

National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research
19 September 2022
Concept Clearance

Research and Development contract to support the Center for Inherited Disease Research

Purpose: To renew the program known as the Center of Inherited Disease Research. This Center is operated by NHGRI on behalf of ten of NIH's 27 Institutes and Centers. The program supports a facility that provides a selection of genetic and genomic services to the NIH community. These services include genotyping, DNA sequencing and DNA methylation analyses and a limited range of statistical services. Member ICs have access to a central laboratory that can provide technical expertise, levels of data quality, and economies of scale that would be difficult to achieve if they supported their own isolated programs. The program is designed to allow investigators to focus on obtaining and phenotyping the individuals they wish to study and to carry out analyses on the genomic data generated under the contract. The CIDR laboratory focusses on generating high data quality genomic data and directly facilitating the sharing of these data on behalf of the ICs.

An important aspect of the CIDR program is an extra level of peer review administered by NHGRI. Projects to be carried out at the Center are reviewed by a panel with expertise in quantitative and statistical genetics and genetic epidemiology. The main focus of the program is high-throughput projects relating to human health and disease. The Center also carries out research and development work on new methods to determine if they have the characteristics that would allow them to be offered as a service to the NIH community.

New or renewal/modified initiative: This is a renewal of program that has been active since 1996. The scope and structure of the program is modified at each renewal to tailor the program to the needs of the research community and the NIH. The program is also designed to allow for changes in services and technologies offered at any time.

Mechanism of Support: The program will be support by an ID/IQ contract*. This mechanism allows the ICs that support CIDR to fund baseline operations. Individual projects are supported directly by the IC(s) that sponsor the project. NHGRI manages the program on behalf of the member ICs. This includes collecting funds from the other ICs to cover the costs of program management.

Investigators access the program via the X01 "grant" mechanism. Applications are reviewed by the CIDR Access Committee, a special purpose review panel that evaluates each application. The CIDR Board of Governors provides governance for the program and serves as a secondary review panel. Projects that are approved are funded directly by the sponsoring IC(s). Investigators are not charged for services and do not receive any direct funding from the program.

* In Federal government contracting, IDIQ is an abbreviation of the term indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity. This is a type of contract that provides for an indefinite quantity of supplies or services during a fixed period. – definition from the General Services Administration.