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PLEASE E-MAIL ANY INQUIRIES TO [ResearchGrantsSupport@marchofdimes.org](mailto:ResearchGrantsSupport@marchofdimes.org).

March of Dimes Foundation

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Senior Vice President for  
Research & Global Programs

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE**  
**PREMATURITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE (PRI) 2016 PROGRAM**

- A. This program seeks to advance knowledge in the area of prematurity research, specifically requesting grant support for projects related to cause[s] (etiology) of normal labor and preterm labor. The intent is to provide new insights into preventing preterm births; in most cases the cause (and thus potential prevention) remains elusive. Emphasis is upon proposals using technology of or encompassing contemporary technologies of genetic, molecular biology and gene-environment interactions. Especially encouraged are proposals from established investigators heretofore not involved in research on causes of preterm birth research. Other MOD programs are more appropriate for investigating medical complications of pregnancy, maternal and neonatal consequences of preterm birth, in particular [Gene Discovery and Translational Medicine](#).

To view a list of currently funded grants under the PRI program, please go to the [Prematurity Research Initiative Grant List](#).

**B. PROCEDURE TO SUBMIT LETTER OF INTENT**

Potential applicants should submit electronically required administrative information and a Letter of Intent to the Senior Vice President for Research and Global Programs via the MOD's online system at [HTTP://RESEARCHGRANTS.MARCHOFDIMES.ORG](http://RESEARCHGRANTS.MARCHOFDIMES.ORG).

**Letter of Intent template includes the following information in this order:**

1. Title of proposal.
2. Hypothesis.
3. Preliminary data.
4. Précis of specific aims and methods of procedure.
5. Plan for evaluating results.
6. Current financial support: list each current grant or contract for the conduct of this research. If there is no other support, state "NONE."

**Items 1-6 should not exceed 3 pages.**

7. If the applicant is already a recipient of a current MOD research grant or a Basil O'Connor Starter Scholar Research Award, include a summary of progress (not to exceed 1 page).

If the applicant previously submitted a full proposal that was reviewed in committee but not funded, a response to the critique is not necessary in the LOI. Relevant remarks may be included but must be contained within the 3 pages.

The online Letter of Intent process must be completed by April 15, 2015.

**C. REVIEW PROCESS**

Letters of Intent will be evaluated and full applications solicited from those selected. This decision will be transmitted no later than May 15, 2015, with deadline for the full application by July 15, 2015. Evaluation will be performed in December 2015. Funding will be initiated on March 1, 2016.

**D. BUDGET**

The budget may include salary support for the Principal Investigator or other faculty, but ordinarily is expected to provide salary support for technical help. Grants are usually awarded for a three-year period, but may be for less if appropriate.