

# Biomedical Data Translator Funding Opportunity Announcement

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<b>Participating Organization(s)</b>	National Institutes of Health ( <a href="#">NIH</a> )
<b>Components of Participating Organizations</b>	National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences ( <a href="#">NCATS</a> )
<b>Funding Opportunity Title</b>	Biomedical Data Translator: Technical Feasibility Assessment of Reasoning Tool (OT3)
<b>Activity Code</b>	OT3 Multi-component Research Project - Other Transaction Award
<b>Announcement Type</b>	New
<b>Related Notices</b>	<a href="#">NOT-TR-16-014</a>
<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number</b>	<a href="#">NOT-TR-16-014</a>
<b>Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number</b>	93.350
<b>Number of Applications</b>	Only one application per qualifying team.

<b>Funding Opportunity Purpose</b>	As part of the Biomedical Data Translator Program, NCATS is utilizing its Other Transactions authority to invite interested applicants to submit innovative applications for research and development of reasoning software that autonomously integrates biomedical facts, models and inferences to answer important classes of translational research problems. Successful applicants will not only contribute their expertise and resources but also must be willing to collaborate to revolutionize translational science and propel new discoveries and best practices for practitioners across the translational spectrum, from biologists to chemists to computer scientists, from scientists doing target validation to clinicians seeing patients.
<b>Related announcements</b>	Link to the Notice
<b>Program Background</b>	<a href="http://www.ncats.nih.gov/translator">www.ncats.nih.gov/translator</a>
<b>Objective Review</b>	Objective review will be conducted in two phases. In the first phase, concept letters will be reviewed <b>within 2 weeks</b> of the concept letter due date. A subset of those authors will be invited to submit a full application and present their proof-of-concept to an objective review panel. Applicants will not receive written feedback from the reviews.
<b>Concept Letter Due Date</b>	<b>September 22, 2017</b>
<b>Earliest Start Date</b>	January 2018
<b>Funding Instrument</b>	Other: An assistance mechanism that is not a grant or cooperative agreement. Other Transactions awards are subject to the requirements of the NCATS Other Transaction Award Policy Guide for this initiative. Applicants may review this policy guide, available at <a href="https://ncats.nih.gov/files/NCATS-Translator-OT-Policy-Guide.pdf">https://ncats.nih.gov/files/NCATS-Translator-OT-Policy-Guide.pdf</a> (insert date) by accessing (insert URL.)

<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>This Other Transaction initiative is open to U.S. and foreign organizations with an affiliated individual who is able to successfully complete the qualification challenge. U.S. citizens applying as individuals without an organization affiliation are also eligible to apply and to be direct recipients of an award, provided they are able to successfully complete the qualification challenge. Non-citizen individuals residing in the U.S. or foreign country who are not affiliated with either a U.S. or foreign organization are not eligible to be direct recipients of an award.</p> <p>See Eligibility section of this announcement.</p>
<b>Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards</b>	<p>NCATS intends to commit \$3,000,000 in FY 2018 to fund up to 3 awards.</p> <p>Future year support is not applicable.</p>
<b>Award Budget</b>	<p>Awards will be approximately \$1,000,000 total costs. Milestones should be proposed accordingly.</p> <p>Performance will be evaluated monthly and continued support will be based on the outcome of those evaluations.</p>
<b>Award Project Period</b>	10 months
<b>Funding Opportunity Expiration Date</b>	DATE

### Glossary of terms

**FOA:** This document you are reading is a funding opportunity announcement; it provides readers with specific instructions on what funding NIH is offering and how to apply for the funding.

**Challenge:** In order to access the complete FOA before a required concept letter is due, prospective applicants must successfully complete a series of computational tasks. Successful completion of the tasks will demonstrate the appropriate skill set for developing a reasoning tool.

**Concept letter:** This is a required letter that must be submitted by the deadline in the Key Events table. This FOA document contains instructions for the content of that letter. Concept letters are submitted to the email address specified in the instructions.

**Full application:** This is the document submitted by the applicant in November that requests funding for the development of a reasoning tool prototype. Based on the objective review of the

concept letters, select applicants are invited to submit a full application. Instructions for submitting a full application will be provided separately.

**Proof-of-concept project:** This is a project that applicants are expected to present as part of their full application in November and will serve as preliminary data for the reasoning tool prototype research, development and testing. This project will be presented for evaluation by reviewers in a virtual meeting. Financial support is not provided for proof-of-concept development.

**Prototype project:** Reasoning tool prototypes will be developed & tested over a 10-month period with financial support from NCATS.

## **Other Transactions**

The use of other transactions (which are not grants, contracts or cooperative agreements) enables NCATS to manage projects in which developments and integration of ideas and expertise from various disciplines are essential to achieve a programmatic goal. This means proposed projects and/or components of the projects submitted may be expanded, modified, partnered, not supported, or later discontinued based on program needs, emerging methods, technologies, or approaches, and availability of funds. All awardees will be expected to collaborate and cooperate with NCATS staff, one another and potentially other contributors to the overall program to maximize the exploration of the potential capabilities of Translator and to understand technical feasibility and challenges of having multiple groups build a single resource.

### **Eligibility: Team qualification process**

This Other Transaction initiative requires successful completion of the qualification challenge at: <https://ncats.io/challenge/start>. The challenge is designed to ensure that the applicants have the requisite skills to develop a reasoning tool prototype in a relatively short period of time. The challenge is a multi-level computational exercise. Upon successful completion of each level, additional sections of the funding opportunity will be revealed. Prospective applicants must successfully pass through all levels of the challenge to gain access to the complete funding opportunity announcement. Inability to pass through all levels will result in an inability to access all of the instructions necessary to submit the requisite concept letter. This Other Transaction initiative is open to U.S. and foreign organizations, academic institutions and commercial entities with an affiliated individual or team (subcontracts are allowed) able to successfully complete the qualification challenge. U.S. citizens applying as individuals without an organization affiliation are also eligible to apply and to be direct recipients of an award, provided they are able to successfully complete the qualification challenge. Non-citizen individuals residing in the U.S. or foreign country who are not affiliated with either a U.S. or foreign organization are not eligible to be direct recipients of an award.