The TFIIIB complex is a initiation factor for RNA polymerase III, which transcribes tRNAs, most small nuclear RNAs, and 5S rRNA. TFIIIB, comprised of TBP, Brf1p, and Bdp1p, directs pol III to the transcriptional start site of these genes and is itself recruited to a location immediately upstream of the transcriptional start site by the TFIIIC complex. TFIIIB binds to TFIIIC mainly through contact between TFIIIB subunits Brf1p and Bdp1p and the TFIIIC subunit Tfc4p, and between TBP and the TFIIIC subunit Tfc8p. The TFIIIB footprint on promoter DNA is influenced by the DNA-binding site preferences of the TBP subunit and by the non-histone chromatin proteins Nhp6Ap and Nhp6bp. TFIIIB function is also important for promoter opening, reinitiation of pol III transcription, and targeting and efficiency of Ty3 retrotransposition. TFIIIB is also the target of Maf1-mediated repression of pol III transcription.BRF1 is an essential gene and encodes a structurally bipartite protein. The N-terminal half is similar to the transcription factor TFIIBand the C-terminal half is specific for pol III function and contains the primary interaction sites for the other TFIIIB subunits. Brf1p also functions to dissociate inactive TBP homodimers into active monomers. Humans have two Brf1p paralogs, BRF1 and BRF2, which are found in distinct TFIIIB complexes that are involved in transcriptional activation at different sets of promoters. Tumor suppressor gene products such as BRCA1 repress pol III transcription by targeting the TFIIIB complex.