

**The American Academy of Pediatrics
Julius B. Richmond Center of Excellence
AAP Julius B. Richmond Center Renewal
Call for Preliminary Proposals**

Summary

Purpose

This call for proposals invites researchers studying second-hand tobacco smoke and child health to join in the AAP efforts to address this critical public health problem through participation in the **AAP Julius B. Richmond Center of Excellence (RCE)**. The Richmond Center will be applying to its primary funder, the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI), for continuation funding in 2010 and is now soliciting project proposals for potential inclusion in that application.

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards

Awards are contingent upon the availability of funds and the number of meritorious applications received. The total amount awarded and the number of awards will depend upon the quality, timing, and the overall scope of all project proposals included in the RCE application to FAMRI.

Budget and Project Period

Annual budgets may range from \$50,000 to \$200,000 per year and project periods may vary between 2 and 4 years in length.

Eligible Project Directors/Principal Investigators

Expertise in collaborative research in children's health and/or tobacco control is required. All individuals with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research are invited to apply.

General Information

For information about the AAP Richmond Center and our primary sources of support, see: www.aap.org/richmondcenter/, www.aap.org/ and www.famri.org/intro/.

AAP Julius B. Richmond Center Continuation Proposal

Background

The AAP Julius B. Richmond Center is supported by a grant from the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute, which sponsors biomedical research into the early detection, prevention, treatment and cure of diseases and medical conditions caused by exposure to tobacco smoke. FAMRI also works to ensure that health care providers ask the right questions of their patients about second-hand tobacco smoke exposure. The Richmond Center's work is focused on translational research to eliminate children's exposure to second-hand smoke and tobacco, and the translation of this research into pediatric practice, both patient care and community pediatrics.

Objectives

The AAP plans to submit a 5-year Center renewal proposal to FAMRI in 2010 for continued support for the Richmond Center. This presents an opportunity for researchers in second-hand tobacco smoke and child health to participate in the AAP work to address this critical public health problem. Investigator-initiated projects are invited for potential inclusion in the AAP Richmond Center proposal. Projects must be consistent with the goals of the Richmond Center (see www.aap.org/RichmondCenter) and should address one or more of the following priorities of the Center's Advisory Committee:

- 1) **The needs of vulnerable and/or special populations:** e.g. patient populations such as children with asthma, ear infections and special health care needs; populations such as rural/urban poor that are most affected by this major public health problem, and; other special populations, such as families in military service
- 2) **Collaborative partnerships:** e.g. projects between pediatrics and community medicine, and/or public health; projects that involve partnerships with other FAMRI-supported Centers or research projects, and other domestic and international collaborations that protect children from smoke exposure
- 3) **Biomarkers:** projects that explore biomarkers for exposure and second-hand smoke effects on children
- 4) **Dissemination and diffusion of practice and policy change:** projects that examine dissemination of initiatives to prevent tobacco and second-hand smoke , e.g. quality improvement projects, and dissemination of international initiatives to protect children from exposures
- 5) **Point of care studies:** e.g. projects that examine the effectiveness of systems of care, rapid exposure measurement devices, information technology, electronic health records, and interaction between clinicians and families
- 6) **Media:** projects that explore entertainment media and advertising issues related to second-hand smoke and tobacco and children; and
- 7) **Other projects** consistent with RCE goals.

In addition, funds are set aside and the Richmond Center is seeking health services research or public health program evaluation proposals to evaluate the Center's core dissemination of best practices project.

Who May Apply

Expertise in collaborative research in children's health and/or tobacco control is required. All individuals with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research are invited to apply. Richmond Center Advisory Committee members are not eligible to apply for project support.

To avoid any real, potential, or perceived conflict of interest between grant recipients and tobacco-related entities, the AAP Richmond Center will not award grants to an investigator who is in current receipt of any grant monies or in-kind contributions from any tobacco manufacturer, distributor, or other tobacco-related entity. In addition, we expect that grantees will not accept any grant monies or in-kind contributions from these sources over the duration of the grant.

Timeline and Application Process

AAP Richmond Center project applications will involve a three-part selection process:

- 1) All applicants must submit a two-page preliminary application
- 2) Selected applicants will be invited to submit full proposals
- 3) Selected full proposals will be included in the Center's application to FAMRI.

Key Dates

- **July 1, 2009:** Short (two-page) preliminary applications due
- **On or before September 1, 2009:** Full project proposals will be invited
- **January 15, 2010:** Full project proposals (10-20 pages) due
- **March or April, 2010:** Selected project investigators will be invited to a site visit at AAP
- **June or July 2010:** Selected proposals will be included in the AAP Richmond Center's continuation proposal to FAMRI
- **Fall, 2010:** FAMRI review and site visit for AAP Center renewal
- **July, 2011:** Anticipated start date of renewed Center grant

Submission Information

Only electronic submissions are accepted. Applications must be submitted as e-mail attachments to richmondcenter@aap.org using Microsoft Word or other compatible word processing software.

Budget

Projects similar in scale to NIH Small Grant (R03) and Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21) awards are encouraged. Annual budgets may range between \$50,000 and \$200,000 in direct costs per year and grant periods may vary between 2 and 4 years. Projects with longer or shorter grant periods and/or with higher budgets may be proposed, with clear justification of the work scope. Indirect costs are allowed at 8.5% of direct costs and are not included in the direct cost limitation.

Review Criteria

Proposals should address an area of concern for the health of children or adolescents consistent with the AAP Richmond Center's goals and priorities. The overall significance of the proposed project will be considered. Preference will be given to projects that meet one or more of the following goals:

- Demonstrate a high likelihood of leading to future NIH or other funding
- Have direct implications for practice and policy
- Are exploratory and innovative
- Have or develop collaborative links to other FAMRI Centers of Excellence and,
- Are focused on translational research.

Note: One goal of these procedures is to identify the broadest and strongest possible set of projects to address children's health and second-hand smoke. The initial outcome of these procedures will be a Center proposal to FAMRI. Thus, AAP Richmond Center staff and core investigators will be available to provide technical assistance and advice to potential applicants during the submission and review process.

The Application Process

Part One: Preliminary Application

A two-page preliminary application is due **July 1st, 2009, at 5:00pm Eastern time**. A review panel, convened by the AAP Richmond Center Advisory Committee, will select proposals that will be invited for submission as full proposals. We will notify applicants of the result of the first review stage by e-mail on or before **September 1, 2009**.

Preliminary Application Format and Instructions

Preliminary Applications should include:

1. **Cover page** (not included in the 2-page limit):
Name of Principal Investigator and other key personnel

Contact information for Principal Investigator, including email
Institution and Address
Project Title, Dates and Amount Requested

2. **Project Description** (2 pages maximum)
This section should provide a brief description of the specific aims and approach proposed for the research project, the investigators and environment, the applicant's likelihood of success, the intended budget and any other sources of support. This section should be prepared using 11 point font and 1" margins
3. **References** (one page, not included in the 2-page limit)
The reference citations are not included in the 2-page limit
4. **Principal Investigator Biosketch**
The applicant must submit a biographical sketch, using the standard 4-page NIH biosketch format (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc>).

Part Two: Full Project Proposals

All preliminary applications will be reviewed; applicants will be notified of the outcome of the reviews on or before September 1, 2009. Selected applicants will be invited to advance to the second step, which is submission of a full project proposal, with a deadline of January 15, 2010, 5:00 pm Eastern time.

The focus of the project and its activities should correspond to the preliminary proposal. These full project proposals, including cover sheet, tables, budget, references, and appendices, must be between 10 to 20 pages in length, use a font size no smaller than 11 and 1" margins. Sections should include: Specific Aims, Background and Significance, Preliminary Studies, Research Design and Methods (or Objectives and Evaluation,) and Implications.

A review panel/study section will be convened by the AAP Richmond Center Advisory Committee to review and score full project proposals. In March or April, 2010, selected project investigators will be invited to a site visit at AAP as part of the review process. Selected applicants will then be invited to have their projects included in the AAP Richmond Center proposal to FAMRI.

Part Three: Center Renewal Proposal

The AAP Richmond Center proposal will be submitted to FAMRI in July, 2010. If awarded, the start date of the Center grant will be July 2011; all project or site Principal Investigators of projects included in the Center's proposal will be expected to participate in collaborative activities as part of the AAP Richmond Center of Excellence and/or the AAP Tobacco Consortium.

Funding decisions will be based on the study section review, certification of the investigator's tobacco entity funding status, and approval by the AAP Richmond Center Advisory Committee. Applicants who receive funds from the tobacco industry are ineligible for these grant awards. If awarded, funding will be available on or before July 1, 2011.

Inquiries and Technical Assistance

For more information about this RFA or about the Richmond Center see (www.aap.org/richmondcenter) or please contact the Center's Director, Jonathan D. Klein, MD, MPH, at 585-275-7760 or jklein@aap.org.