CFAR Adelante Program Fact Sheet Cohort V (06/01/2023 – 05/30/2025)

Purpose

Even as Latina/x/o populations in the United States continue to bear a disproportionate burden of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, there remains a dearth of culturally responsive research specific to the needs and concerns of Hispanic/Latino people.

Adelante — which means forward or onward in Spanish — is funded by the NIH to help change that.

Through CFAR Adelante, the NIH-funded Centers for AIDS Research (CFAR) are working to advance HIV research in Latina/x/o communities by providing mentored development to early-career investigators whose research focuses on decreasing HIV-related health disparities among Hispanic/Latino people.

Overview

The CFAR Adelante program is administered through two NIH-funded Centers for AIDS Research (CFARs): **District of Columbia** (pre-award) and **Emory University** (post-award). The program is funded through administrative supplements provided to the CFAR by NIH.

Collectively, the DC and Emory CFARs select and provide oversight for **three-member Adelante teams** who conduct two-year mentored community-based research projects focusing on reducing HIV health disparities among Latina/x/o populations.

CFAR Adelante Teams should be supportive, diverse, and interdisciplinary. Each team consists of:

- A **Scholar** who is an early stage investigator in HIV. The Scholar's role is to:
 - o Take the lead in developing and implementing their CFAR Adelante mentoring plan;
 - o Take the lead in developing and implementing the Team's research plan;
 - o Communicate with Team members, study staff, and study subjects;
 - o Disseminate study findings to the lay and academic communities;
 - o Develop applications for further funding from NIH.
- A **Collaborating Partner** community-based organization that serves Latina/x/o populations. The organization, in conjunction with the Team's scholar, will designate an individual to represent the Community Partner. That individual's role is to:
 - Represent the Collaborating Partner while contributing to the design and implementation of the Team's research plan;
 - o Implement study-related activities as outlined in the research plan:
 - Translate and disseminate study findings through the Collaborating Partner and other organizations and institutions that work with Latina/x/o populations;
 - Contribute to peer-reviewed publications and research applications that are based on project findings, for further funding through the NIH.
- A **CFAR Mentor** who is an NIH-funded independent investigator in HIV who is affiliated with one of the NIH-funded CFARs. The Mentor's role is to:
 - Participate in design, implementation, oversight, and evaluation of the Scholar's mentoring plan activities;
 - Participate in design, implementation, and scientific oversight of the Team's research plan;
 - Guide the use of study findings to develop peer-reviewed publications and research applications for further funding through the NIH.

Adelante projects are single Principal Investigator (PI) awards, with a Team's **Scholar serving as PI**. Team Scholars do not need to be affiliated with an NIH-funded CFAR.

CFAR Adelante awards are funded for a **two-year period** that includes a Research Preparation Period of approximately 4 months followed by a Research Implementation Period of approximately 20 months.

The 4-month Research Preparation Period is used to secure all needed regulatory approvals (IRB, clinical, international) and implement the Scholar's Mentoring Plan. The Mentoring Plan, which is collectively designed by all three team members, should include training, skill building, mentoring, and education activities that help prepare the Scholar to answer the project's research question in a scientifically rigorous and culturally responsive manner.

The 20-month **Research Implementation Period** is used by all three team members to engage in study activities, to disseminate project findings through organizations and institutions that work with Latina/x/o populations, and to develop peer-reviewed publications and research applications for further funding through the NIH.

Funding

CFAR Adelante program funding is provided by the US National Institutes of Health as a supplement to the Emory University CFAR (P30Al050409). Adelante awards are contingent on the availability of funds from this source.

Funding permitting, we anticipate making up to four awards in the next round (Cohort V; 6/1/2023-5/31/2025). Awards are funded for two years and are non-renewable.

Applicants may request up to **\$100,000** in direct costs per year (\$200,000 over two years) plus applicable indirect costs, with indirect costs not to exceed 100% of direct costs.

Funding may be used for salaries, technical support, laboratory supplies, equipment, and for researchor training-related activities including but not limited to enrollment in training classes or workshops, travel to the CFAR Mentor's institution, and travel to the research field site.

Project Scope

Proposed research projects must be aligned with the current <u>NIH HIV/AIDS Research Priorities</u> and should address Latina/x/o population needs in the United States. Proposed research projects also aligned with the EHE Initiative, located in <u>EHE priority jurisdictions</u>, and addressing Latina/x/o population needs in the United States, will also be considered. International research may be allowed if it is a small subset of a larger domestic study. For more information about international research see the <u>FAQs page</u> at the CFAR Adelante website.

The proposed research project should be achievable within a 20-month research implementation period.

Clinical trials, as defined in NOT-OD-15-015, cannot be funded. This includes any research study in which one or more human subjects are prospectively assigned to one or more interventions (which may include placebo or other control) to evaluate the effects of those interventions on health-related biomedical or behavioral outcomes.

Timeline

CFAR Adelante projects are selected through a two-stage process.

- 1) Submitted concept proposals are competitively reviewed,
- 2) A subset of proposals are selected to go forward to full applications.

Our anticipated timeline is:

- Concept Proposal due: Thursday, November 10, 2022 (5:00pm EST)
 Notification of Outcome: Friday, December 16, 2022
- Invited Applications due: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 (5:00pm EST)
 Estimated notification of Outcome: Monday, May 1, 2023
- Project Period: June 1, 2023 May 31, 2025

For more information and a copy of the full FOA see the CFAR Adelante website