

Requirements for a “New” NIBIB P41 National Center Following Funding Period Limitations (Updated May 11, 2020)

NIBIB supports a large network of National Centers for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NCBIB) through the P41 grant mechanism. These Centers create critical and unique technologies and methods at the forefront of their respective fields and apply them to a broad range of basic, translational, and clinical research. These Centers have been highly creative and productive and constitute a significant element in NIBIB's technology development portfolio. As responsible stewards of our mission and budget, NIBIB must balance the conflicting demands of nurturing new scientific areas, while providing for sustained development in established areas. As part of maintaining this balance, NIBIB limits Center funding to 15 years.

Following 15 years of NIBIB support, investigators may submit a completely new P41 application if there is a substantial change to the focus of technology development efforts compared with their previous P41 Center. Although it is not possible to fully describe the features that would constitute a new center application within the diverse P41 portfolio, the following guidelines describe the minimum degree of novelty that would be expected in a new P41 application under the current policy:

1. The overall goal of the new Center application must be of high programmatic priority, central to NIBIB's mission, and meet all the requirements in FOA [PAR-20-169](#).
2. Shifting the focus to different biological/medical target(s) is insufficient. The new Center must propose different technology development from the prior center. The overall goal of the Center could be in the same basic technical field as the previous Center.
3. All TR&D projects should have substantially different technology development emphases from the prior Center.
4. All featured Collaborative Projects (CPs) should drive technologies that are different from the prior Center and may apply to different biomedical problems.
5. All featured Service Projects (SPs) should utilize a technology that is different from the prior Center.

Prospective applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis by NIBIB in the form of a white paper at least **12 weeks** before the P41 Center application receipt date. As part of the white paper, applicants will be required to describe the differences between the prior center and the newly proposed center. Compliance with the guidelines does not guarantee acceptance of the white paper. NIBIB will be the final arbiter of whether a full application will be accepted and allowed to move forward to peer review.