criteria:

1. Publication in peer-reviewed journals, adhering to NIH Public Access policy¹
2. Submission of external grant proposals
3. Presentation at scientific meetings or conferences
4. Student research training and mentoring
5. Progress toward
 - a) Project specific aims
 - b) Individual career development plan and benchmarks
6. Contribution to the NM-INBRE Network, including interactions with faculty and students at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs) in the network (see Section G below)
7. Community-Based Participatory Research Impacts and Relationships, as applicable

C. Key Dates

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| 1. Preliminary application due date: | June 19, 2026 |
| Link for: Preliminary DRPP Application | |
| 2. Applicants selected to complete proposal | June 23, 2026 |
| 3. Complete proposal due date (by invitation) | August 10, 2026 |
| 4. Earliest award start date: | November 1, 2026 |

D. Background

The NM-INBRE Program is funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Grant Number P20GM103451. NM-INBRE strengthens biomedical research at New Mexico's universities and prepares faculty and students for participation in research programs of the NIH. For more information on NM-INBRE visit www.nminbre.org. The program's mission is to create supportive research and training environments, facilitate communication and collaborations among participants, and provide access to core facilities within the Regional Alliance for INBRE Networks (RAIN): Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Wyoming. For more information on RAIN visit <https://rainresearch.org/>.

E. NM-INBRE Research Goals

NM-INBRE is a faculty and student-development program that emphasizes the maturation of research projects into comprehensive research programs providing opportunities for scientific advancement, professional growth, student development, and collaboration across network institutions and beyond. NM-INBRE stresses progress toward establishing independent research programs in order to sustain research activities beyond the INBRE award. The NM-INBRE therefore expects faculty investigators to take active steps toward securing external funding and encourages investigators to submit proposals to the NIH and other federal agencies.

F. NM-INBRE Network non-PUI Institutions

Applications are sought from faculty employed at the NM-INBRE non-PUI institutions:

1. New Mexico State University (NMSU)
2. University of New Mexico (UNM)
3. Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

G. NM-INBRE Network Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs)

1. Dona Ana Community College (DACC)
2. Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU)
3. New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU)
4. New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NMT)
5. Northern New Mexico College (NNMC)
6. San Juan College (SJC)
7. Western New Mexico University (WNMU)

Section II. Types of Awards Available

- A. Research Projects (RP)** support promising faculty in studies that address novel scientific ideas or new model systems, the development of tools, or technologies that have the potential for significant impact on biomedical or biobehavioral research in any biomedical research areas. RP Leaders (RPLs) at the awardee and network partner institutions must be eligible to apply for NIH “R-type” grants and are expected to devote at least 50 percent of their professional effort (equivalent to 6.0 person months) to the project, with institutional support for time commitment to the research enterprise.

Funding level: \$50,000 - \$125,000 annual direct costs

Funding duration: 2 years, may be renewable

Characteristics of RPs:

1. Full scale study that fits within the NIH mission to support basic, applied, and/or community-based participatory research projects that address important biomedical problems (including health disparities).
2. RP Leaders (RPLs) must hold a *regular* faculty position at a NM-INBRE partner institution and devote 6 person months effort annually to the project. Post-doctoral or Senior researchers working in a developed PI’s laboratory are ineligible to apply.
3. Priority will be given to collaborative* research between investigators at NM-INBRE Partner PUIs (in Section I. G above) and non-PUI Institutions in the NM-INBRE network, or between two or more investigators at NM-INBRE Partner PUIs.
4. Aims to develop results for publication and NIH R-type grant proposal
5. Second year of funding dependent on progress toward publications and grants. Project may be extended for a second two-year period with a successful renewal application.
6. Must address plans for faculty career development
7. Must include a mentor and mentoring plans

8. Must address plans for student involvement, development, and training
9. Must address compliance approvals for human subjects or animal research. Clinical trials not allowed.

B. Pilot Projects

Funding level: \$10,000 - \$50,000 annual direct costs

Funding duration: 1 year, may be renewable

Project types:

1. Pilot Projects for New Investigators (PPN) - Designed to support small-scale projects for faculty that are unable to devote 6 person months effort to a single research project but want to develop a research program that can lead to independent NIH funding, such R15 or R16 mechanisms. The PPN research program can involve research conducted primarily during the summer months at PUIs. The PPN research program is also appropriate for very early career investigators at non-PUIs.
 - a) Well-defined, small-scale study that fits within the NIH mission to support basic, applied, and/or community-based participatory research projects that address important biomedical problems.
 - b) PP Leaders (PPLs) must hold a *regular* faculty position at a NM-INBRE partner institution and devote 3 person months effort annually to the project. Post-doctoral or Senior researchers working in a developed PI's laboratory are ineligible to apply.
 - c) Can be independent or collaborative*
 - d) Aims to develop results for publication and NIH R-type grant proposal
 - e) Can be used to transition to a NM-INBRE-funded Research Project
 - f) Project may be extended for a second year period with a successful renewal application.
 - g) Must address plans for faculty career development
 - h) Must include a mentor and mentoring plans
 - i) Must address plans for student involvement, development, and training
 - j) Must address compliance approvals for human subjects or animal research. Clinical trials not allowed.

2. Pilot Projects for Established Investigators (PPE) - Open to Established investigators who conduct independent research with independent (often peer-reviewed) research funding and/or have a demonstrated high level of research productivity, and serve as mentors and role models in their scientific areas. The PPE mechanism is designed to support small-scale projects that test a new idea, collect preliminary data leading the investigator in a new scientific direction, or support specialized training to learn new approaches or techniques to take back to their home institution.
 - a) Well-defined, small-scale study that fits within the NIH mission to support basic, applied, and/or community-based participatory research projects that address important biomedical problems.
 - b) PP Leaders (PPLs) must hold a *regular* faculty position at a NM-INBRE partner institution and devote 3 person months effort annually to the project. Post-doctoral or Senior researchers working in a developed PI's laboratory are ineligible to apply.
 - c) Can be independent or collaborative*
 - d) Aims to develop results for publication and NIH R-type grant proposal
 - e) PPE awards are not renewable.
 - f) Must address plans for student involvement, development, and training
 - g) Must address compliance approvals for human subjects or animal research. Clinical trials not allowed.

***Note: INBRE seeks to foster collaborations that develop cross-institutional research relationships within the New Mexico Network. Proposals that link formally to another proposal or existing project within the**

NM-INBRE network are especially encouraged. Proposals from non-PUI institutions involving formal collaboration with proposals from an NM-INBRE PUI will be prioritized. See “Proposal and Application Instructions” for details about establishing collaborative linkages with another applicant.

**Collaborative research can include any of the following:

- Investigators from NM-INBRE network institutions (see [Section I. G above](#))
- Investigators from NMSU or UNM
- Regional Alliance of INBRE Networks (RAIN): AK, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, WY

Section III. Eligibility

Any individual or collaborative team with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research is invited to work with his/her organization to develop an application for support. Typically, the Leader of a NM-INBRE application possesses a Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. degree. S/he must also have a regular, full-time faculty appointment at the applicant institution and for those applying for Research Projects, eligibility to apply for a NIH R-type grants (R01, R03, R15, R21, etc.) is required. Faculty appointments may include tenure, clinical, and research-track positions.

Research project investigators at the awardee and network partner institutions are required to **devote at least 50 percent of their professional effort (equivalent to 6.0 person months)** research activities of the NM-INBRE awarded project. **The effort requirement for Pilot project investigators is 3.0 person months.** Institutions must provide release time for project investigators, thus permitting a significant time commitment to the research enterprise. To allow flexibility to RP investigators who cannot devote 6.0 consecutive months throughout the year, the effort can be distributed over the year to achieve a total of 6 person months (for example, 3.0 person months during academic year and 3.0 person months in summer (up to three months) to account for a yearly 6.0 person months’ effort).

Post-doctoral or Senior researchers working in a developed PI’s laboratory are ineligible to apply.

Project investigators are not eligible to serve as a project lead concurrently on any other IDeA (e.g. COBRE or IDeA-CTR) award.

NM-INBRE Institutional Liaisons are not eligible for research project funding.

Section IV. Contacts

For questions about this call, you may send inquiries to the NM-INBRE Institutional Liaison at your institution, listed in the tables below.

Institution	Liaison	E-mail
Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine	Dr. Chris Hague	chague@burrell.edu
Doña Ana Community College	Dr. Joe Butler	jbutler@dacc.nmsu.edu
Eastern New Mexico University	Dr. John Montgomery	john.montgomery@enmu.edu
New Mexico Highlands University	Dr. Todd Lekan	tlekan@nmhu.edu
New Mexico State University	Dr. Shelley Lusetti	slusetti@nmsu.edu
New Mexico Tech (NMT)	Dr. Sally Pias	sally.pias@nmt.edu
Northern New Mexico College	Dr. David Torres	davytorres@nmmc.edu
San Juan College	Dr. Eric Miller	millere@sanjuancollege.edu
University of New Mexico	Dr. Bill Shuttleworth	bshuttleworth@salud.unm.edu
Western New Mexico University	Dr. Kathy Whiteman	kathy.whiteman@wnmu.edu