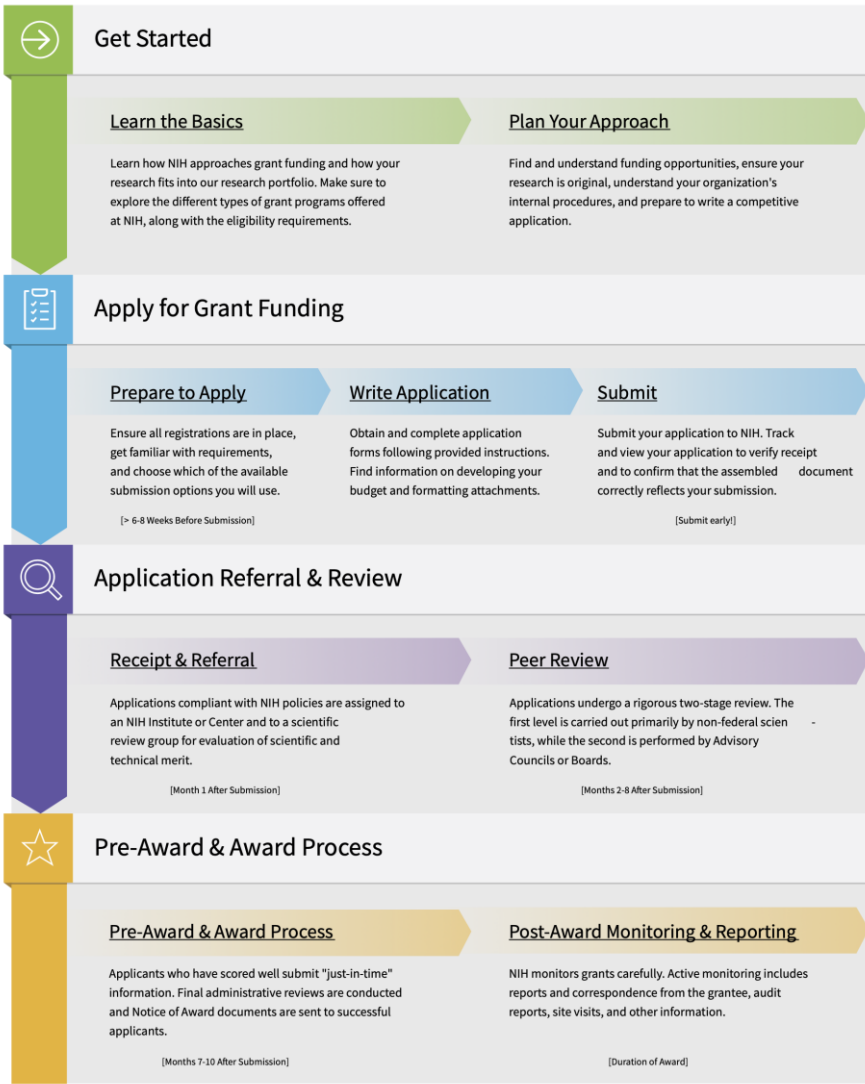# NIH Funding Opportunities

October 30th, 2019

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NIH Grant mechanisms

Get Started

Learn the Basics
Learn how NIH approaches grant funding and how your research fits into our research portfolio. Make sure to explore the different types of grant programs offered at NIH, along with the eligibility requirements.

Plan Your Approach
Find and understand funding opportunities, ensure your research is original, understand your organization's internal procedures, and prepare to write a competitive application.

Apply for Grant Funding

Prepare to Apply
Ensure all registrations are in place, get familiar with requirements, and choose which of the available submission options you will use.

[> 6-8 Weeks Before Submission]

Write Application
Obtain and complete application forms following provided instructions. Find information on developing your budget and formatting attachments.

Submit
Submit your application to NIH. Track and view your application to verify receipt and to confirm that the assembled document correctly reflects your submission.

[Submit early!]

Application Referral & Review

Receipt & Referral
Applications compliant with NIH policies are assigned to an NIH Institute or Center and to a scientific review group for evaluation of scientific and technical merit.

[Month 1 After Submission]

Peer Review
Applications undergo a rigorous two-stage review. The first level is carried out primarily by non-federal scientists, while the second is performed by Advisory Councils or Boards.

[Months 2-8 After Submission]

Pre-Award & Award Process

Pre-Award & Award Process
Applicants who have scored well submit "just-in-time" information. Final administrative reviews are conducted and Notice of Award documents are sent to successful applicants.

[Months 7-10 After Submission]

Post-Award Monitoring & Reporting
NIH monitors grants carefully. Active monitoring includes reports and correspondence from the grantee, audit reports, site visits, and other information.

[Duration of Award]

Workshop Outline

- **Introduction R research grants**
- **Overview application of R01 and R21**
- **Submission process**
- **Peer review**
- **Re-submission process**

Navigating the NIH landscape

→ Get Started

Learn the Basics

Learn how NIH approaches grant funding and how your research fits into our research portfolio. Make sure to explore the different types of grant programs offered at NIH, along with the eligibility requirements.

Plan Your Approach

Find and understand funding opportunities, ensure your research is original, understand your organization's internal procedures, and prepare to write a competitive application.

NIH's mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability.

The goals of the agency are:

- to foster fundamental creative discoveries, innovative research strategies, and their applications as a basis for ultimately protecting and improving health;
- to develop, maintain, and renew scientific human and physical resources that will ensure the Nation's capability to prevent disease;
- to expand the knowledge base in medical and associated sciences in order to enhance the Nation's economic well-being and ensure a continued high return on the public investment in research; and
- to exemplify and promote the highest level of scientific integrity, public accountability, and social responsibility in the conduct of science.

Researcher working with a microscope   *iStock*

My research is not clinical or has no direct disease application: is NIH for me?

NIH Institutes:
Find the best match for your research

NIH National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health

Search NIH

NIH Employee Intranet | Staff Directory | En Español

| Health Information | Grants & Funding | News & Events | Research & Training | Institutes at NIH | About NIH |

Home » Institutes at NIH

INSTITUTES, CENTERS, AND OFFICES

Institutes at NIH

List of NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices

Directors of NIH Institutes and Centers

NIH Institute and Center Contact Information

NIH Office of the Director

List of NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices

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 program offices include the Office of AIDS Research and the Office of Research on Women's Health, among others.

Quick Links

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		

Institute Research Priorities: Is your research plan in line?

Example: NIMH

| MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION | OUTREACH | RESEARCH | FUNDING | NEWS & EVENTS | ABOUT US |

About the Director | Advisory Boards and Groups | Strategic Plan | Offices and Divisions | Budget | Careers at NIMH | Staff Directories | Getting to NIMH

Strategic Research Priorities Overview

Research Priorities for Strategic Objective 1

Research Priorities for Strategic Objective 2

Research Priorities for Strategic Objective 3

Research Priorities for Strategic Objective 4

- Strategic Objective 1: Define the mechanisms of complex behaviors
- Strategic Objective 2: Chart mental illness trajectories to determine when, where, and how to intervene
- Strategic Objective 3: Strive for prevention and cures
- Strategic Objective 4: Strengthen the public health impact of NIMH-supported research

These Research Priorities are guided by workgroup reports including those from: the National Advisory Mental Health Council, such as the Behavioral Assessment Methods for RDoC Constructs Council Report; Opportunities and Challenges of Developing Information Technologies on Behavioral and Social Science Clinical Research, and the National Advisory Mental Health Council Workgroup on Genomics; the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee Strategic Plan for Autism Spectrum Disorder Research; the National Research Action Plan; the Prioritized Research Agenda for Suicide Prevention; and, the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative 2025 Report.

Questions? Please contact us.

Plan your application

Types of Grant Programs (activity codes)

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm

- Research Grants
  - (R series)
- Career Development Awards
  - (K series)
- Research Training and Fellowships
  - (T & F series)
- Program Project/Center Grants
  - (P series)

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/funding_program.htm

Research Grants: R01, R21, R15, R03

R01	Research Projects	Research Project
R03	Research Projects	Small Research Grants
R13	Research Projects	Conference
R15	Research Projects	Research Enhancement Awards
R18	Research Projects	Research Demonstration and Dissemination Projects
R21	Research Projects	Exploratory/Developmental Grants

R15

- Supports small research projects conducted by undergraduate and graduate students and faculty at institutions that are not major recipients of NIH research funds

- Limited to 300K over 3 years

- PI can not hold any other NIH grant as PI

R01 and R21

NIH Research Project Grant Program (R01)

- Used to support a discrete, specified, circumscribed research project

- NIH's most commonly used grant program

- Generally awarded for 3 -5 years

- No specific dollar limit unless specified in FOA (but advance permission required for $500K or more (direct costs) in any year)

- Utilized by all ICs

NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award (R21)

- Encourages new, exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early stages of project development. Sometimes used for pilot and feasibility studies.

- No preliminary data is generally required

- Limited to up to two years of funding

- Combined budget for direct costs for the two year project period usually may not exceed $275,000.

- Most ICs utilize

Prepare to Apply

Apply for Grant Funding

Prepare to Apply

Ensure all registrations are in place, get familiar with requirements, and choose which of the available submission options you will use.

[> 6-8 Weeks Before Submission]

Write Application

Obtain and complete application forms following provided instructions. Find information on developing your budget and formatting attachments.

Submit

Submit your application to NIH. Track and view your application to verify receipt and to confirm that the assembled document correctly reflects your submission.

[Submit early!]

Contact Program Officer: receive feedback for fit with institute, and receive input for fit with study section (more later)

Contact RASP: Start submission-process early (especially if co-PI or subcontract)

The sooner the better! >2-3 months

Write the application

Apply for Grant Funding

Prepare to Apply

Ensure all registrations are in place, get familiar with requirements, and choose which of the available submission options you will use.

[> 6-8 Weeks Before Submission]

Write Application

Obtain and complete application forms following provided instructions. Find information on developing your budget and formatting attachments.

Submit

Submit your application to NIH. Track and view your application to verify receipt and to confirm that the assembled document correctly reflects your submission.

[Submit early!]

Fixed Submission Deadlines

	New (A0)			Resubmission (A1)		
R01	February 5	June 5	October 5	March 5	July 5	November 5
R21	February 16	June 16	October 16	March 16	July 16	November 16

Major elements

- **Specific Aims Page**
- **Title**
- **Research Strategy**

- **Biographical Sketch**
- **Facilities & Other Resources**

- **Budget and budget justification**
- **Equipment**
- **Human Subjects /Vertebrate animals**
- **Select agent research**
- **Resource sharing plan**
- **Authentication of key biological/chemical resources**
- **Summary/abstract**
- **Project narrative**
- **Cover letter**
- **Letters of support**

Before you start writing:

- **Find the funding opportunity announcement and all relevant forms**
- **Use writing support tools**
  - NIH website (podcasts)
  - KSU CAS and RASP
- **Find what peer reviewers are looking for**
- **Are you a new (never had substantial NIH funding) or early stage (<10 years past terminal degree) investigator**
  - Receive special consideration
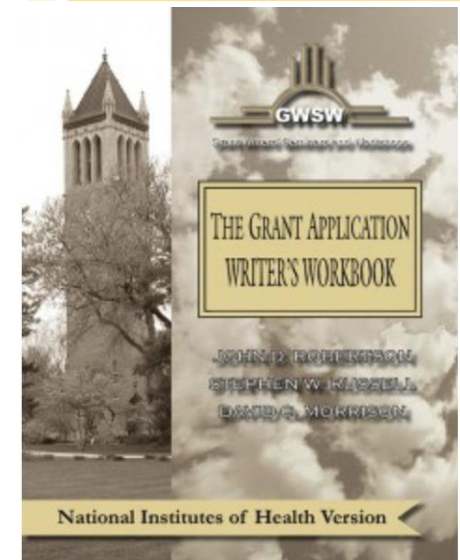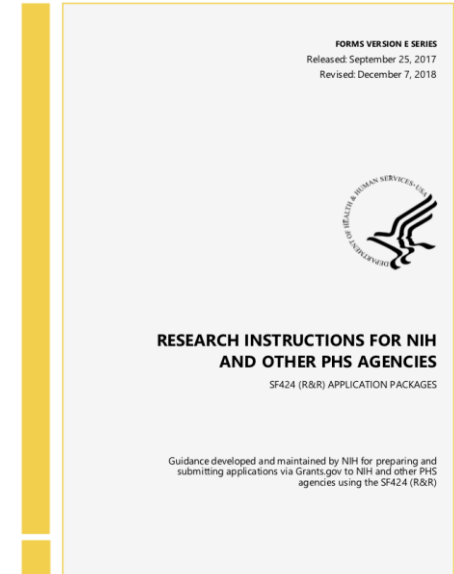
Write for success: Format and style

- **Follow the formatting instructions !**
- **Reviewers read on screen (and sometimes print)**
- **Section and subsection headings**
- **Paragraphing**
  - Use bold, underline, italic sparingly
- **Spare, simple, clear, direct style to tell your "story"**
  - Clear, simple declarative sentences
  - Brevitiy! (R01: 12 pages; R21: 6 pages)
- **Do not use clichés and "empty generalities"**
  - "state-of-the-art research is expected to advance the field significantly"
- **Avoid use of nouns as adjectives**
- **Avoid use of "weak" qualifying words**
  - if, try, hope, should, may,
  - Whether

Write for success: Time management and Feedback

Time management:

- Lead time before submission deadline
- Quality time wile preparing the proposal

- **Use a writing schedule**

- **Use set-aside time blocks**

Feedback:

- **Use a review network (feedback from experts)**
  - At all stages of the preparation (idea, specific aims page, research strategy, full proposal)

Note: contact CAS Writing Support

https://www.kent.edu/cas/develop-proposals

Title

- **The title should emphasize the product of the research (the pay-off, not the process)**
- **Maximally informative and convey the novelty of your idea**

- **Do not rush the title:**
  - take time and effort
  - to capture the attention of the reviewers

Specific Aims section (1 page)

- **THE most important page of your proposal**
- **Provides the conceptual framework**
    - Needs to include everything in your proposal that is important and exciting, but without details
    - Needs to have a flow of logic
    - Needs to convey the significance and innovation
    - Needs to generate enthusiasm from all reviewers

Specific Aims section

You will spend a very large portion of time on this 1 page (40-60% of grant writing time)

Introductory paragraph
- Frame the subject of the proposal

- **Opening Sentence**

- **Current knowledge**

- **Gap in knowledge/lack of something**

- **Statement of need and consequences of not meeting that need**

What, why, who paragraph
- Convince reviewer that results will meet the need

- **Long term goal;**

- **Overall objective**

- **Central hypothesis**

Specific Aims paragraph
- How you will test the central hypothesis

Pay-off paragraph
- Explain what is the return on investment
- Expected outcomes; positive impact

Research Strategy
R01: 12 pages; R21: 6 pages

- **Significance**
  - Importance of the problem or critical barrier to be addressed
  - Rigor of the prior research supporting the aims (published and unpublished)
  - Significance of the expected research contribution
- **Innovation**
  - Least understood of the five core-review criteria
  - How the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms
  - Describe novel concepts, approaches or methodology, instrumentation, or interventions or the advantage over current concepts, approaches or methodology, instrumentation, or interventions

Rigor and Reproducibility

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

HOME   ABOUT GRANTS   FUNDING   POLICY & COMPLIANCE   NEWS & EVENTS   ABOUT OER

g Reproducibility through Rigor and Transparency

Enhancing Reproducibility through Rigor and Transparency

The information provided on this website is designed to assist the extramural community in addressing rigor and transparency in NIH grant applications and progress reports. Scientific rigor and transparency in conducting biomedical research is key to the successful application of knowledge toward improving health outcomes.

Definition

Scientific rigor is the strict application of the scientific method to ensure unbiased and well-controlled experimental design, methodology, analysis, interpretation and reporting of results.

Goals

The NIH strives to exemplify and promote the highest level of scientific integrity, public accountability, and social responsibility in the conduct of science. Grant applications instructions and the criteria by which reviewers are asked to evaluate the scientific merit of the application are intended to:

• ensure that NIH is funding the best and most rigorous science,
• highlight the need for applicants to describe details that may have been previously overlooked,
• highlight the need for reviewers to consider such details in their reviews through updated review language, and
• minimize additional burden.

Guidance: Rigor and Reproducibility in Grant Applications

Learn how to address rigor and reproducibility in your grant application and discover what reviewers are looking for as they evaluate the application for scientific merit.

Resources for Preparing Your Application

Learn how to prepare a rigorous application with select excerpts of rigor from awarded applications, authentication plan examples, and resources like the experimental design assistant (EDA), guidance on sample size calculation, and more.

Training and Other Resources

Resources and training on many aspects of rigor and reproducibility, including sex as a biological variable, research methods, reviewer guidance and more.

Notices, Blog Posts, and References

We are continuously working to enhance scientific rigor and transparency in biomedical research. Learn more about the timeline of our efforts.

Workshop
December 11th
12-1 pm

https://grants.nih.gov/policy/reproducibility/index.htm

NT.EDU

Research Strategy

Approach:

- **Each Aim:**
  - Introduction
  - Research Design
  - Expected outcomes
  - Potential problems and <u>alternative strategies</u>
  - Timeline and benchmarks for success
  - Future Directions

Research Strategy

- **Consideration of relevant biological variables**
  - Sex: full consideration requires more than just inclusion of both sexes

http://www.womenshealth.northwestern.edu/sex-inclusion

https://orwh.od.nih.gov/sex-gender

Biosketch and Facilities

- **Normally not "score drivers", but extremely important to demonstrate likelyhood of success**

- **Biosketch**
  - Personal statement and contributions:
  - Demonstrate that you (PI) can lead this proposal to success and that you can manage the team

- **Facilities**
  - Demonstrate that your environment will contribute to success

Budget

- **Contact RASP as soon as you *think* you *may* be submitting (weeks ahead of deadline)**

- **Work with them on your budget as soon as you have a research plan**
  - Modular budget ($250 K/year)
    - Internal budget; can be restructured post-award
  - Non-modular budget (>250K, subcontracts)
    - Detailed itemized budget to reviewers

- **Budget Justification**
  - Budget must be perceived by reviewers to be appropriate for success of the proposed research

Coverletter: Choice of study section

WORKING WITH RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS (RASP) TO PREPARE YOUR PROPOSAL

Proposal Preparation Resources

- **Sponsored Programs will:**
  - Review Agency Guidelines
  - Develop Budget
  - Provide Assistance with budget narrative (financial language)
  - Compliance checking
  - Complete and provide assistance with forms
  - Electronic Submissions Support (FASTLANE, Research.gov, Grants.gov, Proposal Central, PAMS, NSPIRE, eBRAP, AHA, NMSS FLUXX, *and others!*)
  - Provide KUALI Assistance
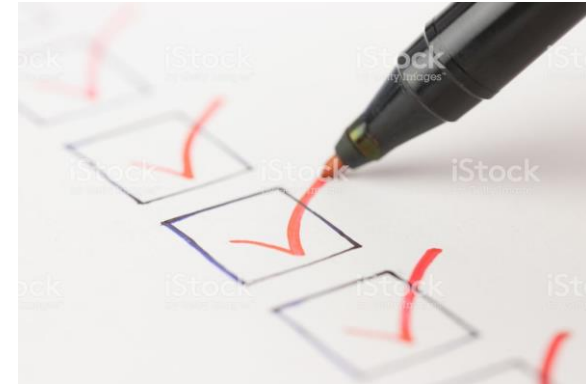
Sponsored Programs

Lori
Burchard

Beverly
Robertson

Diana
Skok

Mark
van't Hooft

Susan
Goehring

Monica
Morson

Angelina
Steiner

Charmaine
Streharsky

Susan
Tribuzzo

Kent State University
Steps to Ensure a Successful Proposal Submission

10+ Business Days Before Deadline

Principal Investigator (PI):
- *ASAP*: Contact OSP with intent to submit and provide necessary info (link to RFP, collaborators, subawards)
- Inform department/college of intent to submit proposal
- If applicable, work with responsible unit(s) for any cost-share on proposal

Sponsored Programs (OSP)
- Create Kuali proposal record and grant PI access
- If applicable, contact proposal subawardees for budget and documentation

PI & OSP:
- Review proposal guidelines
- Develop budget in Kuali

5 Business Days Before Deadline

PI:
- Complete Kuali tasks (questionnaire, science code, research designation, others as needed)
- All named personnel complete Kuali Certification

PI & OSP:
- Finalize budget
- Provide/upload documents as available

OSP:
- Review proposal for compliance with agency guidelines, institutional (and other applicable) policies
- Route proposal for institutional approvals

2 Business Days Before Deadline

PI & OSP:
- Finalize all proposal documents

OSP:
- Secure internal approvals
- Review final proposal
- Submit final proposal
- Review submitted proposal and submit updates or corrections as needed

PI:
- If applicable, log into agency system to view submitted proposal
- Contact Research Safety & Compliance for any special review

WWW.KENT.EDU

8/21/2018

Research Development

- PRE-pre-award
- Catalyzing people and ideas
- Team building
- Strategic orientation
- Resource and skills development
- Grant writing and editing

Researcher Success

Research Administration

- Pre-award
- Post-award
- Preparing applications
- Submission processes
- Award administration
- Compliance
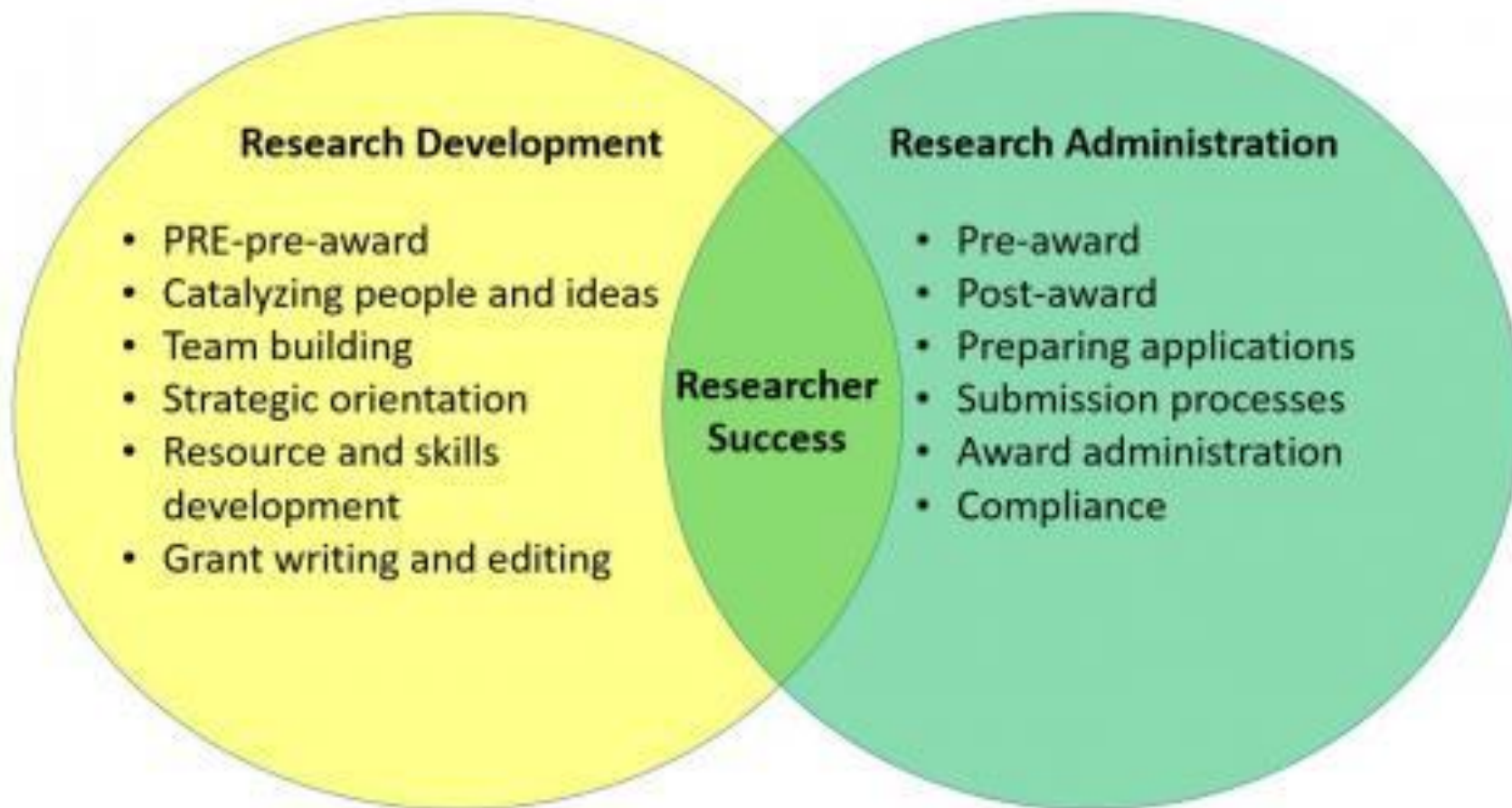
Research Development and Research Administration
Modified from Jill Jividen, University of Michigan, 2016 (copyright)

https://www.kent.edu/research/research-faculty-development

Ensuring High Quality Proposals

- **Team building/matchmaking**
- **One on One consulting/editing**
- **Internal review of proposals**
- **External review of proposals**
- **Resource library**
- **Passport to grant success program**

https://www.kent.edu/research/research-faculty-development

Passport to Grant Success – Pilot

- **Contact program officer**

- **Meet with OSP to discuss budget**

- **Seek internal or external review (at least 3 weeks before deadline)**

- **Submit 4 days prior to deadline to OSP; submit to agency 1 day before deadline**

- **$1000 into faculty incentive account**

https://www.kent.edu/research/research-faculty-development

I WROTE MY PROPOSAL, SO WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

Sponsored Programs (what do they do with it?)

- **Use Kuali to submit to Grants.gov**
- **Check compliance with funding opportunity and guidelines**
- **Verify completeness and consistency (budget justification, biosketches, etc.)**
- **Ensure all documents are loaded in appropriate format/font/naming conventions**
- **Any issue results in an error and rejection of the grant application**

Why it is important to not wait until the last minute

Subject FW: |ACTION REQUIRED TO COMPLETE SUBMISSION - Application Errors and Warnings

- **Sloppy grants get scored poorly: typographical errors and inconsistencies will result in a worse score**

- **For standard deadlines, RASP staff have a list of proposals they are submitting that day**

- **Other KSU researchers' grants are put on hold to submit one at the last minute**

- **Network slowdowns (internal and external)**

- **No time to address errors or to double check the assembled package**

MY APPLICATION WAS SUCCESSFULLY SUBMITTED, NOW WHAT?

CELEBRATE

CENTER FOR SCIENTIFIC REVIEW

- **Application will be assigned to a study section (you can request)**

- **Scientific Review Officer (SRO) assembles reviewers, identifies conflicts, and assigns 3 reviewers to each application (you can view meeting rosters – cite pertinent members)**

- **~3-4 weeks prior to the meeting reviewers get their assignments**

  - ~9 applications, mix of mechanisms and assignments (1st, 2nd, 3rd reviewer)

Reviewers

- **Provide an expert, thorough, fair, and objective review of the scientific and technical merits of applications**
  - Overall Impact – paragraph emphasizing score-driving strengths and weaknesses
  - 5 core review criteria – strength and weakness bullets
    - ➢ Significance
    - ➢ Investigators
    - ➢ Innovation
    - ➢ Approach
    - ➢ Environment

Score each criterion independently plus an overall score

	SCORE	DESCRIPTOR
HIGH	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding
	3	Excellent
MEDIUM	4	Very Good
	5	Good
	6	Satisfactory
LOW	7	Fair
	8	Marginal
	9	Poor

SCORED REVIEW CRITERIA

Reviewers will consider each of the five review criteria below in the determination of scientific and technical merit, and give a separate score for each.

1. Significance

Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? Is the prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project rigorous? If the aims 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?

- Focus on the <u>importance</u> of the research question, **assuming that all other aspects will be successful.** Any reservations you have about approach, investigators, etc., may temper your Overall Impact score, but the Significance score should be driven solely by <u>importance</u> of the question and the assumption that there are <u>no flaws</u> elsewhere.)

- Please be sure to specifically address **the rigor of the prior research.**

Strengths

-

Weaknesses

-

Significance

- **Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? Is the prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project rigorous? If the aims 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?**

Significance (continued)

- **Focus on the <u>importance</u> of the research question, <u>assuming that all other aspects will be successful.</u> Any reservations you have about approach, investigators, etc., may temper your Overall Impact score, but the Significance score should be driven solely by <u>importance</u> of the question and the assumption that there are <u>no flaws</u> elsewhere.**

- **Please be sure to specifically address <u>the rigor of the prior research.</u>**

Investigator(s)

- **Are the PD/PIs, collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? If Early Stage Investigators or those in the early stages of independent careers, do they have appropriate experience and training? If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? If the project is collaborative or multi-PD/PI, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance and organizational structure appropriate for the project?**

Innovation

- **Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?**

Approach

- **Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Have the investigators included plans to address weaknesses in the rigor of prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project? Have the investigators presented strategies to ensure a robust and unbiased approach, as appropriate for the work proposed? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? Have the investigators presented adequate plans to address relevant biological variables, such as sex, for studies in vertebrate animals or human subjects?**

Approach (continued)

- If the project involves human subjects and/or NIH-defined clinical research, are the plans to address 1) the protection of human subjects from research risks, and 2) the inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity, as well as the inclusion (exclusion) of individuals of all ages (including children and older adults), justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed?

- Please be sure to include a comment that explicitly addresses the level of scientific rigor (do they provide enough information to convince you they have a robust and unbiased approach?).

- For single-sex studies, you should consider whether the scientific justification is convincing to you.

Environment

- **Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?**

Overall Impact

Please provide an overall impact paragraph to articulate your assessment of the "*likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved.*" Your paragraph should:

- **Introduce the general objective of the project in one or two sentences**

- **State the level of impact the application will have and why (what is the major contribution/advance to be gained?).**

- **Identify the major score-driving factors that informed your assessment**

- **Explain how you balanced/combined/weighted the various criteria to arrive at the overall impact score.**

Considerations from the reviewer standpoint

- **As mentioned, 2-3 weeks to review a full slate of applications**

- **"Normal" work doesn't stop during this time, so reviews are done late at night and on weekends**

- **Very little, if any, tolerance for typos and poor English**

- **Style is important; figures; white space**
  - Consistency between components
  - Tell the reviewer why existing literature and proposed research is rigorous
  - Innovation bullets

Review Process

- **~1 week before the in-person meeting (study section), reviewers post their preliminary scores**

- **Read-phase – reviewers look at other reviews, focusing on discrepant scores**

- **Reviewers can change their scores if they are convinced by the other reviewers' comments**

- **End of the read-phase determines whether a proposal will be discussed (based on average score)**

Study section meeting

- **Reviewers arrive the night beforehand; start at 8AM**
- **Based on preliminary scores, the top half of proposals are scheduled for discussion: some exceptions**
- **Bottom half are non-discussed – you still get individual reviewer comments but no summary of discussion**
- **First reviewer presents the study and reasons for his/her score**
- **Second and third talk about what influenced their score**

Study section meeting (continued)

- **Following third reviewer, full committee discusses**
  - Unlikely that the remainder of the committee read the full proposal – Aims are critical
- **After discussion, Chair summarizes and revisits final scores of reviewers**
- **Best and worst score following discussion determine the range of scores for the committee to score between**
  - Opportunity to score out of range
- **End up with an average score of all members**

Post-meeting

- **Reviewers asked to edit reviews to be consistent with changes in comments**

- **Summary statements**
  - If discussed, SRO prepares a summary of discussion highlighting the major points of the discussion.

- **Depending on score you may be asked for Just In Time documents, or you want to prepare for a revision**

Revising your Proposal

- **Talk to Program Officer – they were able to listen in to the review**

- **Resubmit as soon as you can (but be realistic about addressing concerns) in order to optimize the likelihood of the same reviewers.**

- **Spend a lot of time on your Introduction to Resubmission**

Introduction to Resubmission

- **1-page to respond to 12 pages of reviewer comments**

- **Many styles**
  - Highlight acknowledged strengths in prior version
  - Not always able to provide a point by point response: Identify common concerns
  - Identify changes in document with line in the margin
  - Be polite, "we weren't clear…"
  - OK to argue a response but do so in a very respectful and well-defended way

Contact Information

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