Office of Cancer Centers

Summary of 2013 Guidelines Changes

Component	Changes
Director's Overview and Six	Note: Page Limits for these sections and the Director's Overview have been changed to
Essential Characteristics	comply with NIH requirements.
(Section 2.6)	
• Director's Overview (12 pages)	Page limit change only
• Organizational Capabilities (12 pages)	<u>Additions</u> Integration of education and training of biomedical researchers and health care professionals, including those from underserved populations, into programmatic research efforts
	Focus on cancer research in the catchment area
	<u>Deletions</u> Overlap with requirements of Planning and Evaluation Component
	Data on non-aligned members
	<u>Clarifications</u> Centers may vary in the nature and range of training and education activities they sponsor
• Transdisciplinary Collaboration and Coordination (12 pages)	<u>Additions</u> Movement of findings through the translational pipeline via coordination with NCI and other peer-reviewed funding mechanisms Interactive activities beyond grants and publications are acceptable
	Encouragement of collaborative links with other centers, institutions, industry

• Institutional Commitment (12 pages)	<u>Additions</u> Recognition of team science in promotion and tenure policies
• Center Director (6 pages)	Additions Management and use of authorities and resources to advance the center's research mission
	<u>Deletions</u> Overlap with institutional commitment re director's authorities
• Facilities (6 pages)	Page limit change only
• Cancer Focus (6 pages)	Page limit change only
Consortia (Section 1.7)	<u>Additions</u> Ongoing, tangible commitments from all consortium partners to the cancer center
	Examples of acceptable forms of 'tangible' support
	<u>Deletions</u> Requirement that all clinical trials must be open and available in all partner institutions
	<u>Clarifications</u> Requirement for each consortium partner to hold a portfolio of peer-reviewed cancer related grants
	Requirement that consortium operate as one cohesive center at time of application
	Role of the grantee and consortium partners in joint planning and evaluation processes

<u>Senior Leadership</u> (Section 2.7.1)	<u>Additions</u> Expanded role for senior leadership in establishing a vision, fostering basic discovery and appropriate translation, enabling a focus on cancer research in the catchment area, and establishing a process for integrating training and education into programmatic research
	Examples of how the center might document senior leadership involvement in integration of training
	Guidelines relevant to enabling a research focus in the catchment area are cross-referenced to examples in section 2.8.5, Research Programs.
<u>Developmental Funds</u> (Section 2.7.4)	<u>Additions</u> Opportunities to share meritorious resources across centers, fund staff investigators (including a new category focused on special populations research), and support global health pilot projects
	Leadership and participation in clinical trials as evidence of success for new recruits
	<u>Clarifications</u> Developmental funds are restricted
Administration (Section 2.7.5)	<u>Additions</u> Focus on oversight of activities relevant to the CCSG application process
	<u>Clarifications</u> Administrative functions and subsequent applicability of review criteria may vary, based on organization's structure
<u>Clinical Protocol and Data</u> <u>Management</u> (Section 2.10)	<u>Additions</u> Broader range of functions eligible for CCSG support, including those focused on speeding the clinical trials process, reporting for CTRP
	New Review criteria added for CPDM
	Instructions for DSM plans and budgets
	Modifications Table on accrual to interventional trials shortened and clarified, based on Data Table 4
	Review criteria for DSM shortened

Research Programs (Section 2.8)	Note: Each program is now limited to 12 pages of narrative, per NIH requirements. A list of exclusions to these page limits is provided in the guidelines.
	<u>Additions</u> Opportunity to request program development funds in addition to salary support
	For basic science, specific language recognizing non-translational endpoints
	For clinical/translational programs, focus on quality of trials, coordination across NCI mechanisms, movement of findings through the translational pipeline, participation/leadership in NCTN, institutional trials that capitalize on center research
	Focus on how the center addresses cancer research in its catchment area, with examples
	Broader range of activities to document collaboration
	Value added by shared resources
	Stronger language on participation of clinical investigators in program
	Definition of 'cancer health disparities'
	Instructions on handling PMCID numbers in the application
	<u>Deletions</u> Requirements for agendas, data on non-aligned members, benchmarks for collaborative publications and clinical trial accrual
	<u>Modifications</u> Listing only of those publications making scientific impact/impact for patients/ demonstrating collaborative activity within and outside the center
	Review criteria that address accrual issues for trials of rare cancers and targeted therapies
	Requirement for at least 5 peer-reviewed and funded research projects in a Program
	<u>Clarifications</u> Definition of 'cancer-related'
	Crediting of collaborative publications across multiple programs

Shared Resources	Additions
	More emphasis on support of science as opposed to usage metrics
	Language on institutional resources and those supported by other NIH mechanisms
	Purchase of small equipment
	Deletions
	Usage and capacity tables
	Clinical Protocol and Data Management as a shared resource
<u>Protocol Review and Monitoring</u> <u>System</u>	<u>Additions</u> Encouragement of 2 stage review (concept then full protocol)
	Request for information on how the center assesses efficiency of functions, greater emphasis on documentation of process
	Simplified reporting templates
	One time opportunity for re-evaluation during the project period in cases of conditional- or dis- approval
	Text on special considerations for accrual to trials involving rare cancers and targeted therapies, along with link to policy/list of rare cancers
	<u>Clarifications</u> Full scientific review should focus on institutional and industry trials
	Processes for re-evaluation in cases of conditional- or dis-approval
	Procedures for review of institutional trials from other centers
Early Phase Clinical Research	Additions
Support (formerly Protocol Specific	Expands use of funds to early phase clinical research activities, e.g., imaging scans,
<u>Research Support)</u> (Section 2.12)	pharmacodynamic studies and support for IDE or IND applications
(Section 2.12)	Requests for information on studies to be supported and outcomes of former studies

Inclusion of Women and Minorities (Section 2.13)	Additions All centers provide plans for recruitment and retention of women and minorities
	Accrual of women and minorities to non-interventional studies, per NIH policy
	Optional inclusion of information on other underserved populations
<u>Comprehensiveness</u> (Section 2.18)	<u>Modifications</u> A 1-stage review focusing on quality and interactivity of science as before, effectiveness of the center in serving its catchment area through the research it supports, and how the scientific mission of the center is enhanced by integration of training and education into programmatic research efforts.
<u>P30 Funding</u> (Sections 1.8, 2.2)	<u>Additions</u> New budget guidance for Type 2 applications, establishing caps at various levels based on current year direct cost award
	<u>Deletions</u> Elimination of Benchmark Ratio
	Modifications Eligibility requirement for application raised to \$10 M
	Clarifications
	Funding policies and factors influencing award levels
<u>Review Process</u> (Sections 3.2.2, 2.22)	<u>Addition</u> Application only option, with new eligibility criteria and review process
	Deletions Limited site visit option
	Scoring for 'Overall Quality of the Programs'
	Some materials formerly made available at the site visit, shared resource logs
	Modifications
	Posters optional, but updated information may be provided in the slide book

<u>Supportive Data/ Data Tables</u> (formerly Standard Cancer Center Summary Information/Summaries)	Note: To comply with NIH requirements, the names of the tables have been changed. Additionally, in the instructions for application, the Supportive Data is embedded in a "Resources Section" to assure conformity with PHS 398 approved components. For other changes, consult "Summary of Changes in the 2013 CCSG Data Guide"
Other/Overall	<u>Additions</u> Clicking on a section heading or table name in the Table of Contents will take you to
	that section in the document
	Clicking on a footnote or section number will take you to that footnote or section
	Links to the PHS 398 website for forms and instructions
	Glossary of Acronyms
	A footnote to additional guidance on defining 'catchment area' in multiple components of the document
	Request for LOI, 6 months in advance of submission
	Modifications Integrated instructions to applicants and review criteria in text
	Review criteria presented as questions
	'Competitive Revision Applications changed to 'Revisions', per NIH requirements
	'Administrative Revision Applications' changed to Administrative Supplements', per NIH requirements
	'Percent effort' changed to 'person months', per NIH requirements
	Principal Investigator (PI) changed to Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) per NIH requirements
	Deletions
	\$500K/1M letter of agreement to accept the application