

P2P Cycle 2 Tier III Program Requirements

Tier III awards are competitive. The funding limit for Tier III Awards is up to \$50,000 and the timeline is up to 12 months. Within the project period for Tier III, awardees will use their CER questions to create a research proposal, including a robust engagement plan for later submission to PCORI and other funders of PCOR.

The period of performance for this cycle of Tier III awards will be from August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018.

Location of Activities

Aside from travel for meetings or other related events, it is expected that Tier III Pipeline Award activities will take place in the assigned region of the United States where the awardee is located.

Scope of Work

Tier III awards support the development of a health-related CER research question into a patient-centered research proposal. This funding is designed to advance research partnerships (those that are “almost there”) that could benefit from working with current and new partners to draft a strong patient engagement plan and a rigorous scientific proposal.

During the 12-month award period, required Tier III activities include:

- Completion of all PCORI-required trainings
- Quarterly reports
- Development of a Dissemination and Communications Plan
- Development of a Proposal Opportunity Plan
- Submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to a scientific broad PCORI funding announcement for either Cycle 3 2017 or Cycle 1 2018.
- Complete major sections of a research proposal to PCORI or another funder

Successful Independent Tier III awardees will:

- Complete PCORI Tier III Awardee Training and PAPO Technical Assistance
- Work closely with their PAPO and PCORI to abide by the rules of the award, including regular communication with the assigned PAPO and active communication to share experiences and lessons learned with future Independent Tier III Pipeline awardees
- Provide quarterly, mid-point, and final reports giving details on the activities that have taken place during the contract period

Key Deliverables and Timeframe

The awardee will provide the following deliverables within the timeframe noted below. Please note that dates may change, please check with your PAPO to stay apprised of revised dates.

Deliverable	Due Date
PCORI Trainings	Within 6 weeks of training release date
1 st Quarter Report Proposal Opportunity Plan	November 2017
Mid-Project Report Dissemination and Communications Plan (draft) Updated Proposal Opportunity Plan	February 2018
3 rd Quarter Report Updated Proposal Opportunity Plan	May 2018
Final Report LOI for PCORI funding Dissemination and Communications Plan (final) Actionable item from Dissemination Plan (i.e. report to Community about CER question and planned research) Major sections of a proposal to PCORI or alternative funder Updated Proposal Opportunity Plan	August 2018

PCORI Funding Restrictions

Keep in mind that, although PCORI typically funds research projects, the Pipeline Awards will not be used to fund research. Instead, these awards will fund the development of a research project. Because the goal of these awards is eventually to develop a patient-centered research proposal that can be submitted to PCORI for research funding, it is important that the issue or question you would like to study falls within the definition of what PCORI funds.

- PCORI funds clinical comparative effectiveness research (CER). This means that we fund studies comparing one thing to another, the effectiveness of Drug A compared to the effectiveness of Drug B, for example.
- PCORI does not fund cost-effectiveness studies. So if the issue that you care most about is whether it is more cost effective to use treatment A or treatment B, PCORI's funding is not for you.
- PCORI does not fund so-called descriptive studies such as a study that counts the number of people affected by asthma. Instead, we are interested in comparing solutions to the many problems that have already been identified by health researchers.
- All PCORI funding is given as cost reimbursable contracts with the corresponding Pipeline Award Program Office (see description below). Arrangements for a fiscal agent can be made in situations where cost reimbursement is not possible.
- PCORI is funded through the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund (PCORTF), which was authorized by Congress as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. Given the congressional oversight these funds are under, costs will only be reimbursed when they

- are adequately documented.
- The salary cap for PCORI funding is \$200,000.
- Indirect costs for these projects are capped at 10% of the total direct costs.

Pipeline Award Program Offices

Because PCORI has a limited headquarters workforce, the operational, programmatic, and fiscal duties associated with Pipeline Awards will be subcontracted to regional Pipeline Award Program Offices (PAPOs) throughout the United States. These PAPOs have significant research capacity building and award management experience (e.g., grant and contract award administration). The PAPOs are contracted to manage the tracking of project progress both financially and programmatically. Awardees will be required to contract with their assigned PAPO to receive their awarded funding.