

Call for Self-Nominations: IMPAACT Network Chair

Background: In early 2019, NIAID and its collaborating institutes are expected to issue a Request for Applications (RFA) to include much of the IMPAACT Network's current scientific portfolio. The next funding cycle is expected to begin on 1 December 2020 and continue for seven years thereafter. The current Network Chair's and Vice Chair's terms of service will continue through the end of the current funding period (30 November 2020). The IMPAACT Network is soliciting self-nominations for Chair for the next funding cycle. The Chair-elect will lead preparation of the response to the RFA (with the Vice Chairs-elect).

Requirements and Selection Process: All interested and qualified investigators are asked to submit a cover letter summarizing their interest in and vision for the network and a NIH Biographical Sketch with a maximum of 25 selected publications to the IMPAACT Operations Center (IMPAACTops@fhi360.org) by 4 December 2018 at 5:00 PM ET. The cover letter should also detail the applicant's experience in preparing grant applications and managing large, complex grants. Applicants need not be associated with a clinical research site to be eligible; however, site leadership experience would be considered a strength. No letters of support or other documentation should be submitted.

The Network Chair will be an investigator with experience reflective of the network's scientific agenda and operational scope. He or she will lead development of the response to the forthcoming RFA (with the Network Vice Chairs). He or she will serve as chair of the IMPAACT Scientific Leadership Group (SLG) and the Management Oversight Group (MOG). Responsibilities include managing the IMPAACT Leadership and Operations Center (LOC) grant; overseeing and managing the network's finances; directing the network and executing its plans as determined by the SLG and NIH partners; ensuring that the network's scientific agenda is robust and consistent with its mission; fostering collaboration with other research networks and groups; and serving as the network's executive representative. Other responsibilities include but are not limited to maintenance of network policies and procedures, regulatory compliance and performance evaluation, review of publications, and collaboration with the community.

The IMPAACT SLG will review the applicants' submissions, and SLG voting members exclusive of NIH representatives will elect the new Chair. Any current SLG member who self-nominates will be recused from the entire review and election process.

Please note the following:

- A minimum level of effort of 50% will be required of the Network Chair beginning 1 December 2020.
- The new Network Chair's term of service is expected to begin at the beginning of the next grant cycle (1 December 2020) and continue through the end of the anticipated seven-year grant. In advance of that beginning date, the Chair-elect will join the IMPAACT SLG and MOG as a non-voting member to ensure a smooth transition; a modest amount of salary support will be provided from 1 January 2019 through 30 November 2020.
- The IMPAACT Leadership and Operations Center grant is currently at Johns Hopkins University (JHU); no agreement is currently in place to move the grant to another institution. The application for the next funding cycle is expected to be submitted from JHU as Type 2 renewal application with the Network Chair-elect as the Principal Investigator. Movement of the grant to another institution could potentially be negotiated after the award, subject to agreement by NIAID and JHU.