

A. Evaluation Criteria

Application

Applications will be reviewed by CDC staff for completeness and responsiveness as outlined under the previous heading Program Requirements. Incomplete applications and applications that are not responsive will be returned to the applicant without further consideration.

Applications which are complete and responsive will be subjected to a preliminary evaluation (streamline review) by the Injury Research Grant Review Committee (IRGRC) to determine if the application is of sufficient technical and scientific merit to warrant further review by the IRGRC. Applications that are determined noncompetitive will not be considered, and NCIPC will promptly notify the investigator/program director and the official signing for the applicant organization. Applications determined to be competitive will be evaluated by a dual review process.

Competing supplemental grant awards may be made, when funds are available, to support research work or activities not previously approved by the IRGRC. Applications should be clearly labeled to denote their status as requesting supplemental funding support. These applications will be reviewed by the IRGRC and the secondary review group.

Awards will be made based on priority scores assigned to applications by the IRGRC, programmatic priorities and needs determined by a secondary review committee (the Advisory Committee for Injury Prevention and Control), and the availability of funds.

1. Review by IRGRC

An initial streamline peer-review of ICRC grant applications will be conducted by the IRGRC. The IRGRC may recommend the application for a site visit review. For those applications recommended for a site visit review, a team of peer reviewers, including members of the IRGRC, will conduct on-site visits at each applicant institution, generate summary statements for the visits, and report the assessment to the IRGRC.

Factors to be considered by the IRGRC include:

a. The specific aims of the application, *e.g.*, the long-term objectives and intended accomplishments. Approval of small and large research projects (including new research projects proposed during the five-year funding cycle), in accordance with NCIPC's performance

goal as stated in section "B. Purpose", is subject to peer review.

(1) Seed projects will be evaluated collectively on the mechanism for solicitation of projects and on their technical/scientific merit review. Evaluation criteria have equal value.

(2) Small projects will be evaluated individually on the significance of the project, the innovative approach, and the proposed methods for achieving an investigation sufficient to support a submission of an RO1 level proposal and/or worthy of publication in a peer-reviewed journal and/or a technical report for a legislative body, governmental agency, or injury control program.

(3) Large projects will be evaluated individually according to existing RO1 level project standards as described in the PHS 398 (Revised 5/01 and updated 6/28/02) guidelines (See Attachment 2, as posted on the CDC website). The application must have a minimum of one large research project approved in order to be recommended for further consideration.

(4) At least 80 percent of the costs (total direct and indirect costs) of the approved small and large research projects must be in alignment with the "CDC Injury Research Agenda," <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc> in order to be recommended for further consideration.

b. The scientific and technical merit of the overall application, including the significance and originality (*e.g.*, new topic, new method, new approach in a new population, or advancing understanding of the problem) of the proposed research.

c. The extent to which the evaluation plan will allow for the measurement of progress toward the achievement of stated objectives. Does the application specify how the effectiveness of the program will be measured?

d. Qualifications, adequacy, and appropriateness of personnel to accomplish the proposed activities.

e. The soundness of the proposed budget in terms of adequacy of resources and their allocation.

f. In addition to conducting defined research projects, ICRCs are expected to devote substantial attention to advancing the field through other activities that are designed to improve research capabilities and translate research into practice. Examples of activities include: consultation and technical assistance that are responsive to regional, State, national, or international priorities; professional training for researchers and practitioners; program development; and evaluation endeavors. The degree of effort devoted to these aspects of an

ICRCs program should be clearly stated in the justification and the budget. The degree of effort may be varied and should reflect the specific focus and goals of the ICRC.

g. Details of progress in the most recent funding period should be provided in the application if the applicant is submitting a re-competing application. Documented examples of success include: development of pilot projects; completion of high quality research projects; publication of findings in peer reviewed scientific and technical journals; number of professionals trained; awards received; ongoing provision of consultation and technical assistance; integration of disciplines; translation of research into implementation; and impact on injury control outcomes including legislation, regulation, treatment, and behavior modification interventions.

h. Does the application adequately address the requirements of Title 45 CFR Part 46 for the protection of human subjects?

i. Does the applicant meet the CDC Policy requirements regarding the inclusion of women, ethnic, and racial groups in the proposed research? This includes:

(1) The proposed plan for the inclusion of both sexes, racial and ethnic minority populations for appropriate representation.

(2) The proposed justification when representation is limited or absent.

(3) A statement as to whether the design of the study is adequate to measure differences when warranted.

(4) A statement as to whether the plans for recruitment and outreach for study participants include the process of establishing partnerships with community or communities and recognition of mutual benefits.

j. Does the application adequately address the requirements of the "PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals by Awardee Institutions?"

k. Does the application include measures that are in accordance with CDC's performance plans?

2. Review by the CDC Advisory Committee for Injury Prevention and Control (ACIPC)

Secondary review of ICRC grant applications with a priority score of 350 or better from the initial peer-review by the IRGRC will be conducted by the Science and Program Review Section (SPRS) of the ACIPC. The SPRS consists of ACIPC members, Federal Ex Officio participants, and organizational liaisons. The Federal Ex Officio participants will be responsible for