

Free AAI Webinar

ARPA-H: Funding Opportunities for Immunologists

Sponsored by the AAI Committee on Public Affairs (CPA)

Thursday, November 9 • 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST

Would you like to better understand the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)? AAI is hosting a free webinar to help you navigate this new funding source.



CHAIR

Gretchen Diehl, Ph.D. (AAI '14)
Chair, AAI CPA



SPEAKER

Susan Monarez, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
ARPA-H



SPEAKER

Paul de Figueiredo, Ph.D. (AAI '18)
NextGen Precision Health Endowed
Professor of Molecular Microbiology
& Immunology
Christopher S. Bond Life Sciences Center
University of Missouri



MODERATOR

Cherié Butts, Ph.D. (AAI '10)
Member, AAI CPA

In March 2022, the Biden Administration officially launched ARPA-H, modeling it after the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (DARPA), to support high-risk, high-impact research that will help solve some of society's most difficult health challenges.

ARPA-H has already funded immunology-focused projects, but many researchers in the community do not have a thorough understanding of this new entity. This free AAI webinar will provide a primer on ARPA-H, addressing topics such as:

- ◆ how ARPA-H application and review processes differ from those at NIH
- ◆ the role of ARPA-H Program Managers
- ◆ the expectations for ARPA-H projects (e.g., timelines and milestones) and
- ◆ how ARPA-H will fulfill its commitment to diversity and equity.

In early 2023, ARPA-H released its first Open Broad Agency Announcement (Open BAA) “seeking funding proposals aiming to improve health outcomes across patient populations, communities, diseases, and health conditions.” In August 2023, ARPA-H announced the first of many awards funded through this Open BAA to support a \$24 million project at Emory University entitled “CUREIT: Curing the Uncurable via RNA-Encoded Immunogene Tuning.” Subsequently, ARPA-H funded a project called “SPIKESs: Programmable Scalable Therapeutics for Immune-Directed Cancer-Killing,” which is led by Paul de Figueiredo, Ph.D., at the University of Missouri. Dr. de Figueiredo and his team seek to use genetically programmable bacteria to create more effective cancer immunotherapies.

ARPA-H Deputy Director Susan Monarez, Ph.D., will give a detailed overview of the agency. Following her remarks, Dr. de Figueiredo will share his firsthand experience developing an ARPA-H funding proposal. The webinar will conclude with a Q&A session.



We hope you will join us to learn more about ARPA-H!

Register by November 7, 2023, at <https://virtual.aai.org/35a9101fd9bc0e70>