

## **inSTEM Appendix BB IV RFA**

Guideline for inStem – CIRM Collaborative Research Program RFA

### **The Basic Scheme to Provide Funding for inSTEM-CIRM Teams:**

According to their own rules and regulations, inStem and CIRM will provide funds to the selected research teams in India (investigators in all Research Institutes in India are eligible) and California, respectively. In other words, inStem provides support to India researchers and CIRM provides support to California researchers utilizing the framework of Basic Biology Awards IV. In this scheme, the peer scientific evaluation process will be carried out by CIRM's Grants Working Group. The CIRM-inStem collaborative grants will only be reviewed by inStem for regulatory, budgetary and administrative considerations.

### **Definition of Terms**

Terms in this Guideline are defined as follows:

1. Collaborative Research Project: a collaborative research project that is carried out by Indian and California scientists pursuing a collaborative research theme.
2. Collaborative Research Team: a team which is constituted of one Indian research team and one Californian research team.
3. Indian Principal Investigator (PI): the researcher who will act as the leader of the Indian research team and coordinate activities with the CIRM Principal Investigator. Applications in response to the RFA must be submitted as a single, integrated project to CIRM by the CIRM Principal Investigator.
4. Research Group: Each Indian and Californian research team can be composed of several research groups.
5. Group Leader: researcher who will act as the leader of a group – if the Indian Team is made of multiple research groups.

### **Eligibility to Apply for inStem Funding In Connection with the Basic Biology IV RFA:**

Researchers who belong to any accredited research institution in India are eligible to apply for the program. This program is designed for researchers who fully understand its objectives and are able to propose to conduct collaborative research by establishing international cooperative relationships and integrating each other's project on stem cell research in close coordination with California researchers. If a team comprises multiple Indian research institutions, each institution should be DSIR certified and be eligible for funding from the Ministry of Science and Technology Government of India. The Indian applicants are expected to identify their specific collaborative partners in California. CIRM and inStem will review all inter-institutional agreements prior to award. The Indian Principal Investigator and Group leaders (if present) should all have tenure that extends beyond the grant.

### **Budget for the inSTEM funded Component of Collaborative Research Projects**

The total budget for one project through the research period is considered to be around ₹ 50,00,000 to ₹100,00,000 on annual average for the Indian team. Budget of a project can vary in each of the three project years, depending on the content of activities.

Please make a proposal for the most appropriate budget to achieve the research goals. In principle, the above budget shall be appropriated and will be administrated by the research

institution of the partner principal investigator. The PIs institution will be responsible for all accounting and audit to be submitted to inStem annually as well as for disbursement of funds to other participating institutions (if any). Overhead will be in line with DBT norms.

Budget items include equipment, consumables, personnel cost, travel and other expenses needed. No administrative costs will be supported. The inSTEM PI and the Group leaders are not eligible for salary support from this grant. However salary supplement for post-doctoral fellows and other research staff working 100% of the time on the funded project will be permitted.

**Number of Proposals to be Selected:** A maximum of 5 proposals will be funded by inSTEM.

### **Reporting**

Annual Progress Report (For Indian Principal Investigators)

CIRM and inSTEM will jointly monitor scientific progress of Collaborative Research Projects. Consolidated annual reports addressing research done in India and in California will be submitted by joint Collaborative Research Teams to CIRM. Requirements of these consolidated annual reports will be set forth in future communications. In addition, the institutions with which the inSTEM funded Principal Investigator are affiliated shall promptly submit to inSTEM an audited financial report on supported expenses.

#### Final Report

After completion of the period of collaborative research project, a consolidated final report on research conducted in India and in California should be submitted to CIRM. Requirements of these consolidated annual reports will be set forth in future communications. inSTEM funded Principal Investigators shall promptly submit to inStem a final audited financial report on supported expenses.

If papers describing results of research are presented to academic journals, societies and so on, please attach copies of such papers to the final report.

### **SPECIAL APPLICATION ATTACHEMENTS FOR INDIAN PIs.**

The Indian PIs whose proposal has been successfully reviewed by the CIRM/CFP joint review panel, will need to submit additional documents to inSTEM before funding can be granted to the Indian partner. These include:

1. All necessary regulatory approvals for carrying out the proposed research.
2. Undertaking by the Institution for financial management.
3. Plan of utilization of capital investment.
4. Human resources development plan.
5. Collaborative agreements between team members covering (among others) Intellectual Property matters.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INQUIRIES REGARDING inSTEM FUNDING:**

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