

The webinar will start promptly at 1:30 pm, and the webinar will be recorded. The slides will be available in a few weeks, and slides can be requested via email at NIDCRtraining@nidcr.nih.gov.



National Institute of Dental
and Craniofacial Research

Overview of Fellowship Funding Opportunities

Chantel Fuqua, PhD

Program Officer

Research Training and Career Development Branch

Chantel.fuqua@nih.gov

Webinar Outline

- A. Fellowship (F) mechanisms
- B. Application Process and Resources
- C. Helpful Hints and Resources
- D. Q&A from the audience

Questions During the Webinar

- Please use the chat box to enter your question.
- Questions will be monitored and answered during the Q/A session.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) *is the largest biomedical research agency in the world*



NIH seeks fundamental knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce the burdens of illness and disability among all people.

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



Considerations for Choosing a Funding Opportunity

- **Career stage**
 - Predoctoral researcher, Postdoctoral researcher
- **Citizenship**
 - U.S. citizen, permanent resident
- **Academic and professional goals**
 - To be a biomedical scientist, clinician or physician scientist, dual degree DDS/DMD-PhD dentist scientist field, other biomedical related professional degree



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Funding

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- Research Training and Career Development ▼
 - Individual Fellowships (F)
 - Individual Career Development (K)
 - Institutional Training (T)
 - Institutional Career Development and Other Training

Research Training and Career Development

NIH Research Training and Career Development Programs help prepare individuals for careers in biomedical, behavioral, social, and clinical research.

i New Home for Research Training and Career Development Information on the NIH Grants and Funding Website

Please update any [researchtraining.nih.gov](#) bookmarks you may have to the new pages! Redirected links are in place to help you find what you need in the meantime, or access the [archive](#).

On this page:

- [Browse by Career Stage](#)
- [Browse by Program Types](#)

<https://researchtraining.nih.gov/>

How to Find the Right Institute – NIH RePORTER

Home > RePORTER > Query Form

NIH RePORTER
Version: 7.40.0

FIND PROGRAM OFFICIALS OR SIMILAR PROJECTS

QUERY BROWSE NIH MATCHMAKER SEARCH PUBLICATIONS BETA

SUBMIT QUERY CLEAR QUERY

MATCHMAKER

TEXT SEARCH

Text Search (Logic): ?

☒ And
☐ Or
☐ Advanced

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<https://projectreporter.nih.gov>

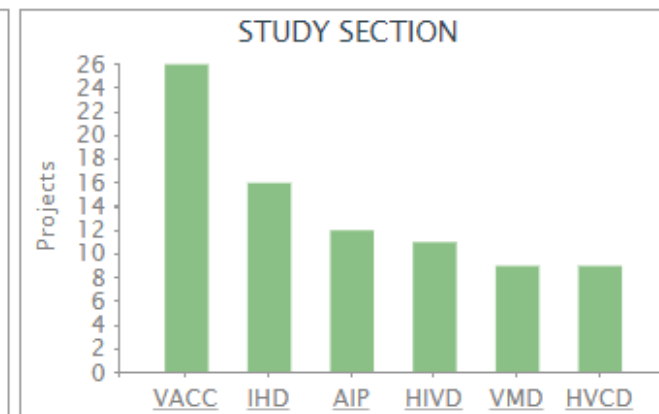
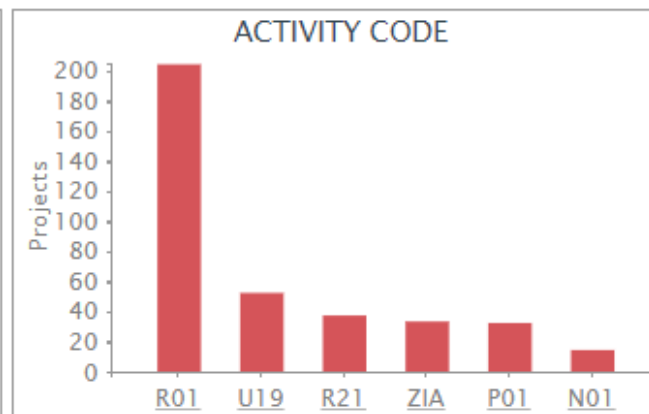
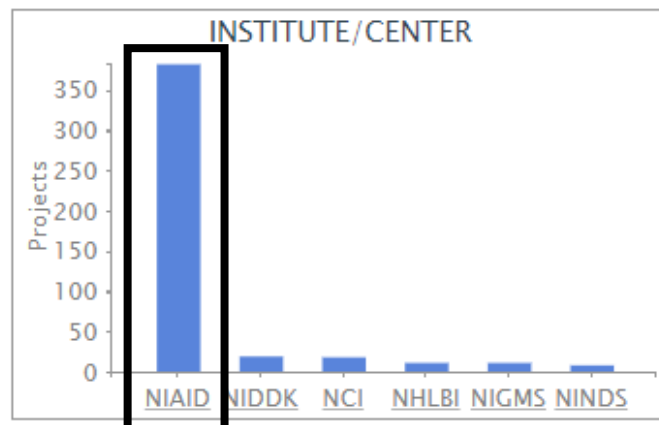
- **Success rates**
- **Matchmaker Search returns:**
 - Institutes(ICs) that fund similar research
 - Similar funded grants
 - Find the right PO to contact **prior to writing**

500 projects with similar concepts to the entered text. (500 maximum)

Click on chart labels to filter search results by the Institute/Center or Activity Code or Study Section

[Click here to view detailed Charts](#)

onal Institute of Dental
Craniofacial Research



Click on the column header to sort the results

Records per page 25

1 2 3 4 ... 18 19 20

1 of 20 [Next](#) [Last](#) [▶](#) [▶▶](#)

T: Application Type; Act: Activity Code; Project: Admin IC, Serial No.; Year: Support Year/Supplement/Amendment

Match Score	T	Act	Project	Year	Sub #	Project Title	Contact PI / Project Leader	Organization	FY	Admin IC	Funding IC	FY Total Cost by IC	Similar Projects
<input type="checkbox"/> 966	1	ZIA	AI000883	19		INTERACTION OF HIV ENVELOPE WITH CELL SURFACE RECEPTORS	FAUCI, ANTHONY S.		2019	NIAID	NIAID	\$1,069,830	📄
<input type="checkbox"/> 722	1	ZIA	BC011126	12		DEVELOPMENT OF RATIONALLY DESIGNED HIV VACCINES	FRANCHINI, GENOVEFFA		2019	NCI	NCI	\$4,231,061	📄
<input type="checkbox"/> 650	5	P01	AI124912	04		DURABLE ANTIBODY MEDIATED PROTECTION AGAINST HIV	GALLO, ROBERT C	UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE	2019	NIAID	NIAID	\$3,389,755	📄
<input type="checkbox"/> 627	5	K22	AI127072	02		RETOOLING NATURAL KILLERS CELLS (NK) AND MUCOSAL INNATE LYMPHOID CELLS (ILCS) FOR AN EFFECTIVE HIV VACCINE	LIYANAGE, NAMAL	OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY	2019	NIAID	NIAID	\$108,000	📄

Matching Text

The focus of this project is to gain new knowledge regarding the very early events following mucosal transmission of HIV. We are particularly focused on molecular interactions between the viral envelope and cell surface receptors that are expressed on CD4 + T cells. This information is fundamental to the development of an effective HIV vaccine. We have shown previously that the infection of a4b7-expressing CD4+ T cells is one of these early events. In addition, we showed that the HIV envelope protein gp120 binds directly to integrin a4b7 and that this interaction is mediated by the V2 domain of gp120. Our approach in 2019 was to define the types of monoclonal antibodies that interfere with this interaction. Such information will hopefully aid in the design and development of an effective HIV vaccine.

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Fiscal Year (FY) ?

Active Projects

SELECT

Exclude Subprojects? ☐

Select options begin with FY 2007.

RESET

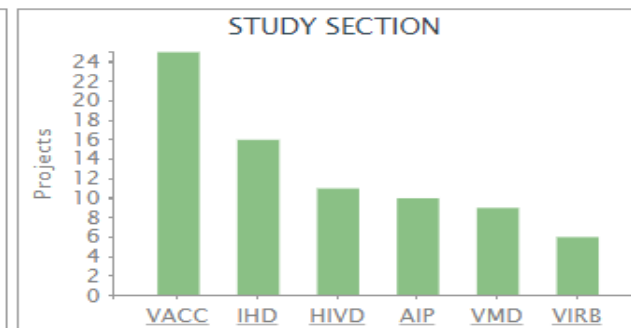
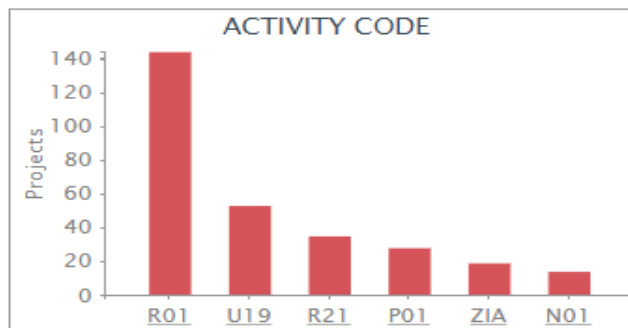
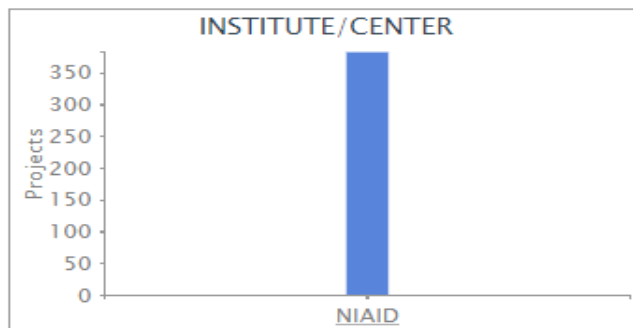
RESUBMIT

383 projects with similar concepts to the entered text. (500 maximum)

[Click here to view detailed Charts](#)

Click on chart labels to filter search results by the Institute/Center or Activity Code or Study Section

Filter: Institute/Center: NIAID ☐



Click on the column header to sort the results

Records per page 25

1 2 3 4 ... 14 15 16

1 of 16 Next Last

T: Application Type; Act: Activity Code; Project: Admin IC, Serial No.; Year: Support Year/Supplement/Amendment

Match Score	T	Act	Project	Year	Sub #	Project Title	Contact PI / Project Leader	Organization	FY	Admin IC	Funding IC	FY Total Cost by IC	Similar Projects
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Fellowship Awards (FY26)

NIDCR is participating in 5 fellowship award opportunities. View current F funding opportunities here:

<https://grants.nih.gov/funding/funding-categories/research-training-and-career-development/individual-fellowships>

NOFO ID	NOFO Name	Next Due Dates
PA-25-425 PA-25-426	F30 NRSA Individual Fellowships (Parent F30)	12/08/2025
PA-25-422	F31 NRSA Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (Parent F31)	04/07/2026
PA-25-423	F32 Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship (Parent F32)	08/08/2026
PA-25-424	F33 NRSA Individual Senior Fellowship (Parent F33)	
RFA-OD-24-007	INCLUDE (INvestigation of Co-occurring conditions across the Lifespan to Understand Down syndromE) Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award (F99/K00 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	07/01/2026

- NIDCR no longer restricts F30s to DDS/DMD-PhDs and will accept applications from all dual degree students (e.g. MD-PhD) who propose research within the DOC mission

Predoctoral Individual Fellowship for Predoctoral Dual-Degree Training Programs (F30)

Supports individuals enrolled in a **combined MD/PhD or other dual-doctoral degree training program (e.g. DDS/PhD, AuD/PhD, DVM/PhD), and who intend careers as physician-scientists or other clinician-scientists.**

Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award (F31)

Supports individual predoctoral students with potential to develop into a productive, independent research scientists, to obtain mentored research training while conducting dissertation research.

Postdoctoral Individual National Research Service Award (F32)

Supports individuals with research or clinical **doctoral degrees** who have the potential to become productive, independent investigators in scientific health-related research fields

Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award (F99/K00)

Support individuals to complete their doctoral degrees and then pursue postdoctoral training from a broad variety of research fields to pursue postdoctoral training focused on Down syndrome related research

Fellowship Awards – Predoctoral (F30)



Predoctoral

- Individual Fellowship or “F” awards are designed to provide mentored research experience to students and scientists at various stages of their careers
 - For individuals pursuing a dual degree (i.e. DDS, DMD, MD, AuD, DVM, etc. and PhD)
 - F30 awards can provide up to six years of support for dual degree trainees (i.e., DDS, DMD, MD, etc. and PhD) to engage in research and related career development activities
 - *Note: Support limits includes T32/T90 grant support*

Fellowship Awards – Predoctoral (F30)

Predoctoral

Eligibility:

US citizen or permanent resident, full time stipend, *at time of award*

Effort:

- 100% effort, 40 hour week
- 50% of the award period must generally be devoted to research training leading to the doctoral research degree

Award:

- Stipend per year, per career stage, Predoc - \$28,788/year [NOT-OD-25-105]
- Tuition/Fees - Predoc – 60% of actual tuition level, up to \$21,000
- Travel Costs – for NIDCR \$800/year
- Child care costs, if applicable - \$3,000 per fellow per year
- Institutional Allowance (Predoc - \$4,750)

Fellowship Awards – Predoctoral (F31)



Predoctoral

- Individual Fellowship or “F” awards are designed for:
 - For individuals pursuing a doctoral degree, to provide a mentored research experience to students and scientists at various stages of their careers
 - F awards can provide up to five years of stipend support for predoctoral trainees to engage in research and related career development activities.
 - *Note: Support limits includes T32/T90 grant support*

Fellowship Awards – Predoctoral (F31)

Predoctoral

Eligibility:

US citizen or permanent resident, full time stipend, *at time of award*

Effort:

- 100% effort, 40 hour week

Award:

- Stipend per year, per career stage, Predoc - \$28,788/year [NOT-OD-25-105]
- Tuition/Fees - Predoc – 60% of actual tuition level, up to \$16,000
- Travel Costs – for NIDCR \$800/year
- Child care costs, if applicable - \$3,000 per fellow per year
- Institutional Allowance (Predoc - \$4,750)

Fellowship Awards – Postdoctoral (F32)



Postdoctoral

- Individual Fellowship or “F” awards designed for:
 - For individuals that have earned a research or clinical doctoral degree, to provide mentored research experience to assist in becoming an independent investigator
 - F awards can provide up to three years of stipend support for postdoctoral trainees to engage in research and related career development activities.
- *Note: Support limits includes T32/T90 grant support, but F/T support during the predoc stage does not count toward the 3-year NRSA cap on postdoctoral support*

Fellowship Awards – Postdoctoral (F32)



Postdoctoral

Eligibility:

US citizen or permanent resident, *at time of award*

Effort:

- 100% effort, 40 hour week

Award:

- Stipend per year, based on years of experience - \$62,232 to \$75,564
- Tuition and Fees - 60% of actual tuition level, up to \$4,500 per year
- Institutional Allowance (Fellowships) - \$12,400
- Child care costs, if applicable - \$3,000 per fellow per year

NRSA Payback Requirements

- Applicable to postdoctoral fellows and trainees with at least 12 months of NRSA support
- Requires recipients of support to “pay back” Federal government by engaging in health-related research, research training, teaching (or combination)
- To “pay back”:
 - Receive an equal number of months of postdoc NRSA support beginning in the 13th month of such postdoc NRSA support
 - Engage in an equal number of months of applicable health-related activities averaging more than 20 hours per week

Individual Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Transition Awards (F99/K00)



- [RFA-OD-24-007](#): INCLUDE (INvestigation of Co-occurring conditions across the Lifespan to Understand Down syndromE) Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award (F99/K00 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
 - US citizens, permanent residents
 - 2 years F99 (NRSA stipend) - F99/K00 is non-NRSA but stipend follows NRSA. Time does not count toward NRSA limit.
 - up to 4 years K00 (salary up to \$75,000)

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An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

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and Craniofacial Research

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Oral Health for All

NIDCR supports research to improve dental, oral, and craniofacial health.

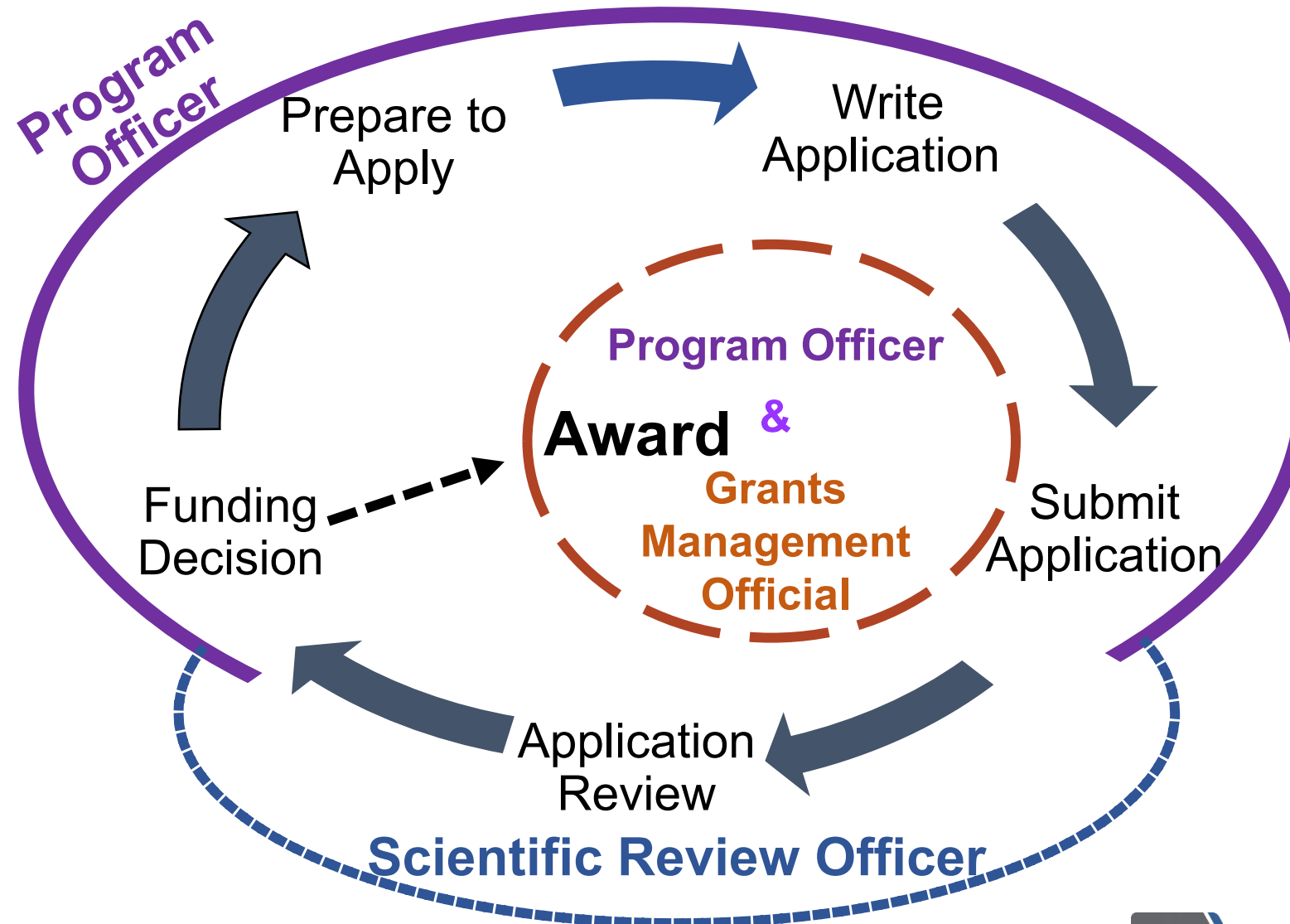
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Grant Application: Who to contact & when?



NRSA Fellowship Application Parts

- Candidate's Goals, Preparedness and Potential
- Research Training Plan (Research Training, Project Specific Aims and Strategy)
- Letters of Support from Collaborators, Consultants
- Commitment to Candidate, Mentoring and Training Environment (Sponsor(s) and Co-sponsor(s) Statements)
- Biosketch

-
- Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Letters of Support

Important Components of a Fellowship Application

- *Academic Record: Grades/GPA are no longer required or allowed.*
- Strong Letters of Recommendation- attesting to potential to be independent researcher, who know you from different stages of your career or in different capacities (undergraduate, grad school committee member, etc.)
- Productivity: Publication history helps but not required. Research doctoral F32 applicants should have a publication from their thesis.
- Including Trainings: scientific skill set and soft skills like presentations
- Sponsors/Mentors, Collaborators, Consultants - Expertise in research area
- Research Training Plan - interesting problem, availability of necessary laboratory equipment and requiring training, preliminary data
- Institutional Environment and Commitment to Training - Equipment, Instrumentation, Facilities, mentors
- Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research - in person or online, with faculty Participation who manages which parts of (8 hours minimum, required every 4 years)

Application Preparation Tips

- Read Notice of Funding Opportunity from beginning to end multiple times.
- Use Matchmaker to check alignment with NIDCR mission
- Consult with individuals not intimately involved in your project for the feedback on application.
- Don't bury important information; don't expect reviewers to "read between the lines" to figure out what you are proposing.
- For fellowships awards:
 - Apply early, and write in your own words
 - Highlight what you are contributing to the fellowship application
 - Consider a Sponsor and/or Co-Sponsor.
- Make sure biosketches are up-to-date and the personal statement is relevant to the funding opportunity.
 - Consider Program leadership with complimentary expertise
 - Data in tables and text should align
- Present outcomes data in a straightforward manner.
 - Don't exaggerate
 - Don't hide data (reviewers will "do the math")
- After Scientific Review, contact Program Officer to discuss the details of the Summary Statement

Common Submission Issues

- **Not knowing which Institutes/Centers participate in a NOFO**
 - Participating ICs are listed in the NOFO. **CSR cannot assign your application to an IC that does not participate.** This is the #1 reason applications are withdrawn.
- **Submitting late**
 - Be aware of grant deadlines for your application type
 - Late applications may be accepted, only with good reason. Familiarize yourself with the policy (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/submission-policies.htm>)
- **Not following instructions in the NOFO**
 - **Read** the instructions – all the instructions! (****Must**, should, required...)
 - Don't overstuff the application

Common Grant Writing Mistakes

- Samples: Applications, Attachments, and other Documents
 - <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/resources/sample-applications.htm>
 - NIAID Sample Applications: <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications> (old format)
- Perspective differ among reviews – Maximize on the big picture with interconnected specific aims, and write in your own words.
- Approaches should be innovative, state of the art techniques, datasets should be most recent.
- Mentors and Collaborators – Make sure all the expertise is covered.
- *Letters of Support vs. Letters of recommendation.* Letters of support describe a collaborator giving you something you need for research or career development. Letters of recommendation discuss your accomplishments and potential as applicant, should be strong not boiler plate.
- Make sure to include collaborators biosketches.
- **Have your draft application reviewed by someone that has obtained funding and not involved in your work. Ask them to score it.**

NIH Peer Review

Two-Tiered Review Process

- First Level of Review
 - Scientific and Technical Merit and/or potential to further the career goal and training of the applicants
 - Study Section or Special Emphasis Panel
- Second Level of Review
 - Institute/Center programmatic assessment

The NIDCR Director makes Final Funding Decisions

Review Criteria - Fellowship Applications

Overall Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likelihood that the fellowship will enhance the applicant's potential for, and commitment to, a productive independent scientific research career in a health-related field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes into consideration the scored and additional review criteria below
Scored Review Criteria (3 Factors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Training Plan (Feasibility and Rigor) Candidate's Goals, Preparedness and Potential (Fellowship Applicant) Commitment to Candidate, Mentoring and Training Environment (Mentors, Sponsors, Collaborators, and Consultants) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scored individually Factored into overall impact score
Additional Review Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protections for Human Subjects Inclusion Plans Vertebrate Animals Biohazards Resubmission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not scored individually Factored into overall impact score
Additional Review Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research Select Agents Resource Sharing Plans Budget & Period of Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not scored individually Not factored into overall score

Program Notes on Scientific Review

- All reviews are now conducted by the Center for Scientific Review (CSR), not NIDCR
- Both eligibility & compliancy are checked and strictly enforced
 - Applicants should include everything that is required and nothing that isn't
 - Any foreign involvement (e.g., co-mentor) is treated as a foreign component. Foreign Justification attachment is required and must provide unique value.
- Percentiling (not just raw score) is standard for CSR
- Currently some study sections include multiple grant mechanisms
- Applications are clustered by scientific topic, mechanism & sometimes NOFO

Changes to the Review Process in FY26

- The percent of applications discussed in most meetings will be reduced to 30-35%, instead of the current ~50%.
- Applications voted by the committee to be in the middle third will be designated as “competitive but not discussed” and applications in the lowest third will be designated as “not competitive and not discussed”. Applications in the middle third will be considered for funding, along with the discussed applications.
- Summary statements will be simplified. Narrative paragraphs summarizing committee discussion will not be used. Instead, summaries will have a sentence describing the degree of consensus in the committee vote, plus bullets listing the main score driving points. Summaries for all applications will contain the written critiques from the 3 assigned reviewers, as is currently the case. Summaries for applications that are discussed will have the overall impact score.

Application Scores Available *via* eRA Commons

- Score released to personal eRA Commons account no later than 3 business days after review meeting
- PI can view only their own score
- Discussed applications receive numerical scores



Impact	Score	Descriptor	Additional Guidance on Strengths/Weaknesses
High	1	Exceptional	Exceptionally strong with essentially no weaknesses
	2	Outstanding	Extremely strong with negligible weaknesses
	3	Excellent	Very strong with only some minor weaknesses
Medium	4	Very Good	Strong but with numerous minor weaknesses
	5	Good	Strong but with at least one moderate weakness
	6	Satisfactory	Some strengths but also some moderate weaknesses
Low	7	Fair	Some strengths but with at least one major weakness
	8	Marginal	A few strengths and a few major weaknesses
	9	Poor	Very few strengths and numerous major weaknesses

What Is in the Summary Statement?

All applications:

- Critiques from assigned reviewers
- Preliminary criterion scores
- Roster

Discussed applications:

- Resume and Summary of Discussion
- Summary of review criteria and considerations
 - Human Subjects, Vertebrate Animals, etc.
 - Budget recommendation

NIH Policy Updates: NIH Guide vs. Grants.gov

- In August 2025, NIH announced Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) will no longer be posted in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts ([NOT-OD-25-143](#))
 - **Grants.gov** will serve as NIH's single official source for grant and cooperative agreement funding opportunities
 - NIH grants and funding information will be posted on [Grants.nih.gov](#)
 - The **NIH Guide** will continue to be used for policy and informational notices
- Effective beginning in FY 2026 (**October 1, 2025**)



Grants Resources

- NIH Grants Home Page: <https://grants.nih.gov/>
- Information for Researchers:
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/information-for-research.htm>, many useful links
- Links to Instructions for each type of Grant:
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.html>

Contacting Your Program Officer

- Program Officers are big resources
 - Contact anytime before application submission
 - Help determine best funding opportunity for your needs
 - Helpful to determine responsiveness of proposal to the Institute or Center's (IC) mission and priorities
 - Contact after Summary Statement is received to discuss next steps

Questions?

Contact us at:
NIDCRtraining@nidcr.nih.gov
chantel.fuqua@nih.gov



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and Craniofacial Research**