

 Grant Success Associates

## Peer Review of NIH Research Grant Applications



**Anthony M. Coelho, Jr., Ph.D.**  
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**Anthony M. Coelho, Jr., Ph.D.**

**Experience:**

- NIH Review Policy Officer **8 years**
- Chief - Clinical Studies and Training **7 years**  
Section NIHBI and  
Scientific Review Administrator
- Peer Reviewer **12 years**
- Funded Investigator **18 years**  
(NIH, DOE, EPA and Private Sector Funding)

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**Important Things to Know:**

- 1. The handout material is a reference resource**
- 2. The handout contains more information than I will discuss**
- 3. Information that is important is repeated to remind you that it is important**

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### Important Things to Know:

- NIH Peer Review Process**  
based on Laws
- NIH Peer Review Practices**  
based on Culture and Behavior  
of Study Section Culture
- My objective is to help you**  
understand both

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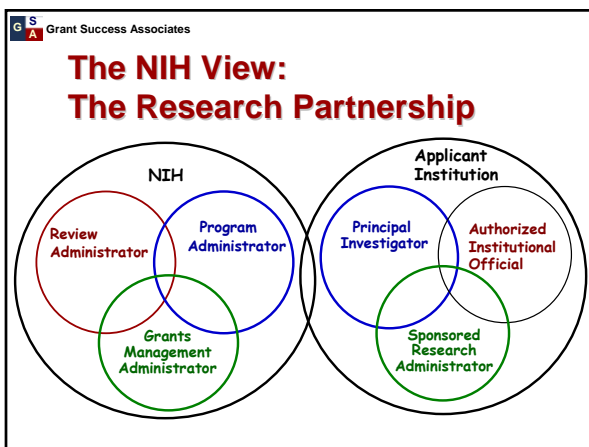
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### The Applicant View:



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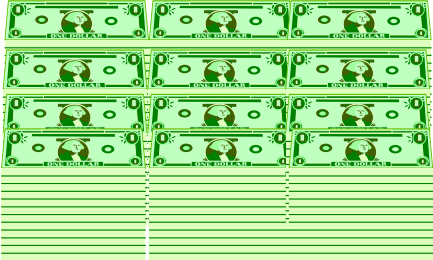
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## NIH 2009 Budget 29.5 Billion



**~26 Billion for Research**

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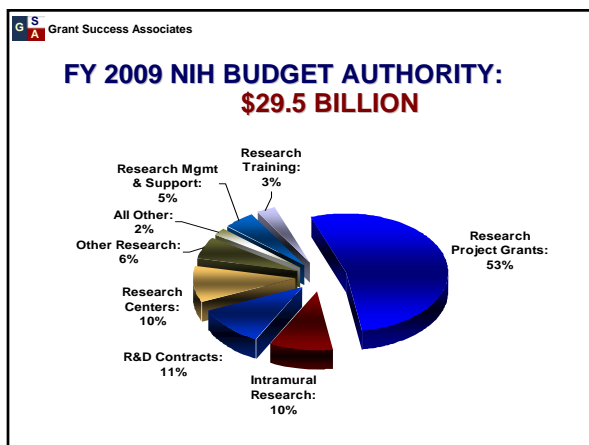
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## Rule #1



**DO NOT** write the application **for Yourself** unless you are going to fund it yourself

You **MUST** convince the entire review committee and the funding agency

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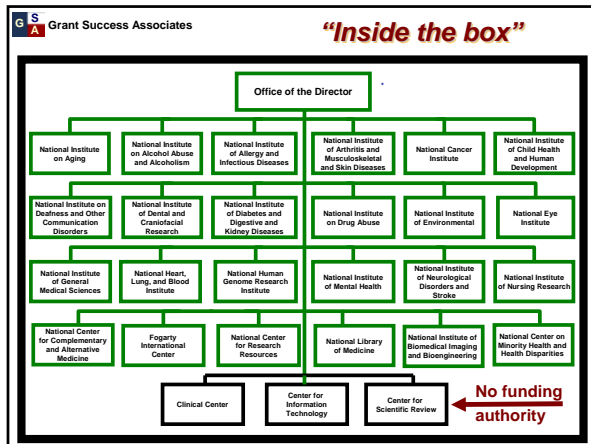
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**Rule #2**

**STUDY SECTIONS**  
**DO NOT FUND !**

**INSTITUTES FUND!**

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**Rule #3**

**You must satisfy the**  
**needs of reviewers and**  
**the needs of the**  
**funding agency**

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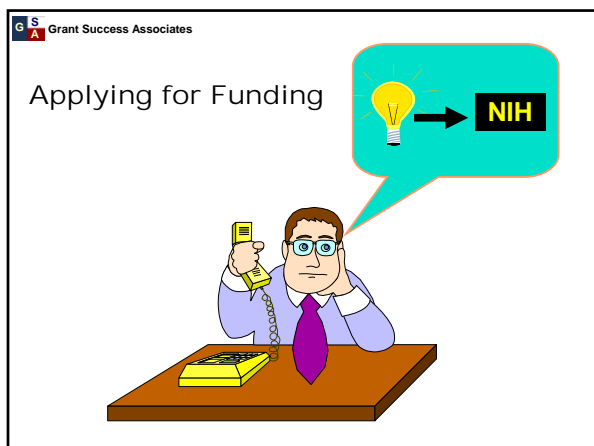
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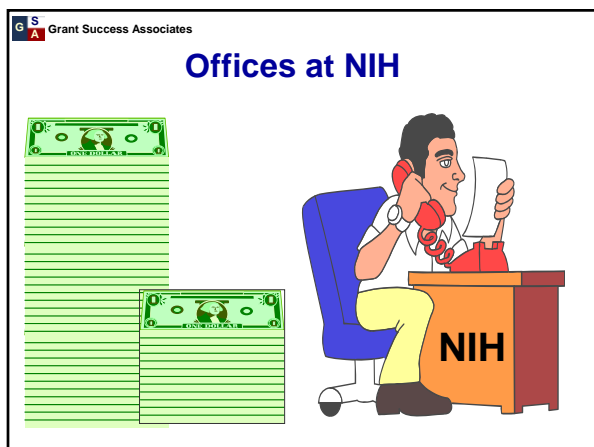
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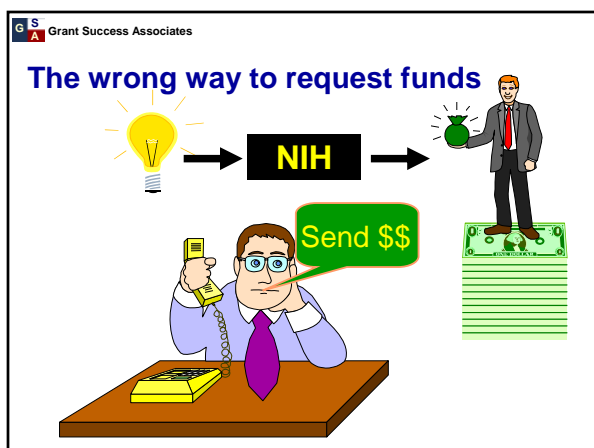
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**Response to the wrong form of request**

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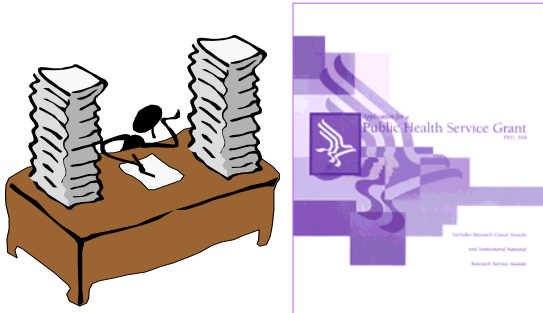
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**Correct Way to request Funds**



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**PHS Research Grant Application Kit (form PHS 398)**

**SF424 Forms**

**Electronic Forms and Instructions**



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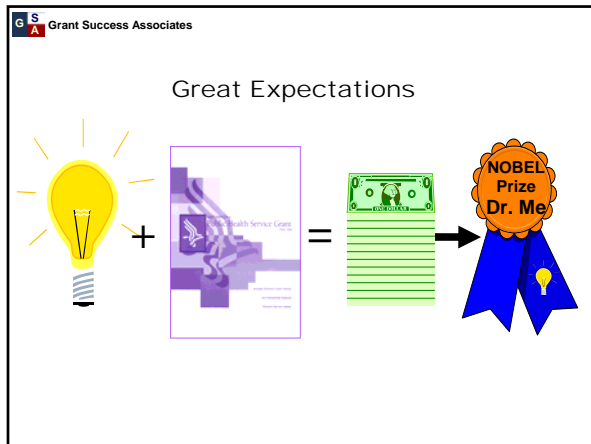
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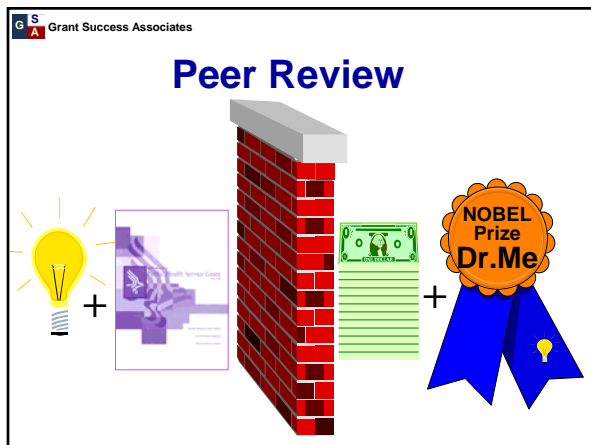
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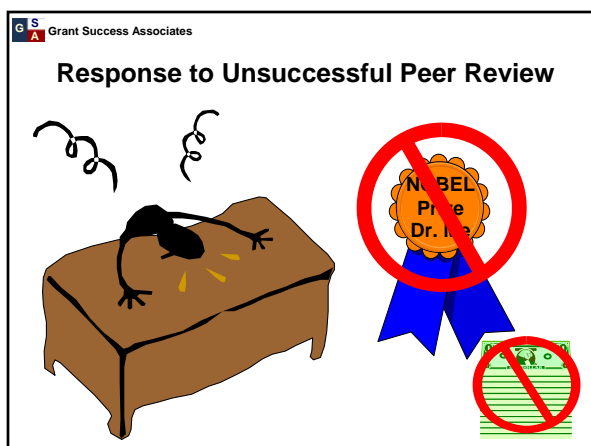
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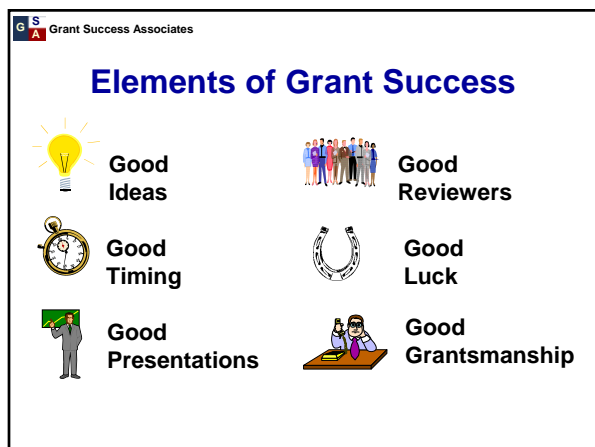
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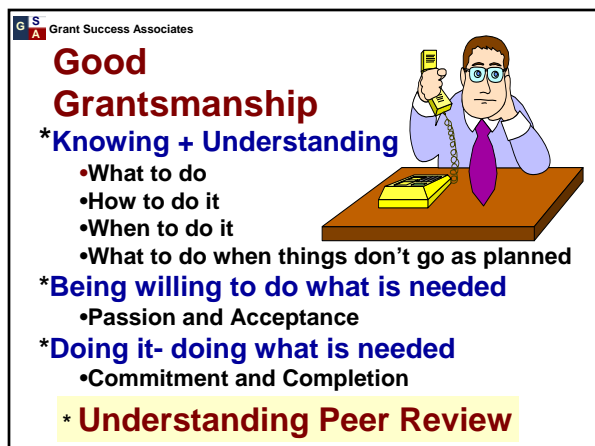
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# The “other” method of applying for grant funds



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# Understanding NIH Peer Review



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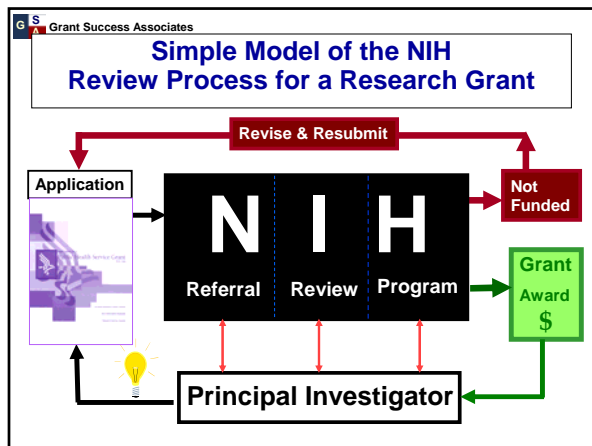
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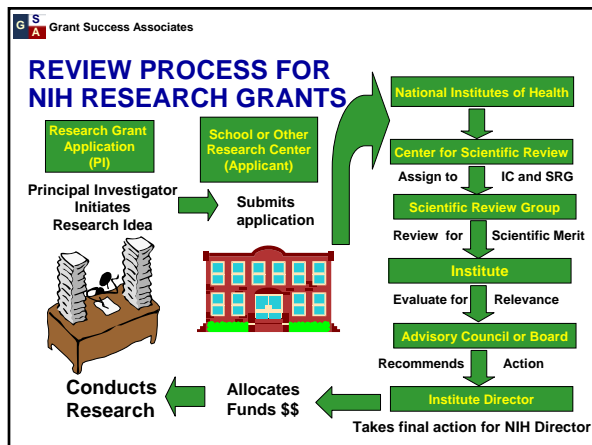
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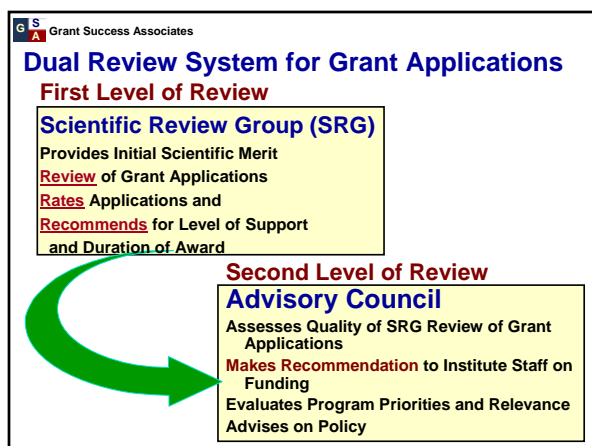
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## 1<sup>st</sup> Level Review



- Standing study section typically has 12-24 members
- 3 face-to-face meetings each year
- Review 60 - 100 applications at each meeting

View the "Mock Study Section" video today and tomorrow

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## STUDY SECTIONS JUDGE

### Scientific and Technical Merit

Institute staff use the evaluations as part of the process of considering the relevance of applications to the Institute's mission, research priorities and portfolio of existing research

**STUDY SECTIONS DO NOT FUND !**

**INSTITUTES FUND!**

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## Grant Application Receipt and Assignment

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## Applications Submitted to NIH

- Approximately **75,000+** grant applications are submitted to NIH **each year**,
- 10-20% are funded (Institute specific)
- Competing grant applications are received for three review cycles per year

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## Timeline: New Applications




Receipt Date



Scientific Review



Council Review



Award Date

February 5	July	October	December
June 5	October	January	April
October 5	March	May	July

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## Receipt Dates \* \*\*

Depend on the Type of Application

- Jan, May, Sept 10: Institutional Training Grant
- Jan, May, Sept 25: Academic Research Enhancement Award
- Mar, Jul, Nov 1: Revised, Competing Continuations, and Supplements
- April, Aug, Dec 5: Small Business Technology Transfer
- April, Aug, Dec 5: Individual NRSA
- April, Aug, Dec 1: Small Business Innovation Research
- May, Sept, Jan 1: AIDS

\* RFA and RFP dates defined in the solicitations

**\*\* ALWAYS check with Institutes to verify dates**

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**????**  
**What Happens To**  
**Your Application**  
**When It Arrives at**  
**NIH**  
**????**

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**Center for Scientific Review (CSR)**

**Focal Point for Receipt and Referral**

- Central receipt point for PHS applications
- Referral to **Institutes (Funding Components)** and to **Study Sections (Review Components)**
- CSR study sections reviews of most investigator initiated research and research training applications for scientific merit

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## Assignment to CSR Study Sections

Applications assigned to study sections known as Scientific Review Groups (SRG) based on:

- specific referral guidelines for each SRG and
- information contained in your application

(Go to the Website <http://era.nih.gov/roster/index.cfm> to learn about study sections – their scientific mission and their scientific membership)

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## WHO/WHAT DETERMINES WHICH GROUP REVIEWS THE APPLICATION?

- Mechanism**  
Type of application  
CSR or Institute Review
- Referral and Review Staff**
- Past Review History** (if any) of application
- Principal Investigator**  
Letter attached to application; self-referral

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## Peer Review of NIH Support Mechanisms

### Who Reviews What ?

CSR	Institutes
Research Project Grant (R01)	Program Project Grant (P01)
Postdoctoral Fellowship (F32)	Center Grant (P30, P50, P60)
Senior Fellowship (F32)	Institutional Fellowship (T32)
Fogarty International Center Fellowship (F05, F06)	Academic Career Award (K07)
Short-Term Training (T35)	Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (K08)
Small Business Grants (R41, R42, R43, R44)	Conference Grant (R13)*
Academic Research Enhancement Award (R15)	Marc Fellowships (F34, F36, T34)
Biomedical Research Support Shared Instrumentation Grant (S10)	Minority Biomedical Support Grant (S06)
	Resource Grant (P40, P41, R24, R26, R28)
	RFA - Request for Applications
	R&D - Contracts

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## WHO/WHAT DETERMINES WHICH GROUP REVIEWS THE APPLICATION?

**YOU DO!**

- The words that are in your application
- Your title
- Your abstract
- Your specific aims
- Your methods




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## Sample Application Number

Individual Research Grant		Serial Number		Amended
↓		↓		↓
<b>1 R01</b>	<b>CA</b>	<b>123456</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>A1</b>
↑	↑		↑	
New Application	National Cancer Institute		Grant Support Year	

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## Assignment Notification Letter

Dear Dr. Sample:

Your grant application entitled **"CEREBRAL VESSEL INNERVATION IN HYPERTENSION"** has been received by the National Institutes of Health and assigned to a Scientific Review Group (SRG) for scientific merit evaluation and to an Institute/Center for funding consideration. Specific information about your assignment is given below. The initial peer review should be completed by **March, 2001**, and a **funding decision** made shortly after the appropriate National Advisory Group meets in **May, 2001**. Questions about the assignment should be directed to the Scientific Review Administrator (SRA) or the Division of Receipt and Referral, Center for Scientific Review at **(301) 435-0715**. Other questions prior to review should be directed to the Scientific Review Administrator and questions after the review to the program staff in the Institute/Center.

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Assignment Notification Letter (continued)

Principal Investigator: Sample Pamela

Assignment Number: 2 R01 HL12345 - 12A1

Dual Assignment: NS

Scientific Review Group:  
Epidemiology and Disease Control Subcommittee 2 SS (EDC2)

A roster of the membership of this Scientific Review Group located on the following website:

<http://era.nih.gov/roster/index.cfm>

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Assignment Notification Letter (continued)

Scientific Review Administrator:  
DR. DAVID MONSEES, SRA  
CTR FOR SCIENTIFIC REV  
6701 ROCKLEDGE DR RM 3199 MSC7802  
BETHESDA MD 20892  
(301) 435-0684

Assigned Institute/Center:  
NATL HEART, LUNG, & BLOOD INST  
DIV/EXTRAMURAL AFFAIRS RK2 7100  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH  
BETHESDA, MD 20892  
(301) 480-5295

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Assignment Notification Letter (continued)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please review the information on human and animal subjects research located at:

[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/hum\\_anim\\_notice.pdf](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/hum_anim_notice.pdf)

*as these requirements will affect the priority score on your application.*

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## Study Section Meeting: Scientific Review Groups

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**TYPES OF REVIEW COMMITTEES:**

**Chartered Study Sections**

- when the subject matter of the application matches the referral guidelines for the standing study section

**Special Emphasis Panels (SEPs)**

- when the subject matter does not fit into any study section, or
- when assignment of an application to the most appropriate study section would create a conflict of interest, or
- Special Mechanisms (RFA, Fellowships, SBIRs, AREAS, etc.)

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## *Study Sections at NIH*

- Study Sections are managed by a Scientific Review Administrator (SRA/SRO) who is a professional (at Ph.D. or MD level) whose scientific background is close to the expertise of the study section
- Each standing study section has 12 - 24 members who are primarily from academia
- 60 - 100 applications are reviewed at each study section meeting
- Several hundred study section meetings
- Special Emphasis Panels vary in size and number of applications that they review per meeting

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## SCIENTIFIC REVIEW GROUP

**Scientific Review Administrator/Officer**

- Recruits and selects reviewers
- Insures that the review that is competent, thorough and fair (unbiased)
- Proper review criteria used to evaluate application

**Reviewers**

- Some charter members; some temporary members
- Scientists with appropriate expertise
- High professional profiles
- Dependable, reasonable, open minded



**Other NIH Staff Observers**

- Program Administrators
- Grants Technical Assistants
- Grant Management Specialist
- Other Federal Staff

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## Center for Scientific Review

*Example of Varied Expertise on a Sample Study Section*

Surgery, Anesthesiology and Trauma Study Section

Selected Areas of Competence of Members

Biochemistry  
 Burn Physiology and Electrolyte Metabolism  
 Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physiology  
 Clinical Anesthesiology  
 Drug Metabolism (Anesthetics)  
 General Surgery  
 Immunology and Transplantation  
 Nutrition  
 Pharmacology (Analgesics, Narcotics and Antagonists)  
 Pulmonary Embolism  
 Shock and Trauma  
 Toxicology of Anesthetic Drugs  
 Vascular Surgery

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## WHO ASSIGNS REVIEWERS TO MY APPLICATION?



- **Scientific Review Administrator**
  - Assignment to Specific Reviewers
    - Based on application content
    - Based upon expertise of reviewers
    - Based upon knowledge of the field
    - May consult with Institute staff
    - May consult with chairperson
    - Suggestions from PI on **type of expertise needed to evaluate (NEVER names)**
    - Considers review history

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### Criteria For Selection of Peer Reviewers

- Demonstrated Scientific Expertise
- Doctoral Degree or Equivalent
- Mature Judgment
- Work Effectively in a Group Context
- Breadth of Perspective
- Impartiality
- Interest in Serving
- Adequate Representation of Women and Minority Scientists

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### Certification of No Conflict of Interest

This will certify that in the review of applications and proposals by (study section) on (date), I did not participate in the evaluation of any grant or fellowship applications from (1) any organization, institution or university system in which a financial interest exists to myself, spouse, parent, child, or collaborating investigators; (2) any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, employee or collaborating investigator; or (3) any organization which I am negotiating or have any arrangements concerning prospective employment or other such associations.

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## SIGNATURES

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### Confidentiality

- Review materials and proceedings of review meetings represent privileged information to be used only by consultants and NIH staff.
- At the conclusion of each meeting, consultants will be asked to destroy or return all review-related material.
- Consultants should not discuss review proceedings with anyone except the SRA.
- Questions concerning review proceedings should be referred to the SRA.

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## WHAT HAPPENS IN A STUDY SECTION MEETING?

- **Closed to the public (FACA rules apply)**
- **Orientation**
  - Conflict of interest
  - Developments of interest to the study section
  - Changes in policy or procedure
  - Introduction of persons present
  - Role of persons present
- **Streamlining or list provisionally approved**
- **Application by application discussion**
  - Persons with conflicts of interest excused
  - Assigned reviewers give preliminary scores
  - Discussion of application's scientific and technical merit
  - Assigned reviewers first, then other members
  - Range of scores set
- **Every member scores every application \***
  - Assignment of gender, minority, and children codes, human subjects codes; recommended changes to budget




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## WHAT IS STREAMLINING?

Process by which reviewers judge which applications are in the lower half of those assigned for review. Applications in the lower half are evaluated by the reviewers prior to attending the meeting but they are **not discussed** at the Scientific Review Group meeting.

- Any member can object to the streamlining of an application
- Requires that all reviewers agree to streamline an application
- Streamlined applications receive written reviewer critiques

### Why?

- Shortens meetings
- Reviewers more willing to serve on committee
- Allows more time for discussion of applications

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## “Review” of Applications

- **Applications are not reviewed at the meeting.**
- **They are evaluated prior to the meeting.**
- The meeting is a time for discussion and negotiation of a priority score and for making a recommendation that best reflects the scientific and technical merit of the application.
  - Strong applications get brief discussion
  - Weak application get brief discussion
  - Marginal application get longer discussion to ensure fairness to the applicant

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## Review of Research Grants

**REVIEW CRITERIA:**

- Significance
- Approach
- Innovation
- Investigator
- Environment

Described in detail in the PHS 398 application instructions

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## Review Criteria

- **Significance:** Does the study address an important problem? How will scientific knowledge be advanced?
- **Approach:** Are design and methods well-developed and appropriate? Are problem areas addressed?
- **Innovation:** Are there novel concepts or approaches? Are the aims original and innovative?
- **Investigator:** Is the investigator appropriately trained?
- **Environment:** Does the scientific environment contribute to the probability of success? Are there unique features of the scientific environment?

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## Newly Revised Review Criteria

- **1. Significance** Does this study address an important problem? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge or clinical practice be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?
- **2. Approach** Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?
- **3. Innovation** Is the project original and innovative? Does the project challenge existing paradigms or clinical practice; address an innovative hypothesis or critical barrier to progress in the field? Does the project develop or employ novel concepts, approaches, methodologies, tools, or technologies for this area?
- **4. Investigators** Are the investigators appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers? Does the investigative team bring complementary and integrated expertise to the project (if applicable)?
- **5. Environment** Does the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Do the proposed studies benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, or subject populations, or employ useful collaborative arrangements? Is there evidence of institutional support?

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### Research Involving Human Subjects

Important Considerations that must be addressed in the application because they impact on priority score - considered to be part of the Approach

- Are there any risks\* to the human subjects?
- Are the protections adequate?
- Are there potential benefits to the subjects and to others?
- What is the importance of the knowledge to be gained?
- Are the plans for inclusion of minorities, both genders and children adequately addressed?
- Is the proposed study exempt from human subject review?
- **No page limits**

\* "Risks" include the possibility of physical, psychological, or social injury resulting from research.

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### Research Involving Human Subjects

#### Areas of exemption

- Education Research
  - normal educational practices
- Educational Tests, Survey or Interview Procedures, or Observation of Public Behavior
  - subjects not identified
  - subjects' privacy rights protected
- Educational Tests, Survey or Interview Procedures, or Observation of Public Behavior Not Exempt in Previous Category if: subjects are public officials or public office candidates federal statute requires confidentiality without exception

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### Research Involving Human Subjects

#### Areas of exemption

- Collection or Study of Existing Data, Documents, Records, Pathological Specimens
  - information publicly available
  - subjects not identified
- Research and Demonstration Projects Regarding Certain Public Benefit or Service Programs
- Taste and Food Quality Evaluation and Consumer Acceptance Studies Using
  - foods without additives
  - U.S. Government approved food ingredient

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### ***Inclusion of Women and Minorities in Clinical Research***

- **Women and Minorities** must be considered for inclusion in all clinical research supported by NIH

or

- **Appropriate justification** must be provided to explain why they are not included in the proposed research

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### ***Research Involving Children***

Children must be considered for inclusion in all human subject research supported by NIH

or

**Appropriate justification** must be provided to explain why they are not included in the proposed research

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### ***Research Involving Children***

Children must be considered for inclusion in all human subject research supported by NIH

Effective for all new applications received after October 1, 1998

- Child is defined as an individual under age 21
- If children are included, Investigator must address
  - age range
  - expertise of investigative team
  - facilities
  - sufficient numbers

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## Research Involving Children

- If children are not included, must justify exclusion:
  - Topic irrelevant to children
  - Laws/regulations bar inclusion of children
  - Knowledge already available or being obtained
  - Separate study warranted
  - Unable to judge potential risk to children
  - Collecting data on pre-enrolled adults
  - Other special cases

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## Vertebrate Animals

### Important Considerations

- Will the anticipated results be for the good of society?
- Will the work be planned and performed by qualified scientists?
- Will the animals be treated so as to avoid any unnecessary discomfort, pain, anxiety, or poor health?
- Species chosen?
- Animals in short supply?

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### PHS424

1. Description of proposed use of animals in the work outlined in Research Design and Methods section. Identify species, strains, ages, sex, and numbers of animals used
2. Justify use of animals, choice of species, and numbers used. If in short supply, costly, or used in large numbers, provide additional rationale for their selection and numbers.
3. Provide information on the veterinary care of the animals involved.
4. Describe procedures for ensuring that discomfort, distress, pain, and injury will be limited to that which is unavoidable in the conduct of scientifically sound research. Describe use of analgesic, anesthetic, and tranquilizing drugs and/or comfortable restraining devices, where appropriate, to minimize discomfort, distress, pain, and injury.
5. Describe any method of euthanasia used and reasons for selection. State whether method is consistent with recommendations of the Panel on Euthanasia of the American Veterinary Medical Association. If not, present a justification for not following the recommendations.

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## ***Scientific Review Group or Study Section Actions***

- Scored, Scientific Merit Rating
- Priority scores:  
1 (best) to 5 (poorest) and percentiles
- Unscored (lower half)
- Deferral

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## ***Scientific Review Group or Study Section Actions***

- Scored, Scientific Merit Rating
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## **What do the Scores Mean?**

### **Scored Application**

1.0-1.5 (100 - 150) **OUTSTANDING**  
1.5-2.0 (150 - 200) **EXCELLENT**  
2.0-3.0 (200 - 300) **GOOD**  

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3.0-5.0 (300 - 500) **BELOW AVERAGE**

### **STREAMLINED**

### **Unscored APPLICATIONS**

3.0-5.0 (300 to 500) **BOTTOM HALF**

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## New Scoring System

- effective for all applications submitted after January 25, 2009
- The new scoring system will utilize a 9-point rating scale (1 = exceptional; 9 = poor).

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-09-024.html>

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## Summary Statement

After the review meeting is finished, the results are documented by the SRA in a summary statement and forwarded to the PI and to the assigned NIH Institute. The assigned NIH Institute is responsible for making a funding decision.

The summary statement contains:

- Overall Resume and Summary of Review Discussion
- Essentially Unedited Critiques of Assigned Reviewer
- Priority Score and Percentile Ranking
- Budget Recommendations
- Administrative Notes

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## National Advisory Council or Board Review

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## Council Actions

- Assesses Quality of SRG Review
- Concurs with study section action
- or Modifies SRG (study section) action  
Can not change priority score
  - Deferral for re-review of the same application – no changes allowed
- **Makes Recommendation** to Institute Staff on Funding, Evaluates Program Priorities and Relevance and Advises on Policy

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## NIH Policy does NOT allow Rebuttal of Peer Review outcome

There is an Appeal process however  
Differences of Scientific Opinion Can  
NOT be Appealed!

NIH policy permits appeal of review  
outcome if

1. Procedural error in review process
2. Factual errors (not differences of interpretations or understanding)

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## REVISE & RESUBMIT

### Do Not Appeal Review Outcome

#### NIH Appeal Outcomes:

1. Council Denies Appeal (**bad outcome**)
2. Council Accepts Appeal: Original Application and Letter of Appeal is sent to the Same Study Section for a second examination and evaluation (**bad outcome**)
3. Council Accepts Appeal: Original Application be sent to a new Study Section but without the Letter of Appeal (**bad outcome**)

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Grant Success Associates Timeline Consequences			
	Best Way	Revision	Appeal
Submit	Feb 08	Feb 08	Feb 08
Review	June 08	June 08	June 08
Council	Sept 08	Sept 08	Sept 08
Earliest award	Dec 08		
Review 2			Oct 08
Council 2			Jan 09
Earliest Resubmission	March 09		
Earliest Award			Apr 09
Review 2	June 09		
Earliest Resubmission			July 09
Council 2	Sept 09		
Review 3			Oct 09
Earliest Award	Dec 09		
Council			Feb 10
Earliest Award			June 10

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**What Determines Which Awards Are Made?**

- Scientific merit +
- Program Considerations +
- Availability of funds

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**You do not want a reviewer to make this comment about your application:**

*“This application is characterized by ideas that are both original and scientifically important. Unfortunately the ideas that are scientifically important are not original and the ideas that are original are not scientifically important.”*

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**You do not want a reviewer to make this comment about your application:**

***“In addition to proposing a research design that is a fishing expedition, the applicant also proposes to use every type of bait and piece of tackle ever known to mankind.”***

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**The research that you propose in your application must be innovative and focused**

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**NIH Information Sources**

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## NIH GUIDE for Grants and Contracts

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- Announces NIH Scientific Initiatives
- Provides NIH Policy and Administrative Information
- Available on the NIH Web Site :  
<http://www.nih.gov>  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>

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**Grant Success Associates** <http://crisp.cit.nih.gov>

**ERA Commons**  
Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects

CRISP (Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects) is a searchable database of federally funded biomedical research projects conducted at universities, hospitals, and other research institutions. The database, maintained by the Office of Extramural Research at the National Institutes of Health, includes projects funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Agency for Health Care Research and Quality (AHRQ), and Office of Assistant Secretary of Health (OASH). Users, including the public, can use the CRISP interface to search for scientific concepts, emerging trends and techniques, or identify specific projects and/or investigators. Before you will be able to access additional general information about the CRISP database, as well as obtain answers to questions frequently asked about CRISP. In addition, this home page serves as the gateway to interactive searching of Award Information. From here, you may select from the following list to acquire further information about CRISP:

- General CRISP Description and Information
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- CRISP Release Notes

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**Review Administrator**

**Important Notice Of NIH Policy To All Applicants:** All rosters are provided for information purposes only. Applicant investigators must not communicate directly with any review group member about an application either before or after the review. Failure to observe this policy strictly will create serious breaches of confidentiality and conflicts-of-interest in the peer review process. All questions must be directed to the Scientific Review Administrator in charge of the review group. The roster below is a working document and should not be considered as complete until the meeting date. A final and complete roster will be provided with the summary statement.

**AWARDING INSTITUTE AND CENTER STANDING COMMITTEE**

**ROSTER INDEX**

Roster Information	Committee Name
CSR	Center For Scientific Review
	CSR STANDING COMMITTEES
NCA	National Cancer Institute
	SUBCOMMITTEE A - CANCER CENTERS
NCIC	National Cancer Institute
	SUBCOMMITTEE C - BASIC & PRECLINICAL
NCID	National Cancer Institute
	SUBCOMMITTEE D - CLINICAL STUDIES
NCIE	National Cancer Institute
	SUBCOMMITTEE E - CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY, PREVENTION & CONTROL
NCF	National Cancer Institute
	SUBCOMMITTEE F - MANPOWER & TRAINING
NCIG	National Cancer Institute
	SUBCOMMITTEE G - EDUCATION
NCH	National Cancer Institute
	SUBCOMMITTEE H - CLINICAL GROUPS
NRRC	National Center For Research Resources
	COMPARATIVE MEDICINE REVIEW COMMITTEE
NRSG	National Center For Research Resources

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## Learn about special funding opportunities !

NIH Extramural Training & Kiosk - Information about NIH Career Development Awards - News, updates, and more.

**Office of Extramural Research**

### K Kiosk - Information about NIH Career Development Awards

**Career Award Wizard** - helps you select the right career award

Additional K Award Information: [Award Data](#)

Program	Description
<a href="#">Mentored Research Scientist Development Award</a>	Career development in a new area of research. 3-5 yrs. Salary determined by the sponsoring institute.
<a href="#">Independent Scientist Award</a>	Develop the career of the funded scientist. 5 yrs. 75% effort.
<a href="#">Senior Scientist Award</a>	For outstanding scientists with a sustained level of high productivity. 5 yrs. 75% effort. Funding determined by the sponsoring institute.
<a href="#">Academic Career Award</a>	Development/leadership in academic instruction, research, administration. 2-5 yrs. 25-75% effort, requires institutional sponsorship.
<a href="#">Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award</a>	Development of the independent clinical research scientist. 3-5 yrs. 75% effort.

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**Office of Extramural Research**

**OER Grants: Current News Flashes & Archives**

**NIH Announces Plans to Transition to the SF424 Family of Forms and Electronic Submission of Grant Applications through Grants.gov by May 2007**

**September 19, 2005**  
The NIH takes a strong position in moving ahead with electronic receipt of research grant applications. In the August 19, 2005 NIH Guide Notice (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-05-027.html>), NIH announced plans to transition to the SF424 family of forms and electronic submission through Grants.gov by individual program/funding mechanism. As mechanisms are transitioned, all applications in response to Funding Opportunity Announcements for that mechanism will require electronic submission through Grants.gov. See the new Electronic Receipt website (<http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt/>) for additional information.

<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/news.htm>  
<http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt/index.htm>

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## What is Grants.gov?

**GRANTS.GOV™**

- A cross-agency initiative involving**
  - 900 grant programs
  - 26 grant-making agencies
  - Over \$350 billion in annual awards
- The Federal government's single, online portal for any person, business, or State, Local and Tribal government to electronically:**
  - [Find Grant Opportunities](#)
  - [Apply for Grants](#)

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## Why SF424 application forms?

- **SF424 consolidates forms currently used by Federal grant-making agencies**
  - Applicants can use standard forms regardless of the program or agency to which they are applying
  - Reduces administrative burden on the Federal grants community
- **SF424 (R&R) is the government-wide data set for research grant applications**

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## Getting Started – Registration

Grants.gov Registration

- One-time only registration good for electronic submission to all Federal agencies
- Registration on Grants.gov required only for institutions
  - Detailed instructions at: <http://grants.gov/GetStarted>
  - Grants.gov registration requires institutions to:
    - Obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number - if you don't already have one.

It is critical for institutions to begin this registration process **at least 4 weeks before** applications are due!

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## Getting Started – Registration

NIH eRA Commons Registration

- Allows NIH to receive applications electronically from Grants.gov and validate them against NIH business rules
- Provides a way for NIH and registered users to communicate electronically after submission
  - Both organizations and PIs need to register
  - One time only registration, detailed instructions at: <https://commons.era.nih.gov/commons>

It is critical for institutions to begin this registration process **at least 4 weeks before** applications are due!

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## Where to find more information

- NIH eRA's Electronic Receipt Web Site:  
<http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt/>
  - Note: An expanded presentation is posted on this website for institutions to use to help spread the word about these important changes.
- NIH Guide Notices:  
<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>

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## Where to go for help

- Questions on NIH plan for electronic receipt
  - NIH GrantsInfo.gov
  - E-mail: [grantsinfo@nih.gov](mailto:grantsinfo@nih.gov)
- NIH eRA Commons registration and questions
  - Support Page: <http://era.nih.gov/commons/index.cfm>
  - Help Desk
    - E-mail: [commons@od.nih.gov](mailto:commons@od.nih.gov)
    - Phone: 1-866-504-9552 OR 301-402-7469
- Grants.gov registration and submission questions
  - Visit: <http://www.grants.gov/CustomerSupport>

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## Other Resources/Links

- Office of Extramural Research Grants Home Page:  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oeer.htm>
- NIH Guide: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>
- NIH Grants Policy Statement (12/03):  
[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps\\_2003/index.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps_2003/index.htm)
- PHS 398 Application (form pgs are PDF-fillable):  
<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>
- PHS2590 Progress Report (form pgs are PDF-fillable):  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/2590/2590.htm>

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## Program Announcements are very important for you

- Invites grant applications in a given research area
- May describe new or expanded interest in a particular extramural program
- May be a reminder of a continuing interest in a particular extramural program
- Generally has no funds set aside
- Applications reviewed in CSR along with unsolicited grant applications

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## Requests for Applications (RFA) are very important for you

- Announcement describing an institute initiative in a well-defined scientific area
- Invitation to submit research grant applications for a one-time competition on a specific topic
- *Set-aside of funds for a certain number of awards*
- Applications generally reviewed within the issuing institute

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## Selected Sites of Interest

- National Institutes of Health  
<http://www.nih.gov>
- Office of Extramural Research  
<http://www.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm>
- Grants Policy  
<http://www.nih.gov/grants/policy/policy.htm>
- NIH Study Section Rosters  
<http://era.nih.gov/roster/index.cfm>
- Grant Application Basics  
[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grant\\_basics.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grant_basics.htm)  
[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants\\_process.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants_process.htm)

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- **Office of Extramural Research: Grants Page**  
<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/index.cfm>
- **Center for Scientific Review**  
<http://www.csr.nih.gov>
- **Referral and Review**  
<http://www.csr.nih.gov/refrev.htm>
- **Overview of Peer Review Process in CSR**  
<http://www.csr.nih.gov/review/peerrev.htm>
- **NIH Peer Review Notes**  
<http://www.csr.nih.gov/prnotes/prnotes.htm>

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**Office of Extramural Research**

- Handles requests for grant applications, program guidelines, general information on grant applications and review policy

Office of Extramural Research  
National Institutes of Health  
6701 Rockledge Drive, Suite 6095  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7910

**PHONE:** 301-435-0714  
**FAX:** 301-480-0525  
**e-mail:** grantsinfo@nih.gov

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 **NIH GRANT\$**

**+ Formula for Grant Success**

 **+**  **+**  **+**  **=** 



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## Good Grantsmanship

- \* **Knowing + Understanding**
  - What to do
  - How to do it
  - When to do it
  - What to do when things don't go as planned
- \* **Being willing to do what is needed**
  - Passion and Acceptance
- \* **Doing it- doing what is needed**
  - Commitment and Completion
- \* **Understanding Peer Review**




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# Thank You

[http://ora.stanford.edu/ora/ratd/nih\\_04.asp](http://ora.stanford.edu/ora/ratd/nih_04.asp)

[Dr.Coelho@Lycos.com](mailto:Dr.Coelho@Lycos.com)

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