Opportunity Summary:
This FOA for the Human Immunology Project Consortium (HIPC) solicits applications from single institutions, or consortia of institutions, to participate in a network of human immunology profiling research groups in the area of infectious diseases, including HIV. The purpose of this FOA is to characterize human immune responses/mechanisms elicited by vaccinations, vaccine adjuvants or natural infections by capitalizing on recent advances in immune profiling technologies. Applications are sought that propose to employ established and recent advances in immune profiling technologies to study the human immune system (1) before and after vaccination against an infectious pathogen; (2) before and after administration of a vaccine adjuvant that selectively targets immune components; and (3) during or following naturally-occurring infection. Studies will measure the diversity and commonalities of human immune responses under a variety of conditions and longitudinally using high-throughput systems immunology approaches coupled with detailed clinical phenotyping in well-characterized human cohorts. The resulting data will be used to develop molecular signatures that define immune response profiles and identify biomarkers that correlate with the outcomes of vaccinations, vaccine adjuvants or natural infections in humans.

The major goals of this program are to: (1) support longitudinal analysis of human immune responses in clinically well-characterized cohorts to determine how these profiles are perturbed and eventually returned to a new homeostatic state after challenge with an antigen (e.g., vaccination or natural infections) and/or adjuvant(s); and (2) develop molecular signatures that define immune response profiles and/or identify biomarkers across the lifespan that correlate with the outcomes of vaccinations, adjuvants or natural infections in humans. An additional goal is to promote rapid public access to HIPC-supported data and meta-data through public portals such as ImmPort.

A companion FOA will support development and operation of a HIPC Coordinating Center that will be responsible for fostering collaborations amongst HIPC-funded investigators; facilitating public dissemination of integrated HIPC findings and knowledge; and supporting development or adoption of new, robust methods for data integration, analysis, presentation, and visualization to further research and development in this field.

Eligibility & Requirements:
- Note that the multiple PD(s)/PI(s) option may be used only for the Overall Program. Projects are limited to a single project lead per project and a single core lead per core within the multi-component application.
- An individual can be PD/PI on only one application, including multiple PD/PI applications.

Internal Nomination Process:
Interested applicants should submit the following documents:
1. JHU Limited Submission Cover Sheet
2. Proposal (maximum of two pages of text only, single spaced: 12-pt font and one-inch margins) (Note: figures, tables, and other reference material may be included in addition to the 2 pg. text limit)
3. Curriculum Vitae of investigator, including current external research support and publications
4. Budget (two pages maximum)

Questions? Comments? Email the Research Development Team at resapp@jhu.edu.