

INSTITUTES, CENTERS & OFFICES

NIH is made up of **27 Institutes and Centers**, each with a specific research agenda, often focusing on particular diseases or body systems. **NIH leadership** plays an active role in shaping the agency's activities and outlook. [Learn more about NIH](#) ▶

NIH OFFICES

NIH Office of the Director (OD)

The Office of the Director is the central office at NIH for its 27 Institutes and Centers. The OD is responsible for setting policy for NIH and for planning, managing, and coordinating the programs and activities of all the NIH components. OD's program offices include the Office of AIDS Research and the Office of Research on Women's Health, among others.

NIH INSTITUTES

National Cancer Institute (NCI) – Est. 1937

NCI leads a national effort to eliminate the suffering and death due to cancer. Through basic and clinical biomedical research and training, NCI conducts and supports research that will lead to a future in which we can prevent cancer before it starts, identify cancers that do develop at the earliest stage, eliminate cancers through innovative treatment interventions, and biologically control those cancers that we cannot eliminate so they become manageable, chronic diseases.

National Eye Institute (NEI) – Est. 1968

The National Eye Institute's mission is to conduct and support research, training, health information dissemination, and other programs with respect to blinding eye diseases, visual disorders, mechanisms of visual function, preservation of sight, and the special health problems and requirements of the blind.

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) – Est. 1948

Quick Links

NCI	NIAMS	NIEHS	CIT
NEI	NIBIB	NIGMS	CSR
NHLBI	NICHD	NIMH	FIC
NHGRI	NIDCD	NIMHD	NCCAM
NIA	NIDCR	NINDS	NCATS
NIAAA	NIDDK	NINR	CC
NIAID	NIDA	NLM	OD

See Also

[Directors of NIH Institutes and Centers](#)

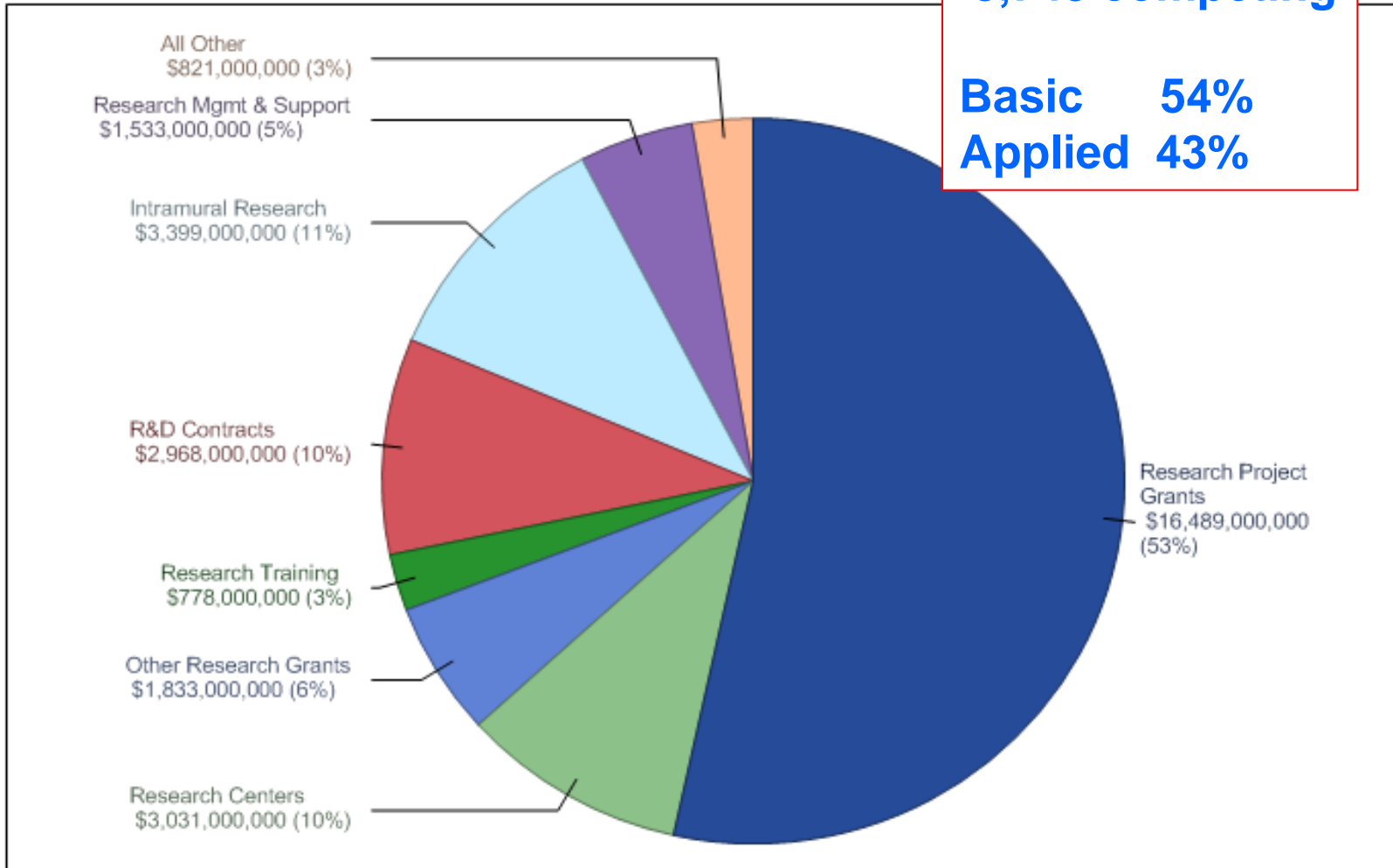
[Mailing Addresses for NIH Institutes and Centers](#)

Total NIH budget authority FY 2012 enacted



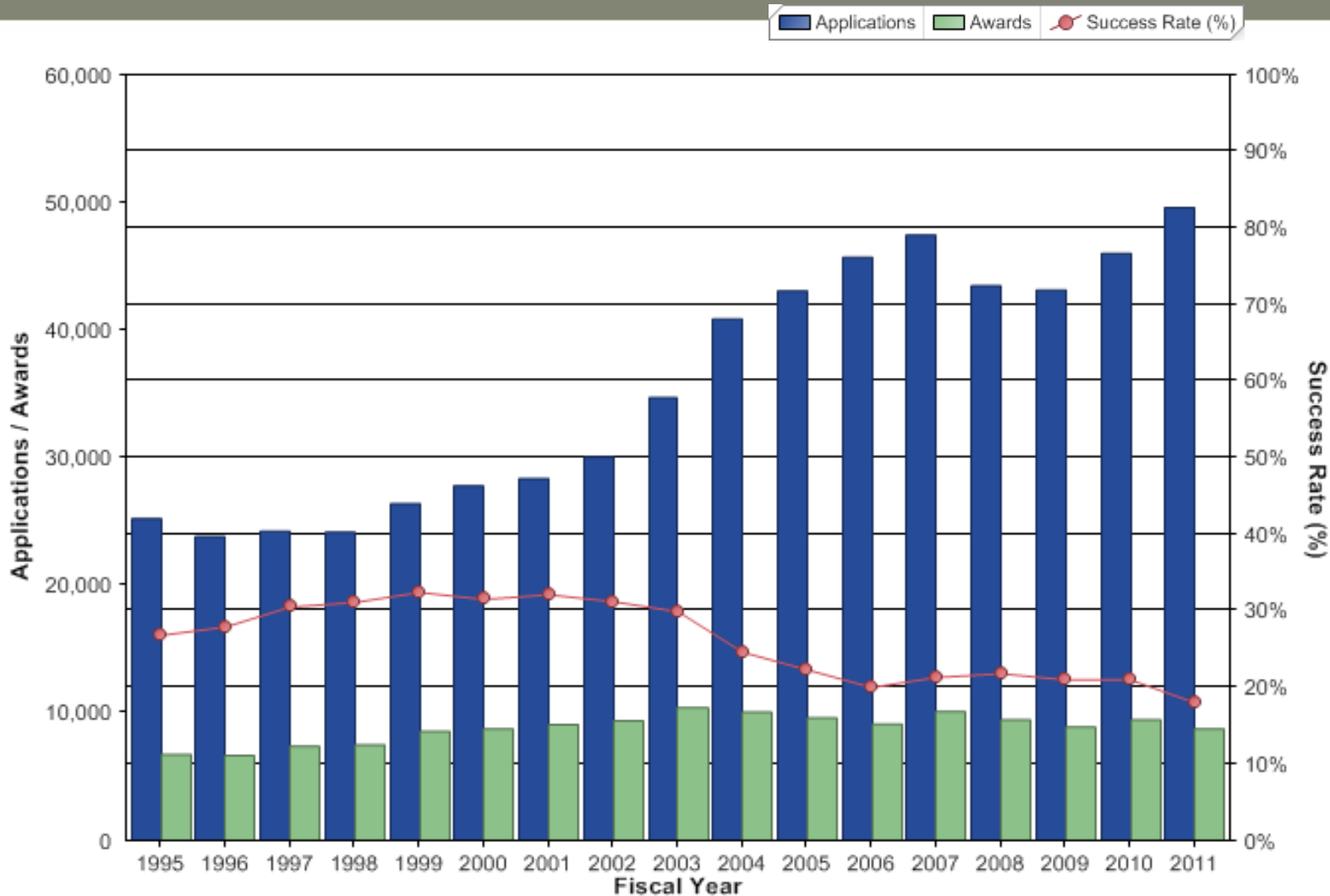
35,944 RPG
8,743 competing

Basic 54%
Applied 43%



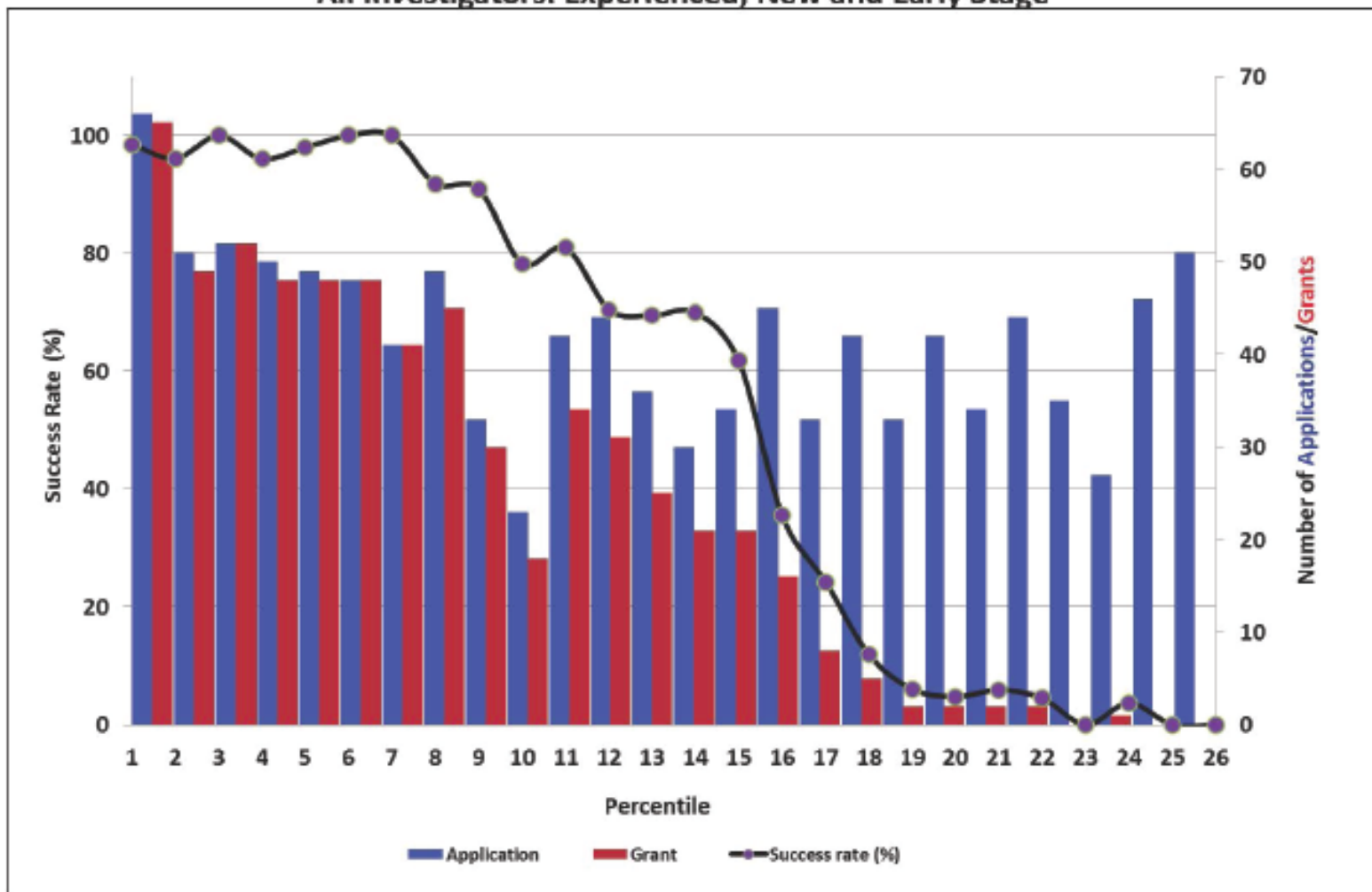
Research Project Grants

Applications, awards, and success rates



NCI FY2012: "Percentiled" R01 Applications, Awards, and Success Rates

All Investigators: Experienced, New and Early Stage



The application process:

**Suggestions
and
Resources**

NIH Grant PROCESS Overview



Glossary & Acronyms Search



Grants Process Overview

Any successful project requires planning, development, implementation, and follow-through. Obtaining NIH funding for your research idea is no exception. The Grants Process Overview below provides an overview of the steps required for an application to proceed from application planning and submission through award and close out. Look to the related resources on each page for special guidance from NIH experts that can help maximize your understanding of the grants process and help you submit a successful grant application.



All About Grants Podcasts Available



Planning

Applicant should start early, collect preliminary data, and determine internal deadlines.



Writing

Applicant often begins writing application several months prior to application due date.



Submitting

Applicant organization submits most applications to NIH through Federal portal, Grants.gov.

Months 1 - 3



Receipt and Referral

Applications compliant with NIH policies are assigned for review by the Division of Receipt and Referral in the Center of Scientific Review (CSR).

CSR assigns application to an NIH Institute/Center (IC) and a Scientific Review Group (SRG).

Scientific Review Officer (SRO) assigns applications to reviewers and readers.

Months 4 - 8



Peer Review

Initial Level of Review
SRG members review and evaluate applications for scientific merit.

Impact Scores
Available to Principal Investigator on eRA Commons.

Summary Statement
Available to Principal Investigator on eRA Commons.

Second Level of Review

Advisory council/board reviews applications.

Months 9 - 10



Award

Pre-Award Process

IC grants management staff conducts final administrative review and negotiates award.*

Notification of Award

NIH Institute/Center (IC) director makes funding decision. IC staff issues and sends Notice of Award (NoA) to applicant institution/organization.

Congratulations!

Project period officially begins!



Post-Award Management

Administrative and fiscal monitoring, reporting, and compliance.

NIH RePORTER Website

http://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm

Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools

Query Form - NIH RePORTER - NIH Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools Expenditures and Results

U. S. Department of Health & Human Services www.hhs.gov

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools (RePORT)
REPORTS, DATA AND ANALYSES OF NIH RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

RePORT EXPENDITURES & RESULTS (RePORTER)

HOME FREQUENTLY REQUESTED REPORTS REPORT CATALOG CATEGORICAL SPENDING RePORTER GLOSSARY FAQs LINKS ABOUT RePORT

Home > RePORTER > Query Form System Health: ■ RePORTER ^{beta} Login Register Font Size: - +

Fill in text

NIH ARRA Projects Only: **SELECT**

Text Search (Logic)

 And Or Advanced
Search in
 Projects Publications Projects & Publications
Limit to
 Project Title Project Terms
 Project Abstracts

Project Number:
Format: 5R01CA012345-04
Use '%' for wildcard, e.g. %R21%
[Enter multiple project numbers](#)

Principal Investigator / Project Leader:
Use '%' for wildcard
[Enter several PI/Project Leader names](#)

Organization:

DUNS Number:

Department: **SELECT**

Fiscal Year (FY): **SELECT**
Current FY is 2012

NIH Spending Category: **SELECT**

Agency/Institute/Center: **SELECT**
 Admin Funding

Funding Mechanism: **SELECT**

Award Type: **SELECT**

Activity Code: **SELECT**

Exclude Subprojects:

Study Section: **SELECT**
Standing CSR study sections only

FOA:
Format: RFA-IC-09-003 or PA-09-003
Use '%' for wildcard
[Funding Opportunities and Notices](#)

Public Health Relevance:

Online video resources for applicants:



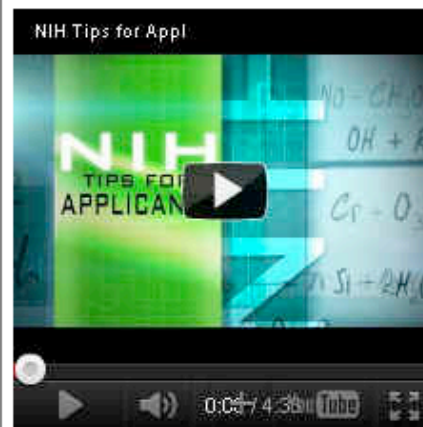
CSR has produced a series of videos to give you an inside look at how scientists from across the country review NIH grant applications for scientific and technical merit.

New and established applicants will find insights and understanding that can empower them to improve the applications and increase their chances for receiving a more positive review.

NIH Peer Review Revealed Provides a front-row seat to a review peer review meeting.



NIH Tips for Applicants Gives applicants practical advice and insights.



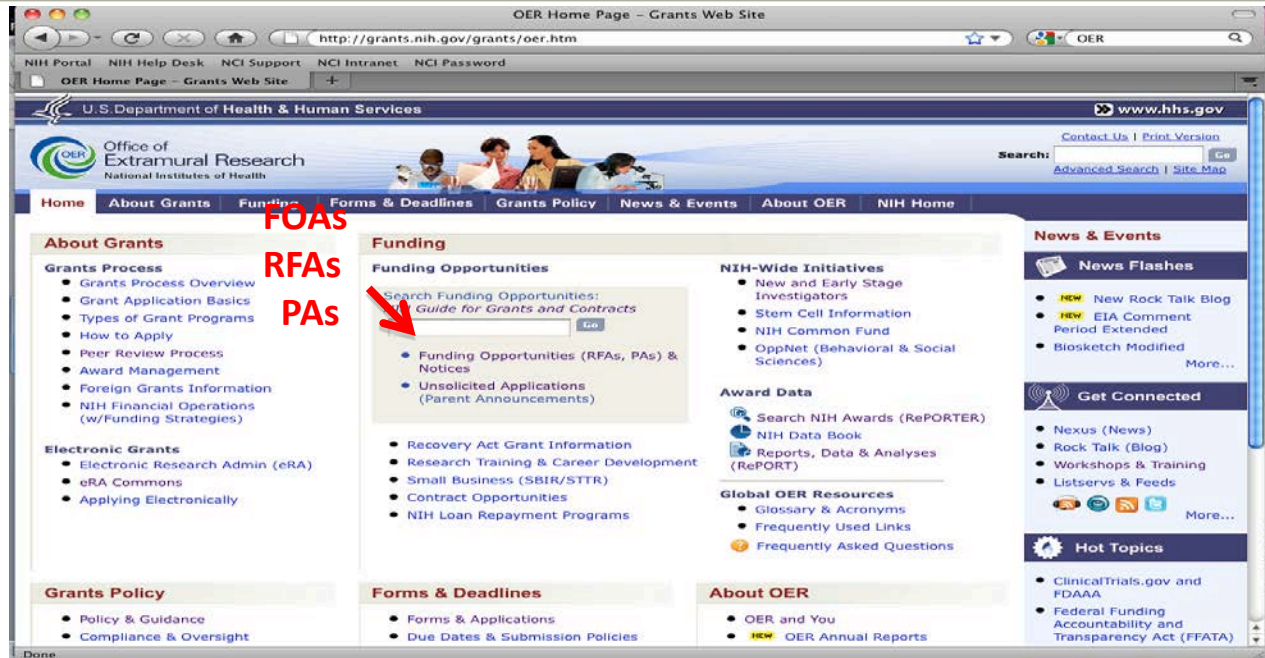
What Happens to Your NIH Grant Application shows our popular outreach talk.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBDxI6I4dOA&feature=youtu.be>

NIH's Office of Extramural Research Website

(<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm>)



NCI/NIH Funding Opportunity Announcements (a few)

PA-11-260: Research Project Grants (*Parent R01*)

PAR-12-145: NCI Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (*NCI Omnibus R21*)

PAR-12-005: National Cancer Institute Program Project (*P01*) Applications

PAR-12-144: NCI Small Grants Program for Cancer Research (*NCI Omnibus R03*)

PAR-11-150: Quantitative Imaging for Responses to Cancer Therapies (*U01*)

PAR-13-185: Image-guided Drug Delivery in Cancer (*R01*)

PAR-13-169: Academic-Industrial Partnerships for Translation of in-vivo Imaging Systems for Cancer Investigations (*R01*)

Hints about writing the proposal:

You must start with an original, compelling idea that will generate excitement.

- should not be incremental in nature**
- but should also not be over-ambitious**

The idea, its potential impact and benefits should be clearly stated

- early (in the abstract and project description)**
- explain why the proposal deserves funding**
- research objectives should be presented early**

Present a clear and direct hypothesis

Present alternatives

- Carefully balance confidence in planned work with a rational well-conceived back-up plan.**

Request appropriate funding

- Too little or too much reflects poorly on investigator**

1st submission must be as good as you can make it:

- Is it clear and compelling?
- Does the experimental plan flow smoothly?
- Are the aims coherent, but independent?
- Appropriate statistics input – power calculations
- Alternative hypotheses / methodologies
- Realistic timeline

No grant should be submitted without internal review (preferably more than one).

Better to skip a cycle than submit a suboptimal proposal.

Pay attention to details:

Follow application instructions carefully

-Fonts, margins, page limits etc...

Make the application easy to read

**-Font and figures appropriately sized
(remember reviewers are not that young)**

-Avoid jargon and abbreviations

Biosketch(s) and other supporting documents up-to-date

Letters of support that address the proposal

Proofread (and re-check uploads)

Poor grammar and text errors reduce scores.

Stuff happens when uploading.

New Investigators/Early Stage Investigators

It is especially important to stress level of independence, institutional support & mentoring available.

Project should be distinct from your mentor's work.

New Investigator (NI)

PD/PI who has not yet competed successfully for a substantial NIH research grant

Multiple PD/PI applications - all PD/PIs must meet requirements for NI status.

Early Stage Investigator (ESI)

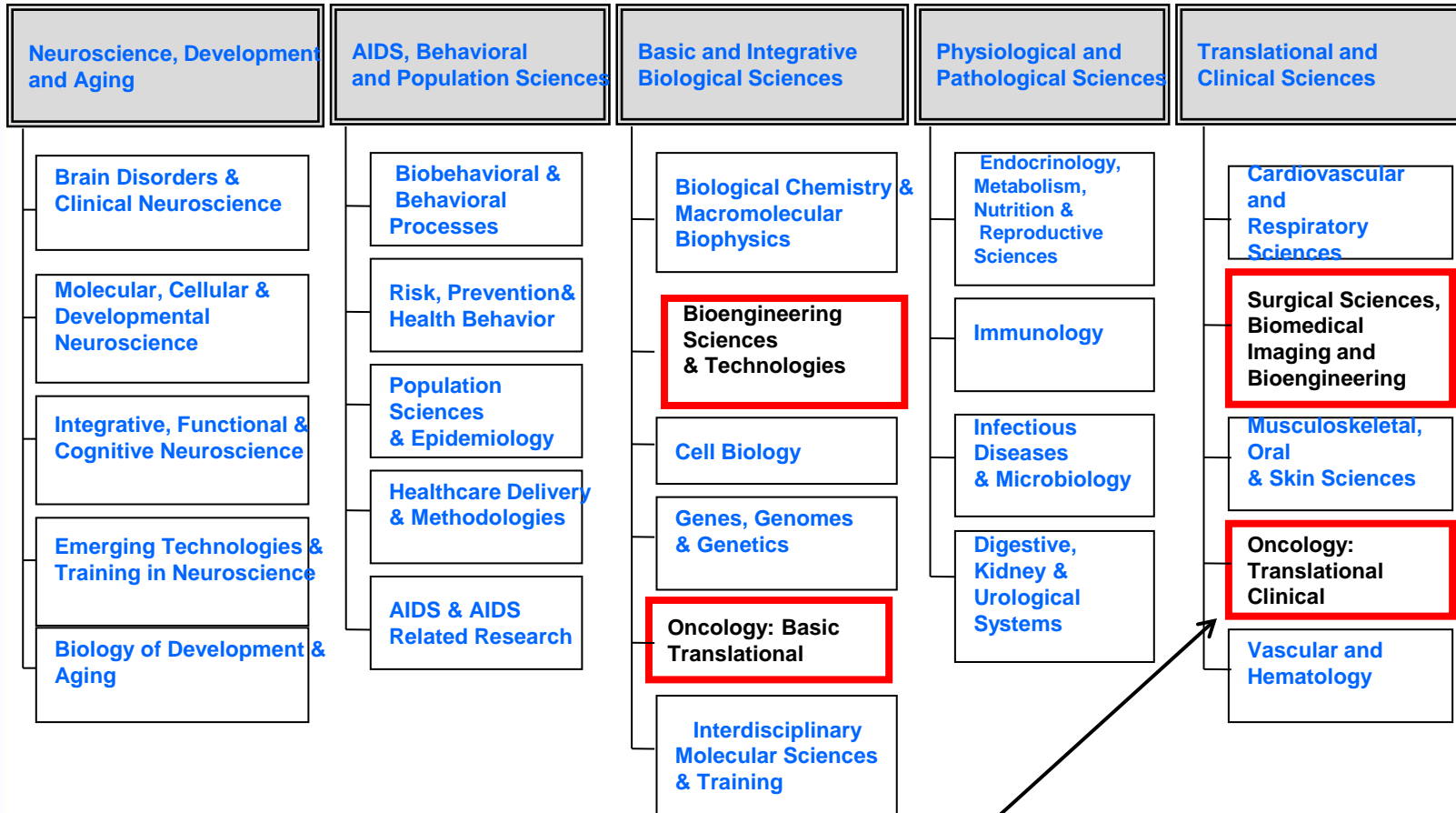
PD/PI who qualifies as a New Investigator AND is within 10 years of completing the terminal research degree or is within 10 years of completing medical residency (or equivalent)

New Investigators/Early Stage Investigators will be clustered together for review.

Any advantages apply only to R01 applications. If more than one PI, all must be NI for any advantage.

The Review

Divisions and Integrated Review Groups (IRGs)



Radiation Therapeutics and Biology Study Section [RTB]

Review Criteria

- **Overall Impact**
 - Assessment of the likelihood for the project to *exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved*
- **Core Review Criteria**
 - **Significance:** Does the project *address an important problem or critical barrier to progress in the field?* If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?
 - **Investigator(s)**
 - **Innovation**
 - **Approach**
 - **Environment**

Review criteria each scored from 1-9

9-Point Scoring Scale

Impact	Score	Descriptor
High Impact	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding
	3	Excellent
Moderate Impact	4	Very Good
	5	Good
	6	Satisfactory
Low Impact	7	Fair
	8	Marginal
	9	Poor

The **impact score is NOT a numerical average of the criterion scores**, as each reviewer determines the relative importance of the criterion scores for each grant under consideration. The scoring system utilizes a 9-point rating scale (1 = exceptional; 9 = poor). The final overall impact score for each discussed application is determined by calculating the mean score from all the eligible members' impact scores, and multiplying the average by 10; the final overall /impact score is reported on the summary statement. Thus, the final overall impact scores range from 10 (high impact) through 90 (low impact).

Order of Review

- Cluster groups of applications
 - *NI/ESI R01s must be clustered*
 - Clinical Applications are clustered, if feasible
 - All other activity codes are clustered, if feasible (need at least 10 discussed, may include R03, R15, and R21s as a group that can be clustered).
- For score calibration purposes...
 - Applications discussed in order of average preliminary score. Beginning in each cluster by discussing the best scored application.

Summary Statement

The following results are provided to the applicant and the assigned NIH Institute(s) or Center(s) that may fund it.

- Essentially unedited critiques
- Scores for each review criterion
- Administrative notes if any

If an application is discussed, additional feedback is given

- Summary of review discussion
- An overall impact/priority score and percentile ranking
- Budget recommendations

when you get the summary statement

☐ Communicate with your program officer

If successful, prepare just-in-time information for submission

- IACUC, IRB approvals**
- updated other support**
- information must be current (< 6 mos)**

If you must resubmit:

- Don't rush it – you only get one more chance**
- Talk over review with program director**
- Carefully and succinctly address critiques**
- If you rebut a review point, do so respectfully, with supporting evidence. Don't rebut the reviewer!**
- Get external review of revised application prior to resubmission.**

The Single Revision Policy:

Notice Number: NOT-OD-09-003

The NIH will accept only a single amendment to the original application. Failure to receive funding after two submissions (i.e., the original and the single amendment) will mean that the applicant should substantially re-design the project rather than simply change the application in response to previous reviews.

- **Submission of an A0 (new) application under a different activity code (R01 to R21, for example) with any degree of overlap with the original application after the release of the summary statement for the first application. If this is done, an A1 may not be submitted for the original lineage.**

Conclusions

- **The budget situation is fluid and is limiting funding for science across the board.**
- **The competition for available funds is very intense.**
- **Radiation sciences are under-represented and need strong advocates.**
- **SPL review increases scrutiny of grants for potential impact.**
- **Program staff advocate for strong grants internally through this process.**
- **Many clear and compelling proposals in all fields continue to be funded.**



What are SBIR & STTR?

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs are NCI's engine of innovation for developing and commercializing novel technologies and products to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer.

The SBIR & STTR Programs are one of the largest sources of early-stage technology financing in the United States. We welcome entrepreneurs and small business leaders to this website to explore grant and contract funding opportunities and a new spirit of collaboration with the NCI.

APPLICATION

1-R01-CA-123456-01-A1

2. Decoding the grant application number

The unique identification number for all NIH applications has an organizational structure as illustrated below:

Type	Activity code	Institute code	Serial number	Support year	Extension
1	R01	AB	987654	01	A1

a) Application type

In the NIH grants process, five types of applications are used most frequently. Each of the first four application types is considered “competing” because they must undergo peer review before NIH may fund them.

- 1 New** - Request for support of a project that has not yet been funded
- 2 Renewal** (formerly competing continuation) - Request for an additional term of support based on a funded previous project; must compete for available funds
- 3 Competing revision/administrative supplement** - Request for additional funds for a current award, to cover increased costs (noncompeting) or to expand the scope of work (competing)
- 4 Extension** - Request for additional funds beyond the years previously awarded; limited to certain activities, including method to extend research in time (MERIT) awards and certain fellowship (F) and career (K) awards (Note: These F and K applications do not compete for funds. MERIT awards do require review from the National Advisory Council.)
- 5 Noncompeting continuation** - Request to pay next budget increment of a current award; does not compete for available funds
- 6 Change of organization status** (also known as successor-in-interest) – Request for support of a funded project at an institution where the legal status of the organization has been changed through an approved change of organization status action
- 7 Change of grantee or training institution** - Request for support of a funded project that has been transferred from one grantee or training institution to another
- 8 Change of institute or division** - Noncompeting continuation (cf. Type 5) that has been transferred from one ICD to another
- 9 Change of institute or division** - Competing continuation (Type 2) that has been transferred from one IC to another

b) Activity code

An activity code is a three-digit code identifying a specific category of extramural activity. A [comprehensive list of activity codes](#) may be found on the [Types of Grant Programs](#) webpage.

c) Institute code/awarding component

Each of the ICs (plus the Office of the Director that manages some awards through the NIH Common fund, and several for other agencies in HHS) has a unique two-character identifier, as indicated below (see also the [acronym list](#)).

Important Websites

NIH Office of Extramural Research:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm>

NIH RePORTER:

<http://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm>

NCI Division of Extramural Affairs:

<http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/>

Radiation Research Program:

<http://rrp.cancer.gov>

Cancer Imaging Program:

<http://imaging.cancer.gov>