Extramurally-Funded Sponsored Projects to Support Research Activities: Best Practices for Competitive Applications

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.
Dept. of Medicine
College of Physicians and Surgeons
Columbia University

Course: “Funding and Grantsmanship for Research and Career Development Activities”

http://grantscourse.columbia.edu/
Course Policies:

Please, No:

- Recording of Presentation
- Screen Shots of Presentation
- Posting to Social Media
- Sharing of Course Material with those Outside of Course

Thanks, Jaime Rubin
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Code(s)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Announcement Number</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R01</td>
<td>NIH Research Project Grant <strong>(Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)</strong></td>
<td>PA-20-185</td>
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<tr>
<td>R01</td>
<td>Research Project Grant <strong>(Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)</strong></td>
<td>PA-20-184</td>
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<td>R01</td>
<td>Research Project Grant <strong>(Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)</strong></td>
<td>PA-20-183</td>
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</table>

**Expiration Date**

**New Date** May 8, 2024 per issuance of NOT-OD-23-105. (Original Expiration Date: May 8, 2023)
**Parent Announcements (For Unsolicited or Investigator-Initiated Applications)**

Not all NIH Institutes and Centers participate on all parent announcements. Before submitting your application, make sure the NIH Institute or Center that might be interested in your research is listed as a participating organization in the announcement.

### Research (R) Announcements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R21</th>
<th>NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)</th>
<th>PA-20-195</th>
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**Expiration Date**

New Date May 8, 2024 per issuance of NOT-OD-23-105. (Original Expiration Date: May 8, 2023)

| R21 | NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required) | PA-20-196 |

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/parent_announcements.htm
Topics to be Discussed

- Common Problems and “Why are Proposals Turned Down?”
- NIH’s Grant Review Scoring System
- NIH’s Grant Review Criteria
- Overview of the NIH R01 Funding Mechanisms
- Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application
Topics to be Discussed

- Common Problems and “Why are Proposals Turned Down?”
- NIH’s Grant Review Scoring System
- NIH’s Grant Review Criteria
- Overview of the NIH R01 Funding Mechanisms
- Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

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Common Proposal Problems

- **Title**
  - Too long
  - Confusing
  - Cute but distracting
  - Not program related

- **Cover Page**
  - Does not follow format precisely
  - Does not include all necessary information
Abstract

- Not comprehensive
- Omits significant elements
- Poor grammar or spelling
- Too long
- “Cut and Paste” job

Table of Contents

- Not included
- Inaccurate pagination
- Not informative

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School Description

- Irrelevant information
- Does not lead reader to proposal objectives
- Good history: *so what?*
- Too long

Statement of Need

- Deals with *wants, not needs*
- No documentation
- Unrelated to objectives/outcomes desired
- Problem already solved
- Not supported by *current research*
- **Objectives/Outcomes**
  - Not **clear**
  - Too **ambitious**
  - Omitted
  - Procedures rather than objectives

- **Innovation**
  - Not **new or innovative**
  - Attempt to justify **new equipment/materials**
  - Not clearly **described**
Task/Activity Plan

- Insufficient detail
- Tasks not related to objectives
- Tasks not justified by needs
- Time and task charts not included
- Responsibilities not clear
- Does not address contingency plans

Evaluation of Project Progress

- Unrelated to objectives
- Unrelated to innovation
- Uses outmoded or inaccurate methods

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Project Staffing

- No identification of responsibilities and roles
- No documentation of competence (e.g., biosketches)
- No indication of time and effort for each individual contributing to project

Budget

- Unrelated to activities proposed
- Little or no contribution from institution
- Amounts not supported by proposal
- Budget justification missing
- Categories not those of funding agency
- Budget cannot be sustained after project ends
• **Collaborative Efforts**
  - Names and responsibilities of all involved in proposal not identified
  - No identification of institutions involved

• **Review of Literature**
  - Unrelated to needs, objectives, innovations
  - Does not lead reader to proposed project
  - Dated material
  - Should not be a review article
Why Are Proposals Turned Down?

Research Plan

- The problem is trivial or is unlikely to produce new or useful information.
- The proposed research is based on a hypothesis that rests on doubtful, unsound or insufficient evidence (rigor of prior research).
- The proposal is more complex than the applicant realizes.
The problem is **local** in significance, production, or control, or otherwise fails to fall clearly in the mainstream of the discipline.

The problem is **intellectually premature** - only a pilot study.

The problem as proposed is **overly involved** with **too many elements** required to be investigated simultaneously.

The description of the research leaves the proposal nebulous, diffuse, and **without a clear aim** – **not focused**.
Investigator

- Investigator does not have experience or training for the proposed research.
- Investigator appears to be unfamiliar with pertinent literature or methods, or both.
- Investigator's previously published work in the field does not inspire confidence.
- Investigator relies too heavily, or insufficiently, on experienced associates.
- Other responsibilities prevent investigator from devoting sufficient time to this project.
Resources & Environment

- Available equipment is unsuited to the research.
- Access to core facility or “special” research resource is not documented.
- Institutional setting unfavorable.
Research Design and Methodology

- The proposed methodology, including tests and procedures, are unsuited to the objective.
- The proposed methodology is beyond the competence of the investigator.
- The overall design is not carefully thought out.
- Statistical aspects are not given sufficient consideration.
- **Approach** lacks imagination or originality.

- **Controls** are either inadequately conceived or described.

- **Study design** is not rigorous.

- Proposed **material for research** is unsuited or difficult to obtain.

- The **number of observations** proposed is unsuitable.

- “**Rigor and Reproducibility**”

Additional Problems

- Requirements for equipment, personnel or time are unrealistic.
- Current research grants are adequate in scope and funding to cover the proposed research.
- Poor previous research productivity.
Topics to be Discussed

- Common Problems and “Why are Proposals Turned Down?”
- NIH’s Grant Review Scoring System
- NIH’s Grant Review Criteria
- Overview of the NIH R01 Funding Mechanisms
- Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application
# NIH's Evaluation/Scoring System

9-point rating scale (1=exceptional; 9=poor)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Strengths/Weaknesses</th>
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<td>High Impact</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate Impact</td>
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<td>Good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Impact</td>
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<td>Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Marginal</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Poor</td>
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</table>

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

**Minor Weakness:** An easily addressable weakness that does not substantially lessen impact

**Moderate Weakness:** A weakness that lessens impact

**Major Weakness:** A weakness that severely limits impact
Research Applications

Overall Impact:
The likelihood for a project to exert a **sustained, powerful** influence on research field(s) involved

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>High</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Low</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
<td>4 5 6</td>
<td>7 8 9</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Evaluating Overall Impact:
Consider the 5 criteria: significance, investigator, innovation, approach, environment (weighted based on reviewer’s judgment) and other score influences, e.g. human subjects, animal welfare, inclusion plans, and biohazards

- e.g. Applications are addressing a problem of **high importance/interest** in the field. May have some or no weaknesses.
- e.g. Applications may be addressing a problem of **high** importance in the field, but weaknesses in the criteria bring down the overall impact to medium.
- e.g. Applications may be addressing a problem of **moderate/high** importance in the field, but weaknesses in the criteria bring down the overall impact to low.
- e.g. Applications may be addressing a problem of **low or no** importance in the field, with some or no weaknesses.

5 is a good medium-impact application, and the entire scale (1-9) should always be considered.

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Impact Score

- **Preliminary Impact Scores** determine which applications discussed at study section
- **Impact Score given by each member** of the study section
- **Overall Impact Score** (for discussed applications): Mean of reviewers’ Impact Scores \( \times 10 \)
- 81 possible overall Impact Scores
  (10 – 90, whole numbers)
## Calculating Percentile

<table>
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<th>Rank</th>
<th>Impact Score</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
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</table>

Percentile Value Calculation

- Relative rank for each priority score on a scale from 10 to 90.
- Follows NIH convention: Inverse relationship of priority score to scientific merit - lowest percentile value represents the highest scientific merit
- Specifies the percent of applications with scores equal to or better than (lower impact score) the application

\[ P = \frac{100}{N} \times (k^{-\frac{1}{2}}) \]

- \( P = \) Percentile Value
- \( k = \) Numerical Rank of Impact Score
- \( N = \) Total number of applications
Calculating Percentile

80 applications*, 14 of which were not recommended for further consideration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Impact Score</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Rank = 3
P = 100/80 x (3^{\frac{1}{2}}) = 3.1

* Study section’s last three review cycles

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### NIAID Paylines for FY 2024

These paylines are for investigator-initiated applications reviewed for the September 2023, January 2024, and June 2024 Council meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Type</th>
<th>Payline</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R01 (non-new PIs)</td>
<td>8 percentile</td>
<td>Interim</td>
<td>Research Projects for established investigators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R01 (new PIs)</td>
<td>12 percentile</td>
<td>Interim</td>
<td>Research Projects for new and early-stage investigators</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/niaid-paylines

NHLBI: Payline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Program</th>
<th>Grant Program Description</th>
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<th>Priority Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>R01</td>
<td>Research Project Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>R01 ESI</td>
<td>Early Stage Investigators</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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FY2023

https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/current-operating-guidelines

Topics to be Discussed

- Common Problems and “Why are Proposals Turned Down?”
- NIH’s Grant Review Scoring System
- NIH’s Grant Review Criteria
- Overview of the NIH R01 Funding Mechanisms
- Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

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Initial Review Group or Study Section

Actions

- **Discussed applications:**
  - Receives Impact/Priority Scores
  - Receives Scores for individual core review criteria

- **Not Discussed:**
  - Receives Scores for individual core review criteria

- **Not Recommended for Further Consideration (NRFC)**

- **Other:** e.g., Deferred
current criteria derive from multiple regulations; changes that conform to them well are more feasible than those that don’t. The Code of Federal Regulations (42 C.F.R. Part 52h.8) requires that research project applications be evaluated based on significance, investigators, innovation, approach, and environment. Protections for humans, animals, and the environment, adequacy of inclusion plans, and budget must be evaluated. The “21st Century Cures” Act (Public Law 114-255) requires attention to rigor and reproducibility and aspects of clinical trials. That said, there is room for improved implementation.”
NIH's Review Criteria

- **Overall Impact Score**
  - “Reviewers will provide an overall impact score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved”
  - (using five core review criteria, and additional review criteria)
  - “An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact.”

- **Core Review Criteria**
  A separate score is given for each

---

For Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (PA-20-185)
Check individual funding announcement if applying to another

NIH's Review Criteria

Core Review Criteria
A separate score is given for each for each.

(A) Significance
(B) Investigators
(C) Innovation
(D) Approach
(E) Environment
Separate Scores for the 5 Individual Criteria

- All applications receive scores (even those not discussed at study section)
- Individually reported in summary statement
- Major strengths and weaknesses that influenced the overall impact/priority score - ¼ page per criterion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. <strong>Significance</strong></th>
<th>Please limit text to ¼ page</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strengths</strong></td>
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<td>●</td>
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<td><strong>Weaknesses</strong></td>
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NIH Research Grant Applications: Changes

- Applications deadlines **on/after January 25, 2019**

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<th>Section</th>
<th>Heading</th>
<th>Current language</th>
<th>Revised language</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Plan</td>
<td>Research Strategy</td>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>Describe the scientific premise for the proposed project, including consideration of the strengths and weaknesses of published research or preliminary data crucial to the support of your application.</td>
<td>Describe the strengths and weaknesses in the rigor of the prior research (both published and unpublished) that serves as the key support for the proposed project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information</td>
<td>Section 2 – Study Population Characteristics</td>
<td>2.4 Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children</td>
<td>2. Inclusion of Children [References to the Inclusion of Children in Clinical Research policy]</td>
<td>2. Inclusion Across the Lifespan [References to Inclusion of Children replaced with Inclusion Across the Lifespan]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notice Number:** NOT-OD-18-228


(A) Significance:

(1) “Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field?  
(2) Is the prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project rigorous?  
(3) If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved?  
(4) How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?”

NIH's Review Criteria

(B) Investigators:

(1) “Are the PD(s)/PI(s), collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project?

(2) If Early Stage Investigators or those in the early stages of independent careers, do they have appropriate experience and training?

(3) If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)?

(4) 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?”

NIH's Review Criteria

(C) Innovation:

(1) “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?

(2) Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense?

(3) Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?”

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NIH's Review Criteria

(D) Approach:

(1) “Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project?

(2) Have the investigators included plans to address weaknesses in the rigor of prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project?

(3) Have the investigators presented strategies to ensure a robust and unbiased approach, as appropriate for the work proposed?”


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(D) Approach:

(4) “Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented?

(5) If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed?

(6) Have the investigators presented adequate plans to address relevant biological variables, such as sex, for studies in vertebrate animals or human subjects?”
NIH's Review Criteria

(D) Approach:

“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) inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity, as well as the inclusion or exclusion of individuals of all ages (including children and older adults), justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed?”

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NIH's Review Criteria

(E) ‘‘Environment:

(1) “Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success?

(2) Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed?

(3) Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?”

**Additional Review Criteria & Considerations**

**Additional Review Criteria** – Evaluated for the overall impact score, but not given an individual score

- Protections for Human Subjects
- Inclusion on the Basis of Sex/Gender, Race, Ethnicity and Age in Clinical Research; Clinical Trials, Single IRB
- Vertebrate Animals
- Human Embryonic Stem Cells
- Biohazards
- Resubmissions
  - Response to previous reviewers’ comments and subsequent changes made to the proposal
- Renewals
  - Progress made in the last funding period


Additional Review Criteria & Considerations

**Additional Review Considerations** - Not given an individual score and not considered for the overall impact score

- Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources
  - Plans for identifying and ensuring the validity of resources
- **Budget and Period of Support**
- Select Agent Research
- Sharing Model Organisms and other Research Tools (where applicable)

Guidance for NIH Reviewers

- Rigor and Transparency
- Sex as a Biological Variable
- Vertebrate Animals
- Human Subjects Section
- Clinical Trials
- Single IRB for multi-site studies
- Inclusion on the Basis of Sex/Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Age in Clinical Research

- Human Embryonic Stem Cells
- Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources
- Select Agents
- Resource Sharing Plans
- Budget Information
- Revision Applications


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## Guidance for NIH Reviewers

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<td>R and U Awards (Research Project Grants; R01, R03, R21, SBIR/STTR, etc. and Cooperative Agreements: U01, etc.)</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>K Awards (Career Development)</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>F Awards (Fellowships)</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>S10 Awards (Shared Instrumentation)</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>T Awards (Training)</td>
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### Guidelines for NIH Reviewers


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<tr>
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<td>R01 GUIDE FOR REVIEWERS (08/20/2019)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### NIH Research Grant Review Criteria: Changes

**Application deadlines on/after January 25, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Current language</th>
<th>Revised language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scored Review Criteria</td>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>Is there a strong scientific premise for the project?</td>
<td>Is the prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project rigorous?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scored Review Criteria</td>
<td>Approach</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>Have the investigators included plans to address weaknesses in the rigor of prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notice Number: NOT-OD-18-228**


**NIH Research Grant Review Criteria: Changes**

- **Application deadlines on/after January 25, 2019**

| Scored Review Criteria | Approach | 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 children, justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed? | 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? |

**Notice Number: NOT-OD-18-228**


NIH Research Grant Review Criteria: Changes

- Applications deadlines **on/after January 25, 2019**

| Additional Review Criteria | Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Individuals Across the Lifespan | When the proposed project involves human subjects and/or NIH-defined clinical research, the committee will evaluate the proposed plans for the inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity, as well as the inclusion (or exclusion) of children to determine if it is justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed. | When the proposed project involves human subjects and/or NIH-defined clinical research, the committee will evaluate the proposed plans for the inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity, as well as the inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals of all ages (including children and older adults) to determine if it is justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed. |

**Notice Number: NOT-OD-18-228**


Clinical Trial-Specific Review Criteria

FOAs that accept clinical trials will include additional review criteria questions in Section V. Application Review Information.

The NIH Announces New Review Criteria for Research Project Applications Involving Clinical Trials

Scored Review Criteria

Significance

Investigator(s)

Innovation

Approach

Study Design

Data Management and Statistical Analysis

Environment

Additional Review Criteria

Study Timeline

Notice Number: NOT-OD-17-118

Key Dates

Release Date: September 21, 2017

https://grants.nih.gov/policy/clinical-trials/review-criteria.htm


Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
Implementing Rigor and Transparency in NIH & AHRQ Research Grant Applications

Notice Number: NOT-OD-16-011

These updates focus on four areas deemed important for enhancing rigor and transparency:

1) the scientific premise forming the basis of the proposed research,
2) rigorous experimental design for robust and unbiased results,
3) consideration of relevant biological variables, and
4) authentication of key biological and/or chemical resources.

Updates include:

- Revisions to application guide instructions for preparing your research strategy attachment
- Use of a new "Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources" attachment
- Additional rigor and transparency questions reviewers will be asked to consider when reviewing applications

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm
Guidance: Rigor and Reproducibility in Grant Applications

NIH research grant and career development award application instructions and review language focus on four key areas:

1. The rigor of the prior research
2. Rigorous experimental design for robust and unbiased results
3. Consideration of relevant biological variables
4. Authentication of key biological and/or chemical resources
# Reviewer Guidance on Rigor and Transparency: Research Project Grant and Mentored Career Development Applications

## Overview: Research Project Grant (RPG) Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element of Rigor and Transparency</th>
<th>Section of Application</th>
<th>Criterion Score</th>
<th>Additional Review Consideration</th>
<th>Contribute to Overall Impact Score?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rigor of the Prior Research</td>
<td>Research Strategy</td>
<td>Significance and Approach</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Rigor</td>
<td>Research Strategy</td>
<td>Approach</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consideration of Relevant Biological Variables, such as Sex</td>
<td>Research Strategy</td>
<td>Approach</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources</td>
<td>New Attachment</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 AREAS OF FOCUS</td>
<td>WHAT DOES IT MEAN?</td>
<td>WHERE SHOULD IT BE INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rigor of the Prior Research</td>
<td>A careful assessment of the rigor of the prior research that serves as the key support for a proposed project will help applicants identify any weaknesses or gaps in the line of research.</td>
<td>Research Strategy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Describe the strengths and weaknesses in the rigor of the prior research (both published and unpublished) that serves as the key support for the proposed project.</td>
<td>➤ Significance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Describe plans to address weaknesses in the rigor of the prior research that serves as the key support for the proposed project.</td>
<td>➤ Approach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*See related FAQs, blog post</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Rigor (Design)</td>
<td>Scientific rigor is the strict application of the scientific method to ensure robust and unbiased experimental design, methodology, analysis, interpretation and reporting of results.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emphasize how the experimental design and methods proposed will achieve robust and unbiased results.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*See related FAQs, blog post, examples from pilots</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Biological Variables

**What Does It Mean?**

Biological variables, such as sex, age, weight, and underlying health conditions, are often critical factors affecting health or disease. In particular, sex is a biological variable that is frequently ignored in animal study designs and analyses, leading to an incomplete understanding of potential sex-based differences in basic biological function, disease processes and treatment response.

Explain how relevant biological variables, such as the ones noted above, are factored into research designs, analyses, and reporting in vertebrate animal and human studies. Strong justification from the scientific literature, preliminary data or other relevant considerations must be provided for applications proposing to study only one sex.

*See related FAQs, blog posts, article*

### Authentication

**What Does It Mean?**

Key biological and/or chemical resources include, but are not limited to, cell lines, specialty chemicals, antibodies and other biologics.

Briefly describe methods to ensure the identity and validity of key biological and/or chemical resources used in the proposed studies. These resources may or may not have been generated with NIH funds and:

- may differ from laboratory to laboratory or over time;
- may have qualities and/or qualifications that could influence the research data;
- are integral to the proposed research.

The authentication plan should state in one page or less how you will authenticate key resources, including the frequency, as needed for your research. Note: Do not include authentication data in your plan.

*See related FAQs, blog post, examples*
"The proposed changes will allow peer reviewers to focus on scientific merit by evaluating 1) the scientific impact, research rigor, and feasibility of the proposed research without the distraction of administrative questions and 2) whether or not appropriate expertise and resources are available to conduct the research, thus mitigating the undue influence of the reputation of the institution or investigator."

Request for Information (RFI) on Proposed Simplified Review Framework for NIH Research Project Grant Applications
Notice Number: NOT-OD-23-034

NIH plans grant-review overhaul to reduce bias

Reviewers would no longer score researchers' expertise and institutions during grant evaluations for the US biomedical agency.

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
NIH's Review Criteria

Simplified Review Framework for NIH Research Project Grant Applications

Implementation

The Simplified Framework for NIH Peer Review will be effective for receipt deadlines on or after January 25, 2025 for the grants and cooperative agreements with the following RPG activity codes: DP1, DP2, DP3, DP4, DP5, R01, R03, R15, R16, R21, R33, R34, R36, R61, RC1, RC2, RC4, RF1, RL1, RL2, U01, U34, U3R, UA5, UC1, UC2, UC4, UF1, UG3, UH2, UH3, UH5.

It is anticipated that additional implementation details will be provided mid-2024.

- **Factor 1: Importance of the Research** (Significance, Innovation), scored 1-9
- **Factor 2: Rigor and Feasibility** (Approach), scored 1-9
- **Factor 3: Expertise and Resources** (Investigator, Environment), to be evaluated with a selection from a drop-down menu
  - **Appropriate** (no written explanation needed)
  - **Identify need for additional expertise and/or resources** (requires reviewer to briefly address specific gaps in expertise or resources needed to carry out the project)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

https://grants.nih.gov/faqs/#/simplifying-review.htm

Simplified Peer Review Framework

Five regulatory criteria reorganized into three factors

For due dates before Jan 25, 2025

(all considered in overall impact score)

- **Significance** - scored
- **Investigator(s)** - scored
- **Innovation** - scored
- **Approach** - scored
- **Environment** - scored

For due dates on/after Jan 25, 2025

- **Factor 1: Importance of the Research**
  - Significance, Innovation
  - Scored 1 - 9

- **Factor 2: Rigor and Feasibility**
  - Approach (also includes Inclusion and Clinical Trial (CT) Study Timeline)
  - Scored 1 - 9

- **Factor 3: Expertise and Resources**
  - Investigators, Environment
  - Valuated as appropriate or gaps identified; gaps require explanation
  - Considered in overall impact; no individual score
Simplified Peer Review Framework

Five regulatory criteria reorganized into three factors

For due dates before Jan 25, 2025

(all considered in overall impact score)

- **Significance** - scored
- **Investigator(s)** - scored
- **Innovation** - scored
- **Approach** - scored
- **Environment** - scored

For due dates on/after Jan 25, 2025

- **Factor 1: Importance of the Research**
  - Significance, Innovation
  - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 2: Rigor and Feasibility**
  - Approach (*also includes Inclusion and Clinical Trial (CT) Study Timeline*)
  - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 3: Expertise and Resources**
  - Investigators, Environment
  - Valuated as appropriate or gaps identified; gaps require explanation
  - Considered in overall impact; no individual score

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
Simplified Peer Review Framework

Additional Review Criteria (can affect overall score)

Additional Review Criteria Before Jan 25, 2025

- Human Subject (HS) Protections (for HS and CT)
- Vertebrate Animal Protections
- Bio hazards
- Resubmission/Renewal/Revisions
- Study Timeline (for CT only)*
- Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children (for HS and CT)*

Revised Additional Review Criteria

- Human Subject Protections (for HS and CT)
- Vertebrate Animal Protections
- Biohazards
- Resubmission/Renewal/Revisions

*Incorporated into Factor 2
Simplified Peer Review Framework

Additional Review Considerations (no effect on overall score)

Additional Review Considerations Before Jan 25, 2025

- Applications from Foreign Organizations**
- Select Agent Research**
- Resource Sharing Plans**
- Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources
- Budget and Period of Support

**Review shifting to NIH staff

- Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources
- Budget and Period of Support


Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.: http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
Simplified Peer Review Framework

Additional Changes

Inclusion criteria and coding (considerations of sex/gender, inclusion across the lifespan, race/ethnicity of the study population), study timelines for clinical trial applications, and plans for valid design and analysis of Phase III clinical trials, previously evaluated under Additional Review Criteria, will be integrated within Factor 2 (Rigor and Feasibility). This change will help to emphasize the importance of these criteria in evaluating scientific merit, rather than as issues of policy compliance.

Peer reviewers will no longer evaluate the following Additional Review Considerations: Applications from Foreign Organizations, Select Agents, Resource Sharing Plans. These considerations will instead be administratively reviewed by NIH prior to funding.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mechanism</th>
<th>NIH Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>Patron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Assistance, encouragement)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative</td>
<td>Partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement</td>
<td>(Assistance but substantial program involvement)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract</td>
<td>Purchaser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Procurement)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from: NIH (DRG) - Peer Review of NIH Research Grants Applications

Cooperative Agreements

Since cooperative agreement funding frequently involves a “network” of awards, there may be NIH Institute funding considerations [e.g., programmatic priorities, diversity of research subjects in clinical research (ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, gender, disease-related, geographic)] that are in addition to the “usual” NIH review criteria (e.g., Significance, Investigators, Innovation, Approach, Environment).

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
Cooperative Agreements

Example RFA: “Following initial peer review, recommended applications will receive a second level of review… The following will be considered in making funding decisions:

- **Scientific and technical merit** of the proposed project as determined by scientific peer review.
- Availability of **funds**.
- Relevance of the proposed project to **program priorities**.
- **Complementarity** to and **synergy** with other funded projects.
- **Programmatic balance** among diseases to be studied, healthcare settings, and approaches to be implemented.”
Cooperative Agreements

- “Ability to work effectively in large collaborative efforts or research consortia
- Public health importance of conditions to be studied
- Diversity of study patients, particularly with respect to inclusion of minority or underserved populations in the U.S., and relevance of proposed research questions related to diversity and health disparities
- Ability to recruit and study large sample sizes efficiently and cost-effectively
- Applicability of the proposed approach to other healthcare settings”

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu

Topics to be Discussed

- Common Problems and “Why are Proposals Turned Down?”
- NIH’s Grant Review Scoring System
- NIH’s Grant Review Criteria
- Overview of the NIH R01 Funding Mechanisms
- Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
NIH R01 Application

- Model for other NIH research
  (e.g., R03, R21, P01) applications
- Model for other research grant programs
  supported by voluntary health organizations,
  private foundations, and professional societies
R01-Equivalent, New (Type 1) Grants: Competing Applications, Awards, and Success Rates
## NIH R01-Equivalent Grants Success Rates - FY2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Competing Status (Type) and Submission Number&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>R01-EQUIVALENT GRANTS&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of Applications Reviewed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>New First Submission (A0)</td>
<td>24,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>New with Resubmissions (A1)</td>
<td>9,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Continuations (A0)</td>
<td>1,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Continuations with Resubmissions (A1)</td>
<td>1,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Supplements</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FY Total</td>
<td>36,198</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### NIH R01-Equivalent Grants Success Rates - FY2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Competing Status (Type)</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>New First Submission (A0)</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>New with Resubmissions (A1)</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Continuations (A0)</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Continuations with Resubmissions (A1)</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Supplements</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>FY Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>21.6%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# NIH R01-Equivalent Grants Success Rates - FY2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Competing Status (Type)</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>New First Submission (A0)</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>New with Resubmissions (A1)</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Continuations (A0)</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Continuations with Resubmissions (A1)</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Supplements</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>FY Total</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Research Grant (NIH R01)

- Supports a discrete, specified project
  - Specific Aims
- “Comprehensive” funding
- Modular budgets up to $250,000/year
- Multi-year
- Flexibility
- Most NIH-supported investigator-initiated research is through this funding mechanism

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
Research Grant (NIH R01)

- Funds research project
  - Salaries of PI and other research personnel
  - Supplies, reagents, etc
  - Animal costs
  - Patient care costs
  - Core facilities
  - Travel to national meetings

- Multi-Year (4yrs – 5yrs)

- Renewable
  - e.g., original grant + 2 renewals = 15yrs
Topics to be Discussed

- Common Problems and “Why are Proposals Turned Down?”
- NIH’s Grant Review Scoring System
- NIH’s Grant Review Criteria
- Overview of the NIH R01 Funding Mechanisms
- Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application
Key Changes:
• For NIH, as part of the implementation of the 2023 NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy, a new “Other Plan(s)” attachment field has been added to the PHS 398 Research Plan Form and the PHS 398 Career Development Award Supplemental Form. Applicants must attach the required Data Management and Sharing Plan in this new field in FORMS-H applications. See NOT-OD-21-013 and NOT-OD-22-189 for more information. Note: Although the 2023 NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy is not applicable to fellowship and institutional training grant applications, the new attachment field was added for potential future use with other plans
RESEARCH INSTRUCTIONS FOR NIH AND OTHER PHS AGENCIES
SF424 (R&R) APPLICATION PACKAGES
The PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan Form is used only for Training applications and Multi-project applications with an "NRSA Training" Component. This form includes fields to upload several attachments including the Program Plan, Faculty Biosketches, and Data Tables.

The attachments in this form, together with the rest of your application, should include sufficient information needed for evaluation of the training plan, independent of any other documents (e.g., previous application). Be specific and informative, and avoid redundancies.

Quick Links

Introduction
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section of Application</th>
<th>Activity Codes</th>
<th>Page Limits <em>(if different from FOA, FOA supersedes)</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Summary/Abstract</td>
<td>For all Activity Codes</td>
<td>30 lines of text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Narrative</td>
<td>For all Activity Codes excluding C06, UC6 and G20.</td>
<td>three sentences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Resubmission and Revision Applications</td>
<td>For all Activity Codes (including each applicable component of a multi-component application)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Aims</td>
<td>For all Activity Codes that use an application form with the Specific Aims section (including each component of a multi-component application)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biographical Sketch</td>
<td>For all Activity Codes (including DP1 and DP2 which previously had special page limits)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section of Application</td>
<td>Activity Codes</td>
<td>Page Limits * (if different from FOA, FOA supersedes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Strategy</td>
<td>For Activity Code DP1</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For Activity Codes R03, R13, U13, R13, U13, R21, R35, R36, R41, R43, SC2, SC3, X01, X02, R50, UT1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For Activity Code DP2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For Activity Codes DP3, DP5, G08, G11, G13, RC2, RC4, RF1, R01, R15, R18, R21/R33, R24, R28, R33, R34, R42, R44, R61/R33, SB1, SC1, SC2, UB1, UC2, UH2, UH3, UG1, UC4, UF1, UG3/UH3, UH2/UH3, U01, U18, U24, U2C, U34, U42, U44, UT2, X01, X02</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For all other Activity Codes</td>
<td>Follow FOA instructions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) instructions always supersede these instructions.*
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

SF 424 (R&R) APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE
SF 424 (R&R) APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

14. PROJECT DIRECTOR/PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR CONTACT INFORMATION
Prefix: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________
Middle Name: ___________________________
Last Name: ___________________________
Suffix: ___________________________
Position/Title: ___________________________
Organization Name: ___________________________
Department: ___________________________
Division: ___________________________
Street1: ___________________________
Street2: ___________________________
City: ___________________________ County / Parish: ___________________________
State: ___________________________ Province: ___________________________
Country: ___________________________ USA: UNITED STATES
ZIP / Postal Code: ___________________________
Phone Number: ___________________________
Fax Number: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________

15. ESTIMATED PROJECT FUNDING

16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?

a. Total Federal Funds Requested ___________________________
b. Total Non-Federal Funds ___________________________
c. Total Federal & Non-Federal Funds ___________________________
d. Estimated Program Income ___________________________

17. By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)

* The list of certifications and assurances, or an Internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

I agree

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.200-sf-424-(r&r)-form.htm
21. Cover Letter Attachment
Cover Letter Attachment

- Not usually required for R grants
- Administrative use only, not seen by peer reviewers
- Application title, PA or RFA title
- Special circumstances
  - Agency approval documentation
    - e.g., budget > $500,000
  - Subaward not active for all years
  - Proposed studies will generate large-scale genomic data
  - Human fetal tissue (HFT) obtained from elective abortions
- Not review assignment requests

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

PHS Assignment Request Form
PHS Assignment Request Form

Funding Opportunity Number:

Funding Opportunity Title:

Awarding Component Assignment Suggestions (optional)

If you have a suggestion for an awarding component (e.g., NIH Institute/Center) assignment, use the link below to identify the appropriate short abbreviation (e.g., "NCI" for National Cancer Institute) and enter it below in the boxes for "Suggested Awarding Components". All suggestions will be considered; however, not all assignment suggestions can be honored.

Information about Awarding Component can be found here: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs_assignment_information.htm#AwardingComponents

Suggested Awarding Components: ____________ ____________ ____________ ____________

Suggestions are considered with other assignment factors. Not all suggestions can be honored.

Study Section Assignment Suggestions (optional)

If you have a suggestion for a study section assignment, use the link below to identify a study section(s). Enter the short abbreviation for that study section in the boxes for "Suggested Study Sections." Remove all hyphens, parentheses, and spaces. All suggestions will be considered; however, not all assignment suggestions can be honored.

For example, enter "CAMP" if you wish to suggest assignment to the NIH Cancer Molecular Pathobiology study section, or "ZRG1HDMR" if you wish to suggest assignment to the NIH Healthcare Delivery and Methodologies SBIR/STTR panel for informatics.

Information about Study Sections can be found here: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs_assignment_information.htm#StudySection

Suggested Study Sections: ____________ ____________ ____________

Suggestions are considered with other assignment factors. Not all suggestions can be honored.

Rationale for assignment suggestions (optional)

Entry is limited to 1000 characters.

Up to 1000 characters:
PHS Assignment Request Form

List individuals who should not review your application and why (optional)

Provide sufficient information (e.g., name, organization affiliation) to correctly identify each individual.
Provide specific reason why an individual should not review your application. Information will be considered, but listing an individual does not guarantee they will not be on review panel.

Identify scientific areas of expertise needed to review your application (optional)

Note: Do not provide names of individuals

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<th>Expertise: Each entry is limited to 40 characters</th>
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Limit your answers to expertise. DO NOT enter the names of individuals you’d like to review your application.
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

PHS 398 Cover Page Supplement Form
PHS 398 Cover Page Supplement

OMB Number: 0925-0001
Expiration Date: 09/30/2024

1. Vertebrate Animals Section

Are vertebrate animals euthanized?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Answer required if Vertebrate Animals Used is Yes on the R&R Other Project Information form.

If "Yes" to euthanasia

Is method consistent with American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) guidelines?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If "No" to AVMA guidelines, describe method and provide scientific justification

Answer required if euthanasia is NOT consistent with AVMA guidelines. Up to 1000 characters.
1. Vertebrate Animals

If:

- “Yes” to “Are vertebrate animals euthanized?” and
- “No” to “Is method consistent with AVMA guidelines?”

Then:

- Describe the method of euthanasia to be used
- Provide a scientific justification

Will be reviewed by Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
1. Vertebrate Animals Section

Are vertebrate animals euthanized?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

If "Yes" to euthanasia

Is method consistent with American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) guidelines?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

If "No" to AVMA guidelines, describe method and provide scientific justification

3. Human Embryonic Stem Cells Section

*Does the proposed project involve human embryonic stem cells?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

If the proposed project involves human embryonic stem cells, list below the registration number of the specific cell line(s) from the following list: http://stemcells.nih.gov/research/registry/. Or, if a specific stem cell line cannot be referenced at this time, check the box indicating that one from the registry will be used:

- [ ] Specific stem cell line cannot be referenced at this time. One from the registry will be used.

Cell Line(s) (Example: 0004):

- [ ] Error if provided human embryonic stem cell lines are not listed at http://stemcells.nih.gov/research/registry/ at time of submission. Use NIH Registration Number (e.g., 0004, 0005). Provide up to 200 cell lines.
4. Human Fetal Tissue Section

*Does the proposed project involve human fetal tissue obtained from elective abortions?

[Yes □ No □]

If "yes" then provide the HFT Compliance Assurance

[Required if Yes. Cannot be included if No.]

Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment

If "yes" then provide the HFT Sample IRB Consent Form

[Required if Yes. Cannot be included if No.]

Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application
Project/Performance Site(s)

Where the work described in the Research Plan will be conducted

- Applicant organization (e.g., Columbia University)
- Collaborating institutions (subcontracts)
  - Domestic and foreign institutions
  - e.g., Additional patient recruitment sites
- Include “Facilities and Resources” on each elsewhere in the application
- Applicant organization also responsible for compliance
  - e.g., lab animals, human subjects, financial management

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https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.230-project-performance-site-location(s)-form.htm
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

R&R Other Project Information Form

RESEARCH & RELATED Other Project Information
1. Are Human Subjects Involved?  
   1.a. If YES to Human Subjects
      Is the Project Exempt from Federal regulations?  
         □ Yes  □ No
         If yes, check appropriate exemption number.  
         □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7 □ 8
      If no, is the IRB review Pending?  
         □ Yes  □ No
         IRB Approval Date: __________________________
         Human Subject Assurance Number: ______________

2. Are Vertebrate Animals Used?  
   2.a. If YES to Vertebrate Animals
      Is the IACUC review Pending?  
         □ Yes  □ No
         IACUC Approval Date: __________________________
         Animal Welfare Assurance Number: ______________
1. Are Human Subjects Involved

"If activities involving human subjects are planned at any time during the proposed project at any performance site, check "Yes." Check "Yes" even if the proposed project is exempt from regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, or if activities involving human subjects are anticipated within the period of award but plans are indefinite, or if the proposed activities include public health surveillance activities….

Whether you answer "Yes" or "No" to the "Are Human Subjects Involved?" question here, your answer will populate the relevant field in the G.500 - PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form...

Note on the use of human specimens or data: Applications involving the use of human specimens or data may or may not be considered to be research involving human subjects, depending on the details of the materials to be used. If you check "No" to "Are Human Subjects Involved?" but your application proposes using human specimens or data, you will be required to provide a clear justification about why this use does not constitute human subjects research. Follow the G.500 - PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form instructions."
Definition of Human Subjects Research

Decision Tool: Am I Doing Human Subjects Research?
The questionnaire is a tool to assist you with determining whether your project involves non-exempt human subjects research, meets the criteria for exempt human subjects research, or does not involve human subjects research.

Human Subjects Research Infographic
This resource summarizes the definition of human subjects research and provides examples of human subjects research projects. It also describes what you will need when you are preparing your NIH application and what is required if you are funded.

Exempt Human Subjects Research Infographic
This resource is a guide to simplify the understanding of the exemption for human subjects research.

Research Involving Private Information or Biospecimens Flowchart
Studies involving the use of human specimens or data may or may not be considered to be research involving human subjects, depending on the details of the materials to be used. Use this flowchart to help determine if studies involving private information or biospecimens may meet the definition of human subjects research.

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6. Does this project involve activities outside of the United States or partnerships with international collaborators?  
   [ ] Yes  [ ] No

6.a. If yes, identify countries:

6.b. Optional Explanation:
R&R Other Project Information:

6. Activities outside the US/
Partnerships with International Collaborators

If “Yes”, must include “Foreign Justification” under “12. Other Attachments”: “Describe special resources or characteristics of the research project (e.g., human subjects, animals, disease, equipment, and techniques), including the reasons why the facilities or other aspects of the proposed project are more appropriate than a domestic setting.”

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R&R Other Project Information: 
7. Project Summary/Abstract

“Succinct and accurate description of the proposed work and should be able to stand on its own… understandable to a scientific literate reader… be concise… State the application's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims, making reference to the health relatedness of the project (i.e., relevance to the mission of the agency). Describe the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals...”

30 lines of text

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R&R Other Project Information:

8. Project Narrative

“Describe the relevance of this research to public health in, at most, three sentences.”

R&R Other Project Information:

9. Bibliography/References Cited

- **Full citations** of all references cited in the Research Plan and the Human Subjects/Clinical Trials Information Form

- **Relevant** and **current** literature

- Citing **interim research** products is permitted (e.g., preprints, preregistered research protocols)

- No page limit

- Include **PMCID #** or **NIH Manuscript Submission Reference #** as required for articles that fall under NIH’s Public Access Policy (authored/co-authored by the applicant)
10. Facilities & Other Resources

- Facilities to be used for the conduct of the proposed research
  - Laboratory
  - Animal
  - Clinical
    - Research subject populations
  - Other: Core facilities [e.g. research pharmacy, biostatistics, technical cores (microscopy, biomarkers)]
  - Computer
  - Office

- Describe for each performance site

- Discuss how each Facility (unique features, if appropriate) will be utilized in the proposed research plan – e.g., capabilities, availability
R&R Other Project Information:

10. Facilities & Other Resources

- How will the scientific environment “contributes to the probability of success (e.g., institutional support, physical resources, intellectual rapport)?”

- Discuss how “the proposed studies will benefit from unique features of the scientific environment” (subject populations, collaborative arrangements)

- Facilities for research involving biohazards or other potentially dangerous substances
R&R Other Project Information:

10. Facilities & Other Resources

■ Early Stage Investigators:
  ■ “Describe institutional investment in the success of the investigator…
    ■ resources for classes, travel, training;
    ■ collegial support such as career enrichment programs, assistance and guidance in the supervision of trainees involved with the ESI’s project, and availability of organized peer groups;
    ■ logistical support such as administrative management and oversight and best practices training;
    ■ financial support such as protected time for research with salary support.”
### RESEARCH & RELATED Other Project Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>7. Project Summary/Abstract</td>
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<td>9. Bibliography &amp; References Cited</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Facilities &amp; Other Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Other Attachments</td>
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</table>
R&R Other Project Information:

11. Equipment

- Major items of equipment available for project
- Relevant capabilities
- Especially important if specialized, unusual, or expensive instrumentation is involved in the study
- Core/Shared facilities “housing” equipment
Review specific Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to see if any “Other Attachments” are to be included.
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

PHS 398 Research Plan
# PHS 398 Research Plan

## Introduction
1. Introduction to Application (for Resubmission and Revision applications)

## Research Plan Section
2. Specific Aims
3. *Research Strategy*
4. Progress Report Publication List

## Other Research Plan Section
5. Vertebrate Animals
6. Select Agent Research
7. Multiple PD/PI Leadership Plan
8. Consortium/Contractual Arrangements
9. Letters of Support
10. Resource Sharing Plan(s)
11. Other Plan(s)
12. Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources

## Appendix
13. Appendix

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**https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.400-phs-398-research-plan-form.htm**

Introduction

1. Introduction to Application (for Resubmission and Revision applications)

Add Attachment
**Research Plan Section**

2. Specific Aims  

3. Research Strategy  

R01: 12 pages

4. Progress Report Publication List
PHS Research Plan

Section 2 [Specific Aims]: 1 page
Section 3 [Research Strategy]: 12 pages

“Answer these questions:

1. What do you intend to do?
2. Why is the work important?
3. What has already been done?
4. How are you going to do the work?”
2. Specific Aims (1 page)

- State **goals** of proposed research
- Summarize expected **outcomes**
  - Impact on the fields involved
- List specific objectives
  - Describe **hypotheses** to be tested
  - Specific problem to be solved
  - Novel design to be created
  - New technology to be developed
  - Existing paradigm or clinical practice to be challenged
  - Critical barrier to research area’s progress to be addressed
- Can include a schematic **figure** relating Hypothesis and Specific Aims to scientific problem to be studied

3. Research Strategy

- If there is >1 Specific Aims, the Significance, Innovation, and Approach may be discussed for each Specific Aim separately, or all Specific Aims together

- “Overall strategy, methodology and analyses”
- “The PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form will capture detailed study information, including eligibility criteria; inclusion of women, minorities, and individuals across the lifespan; protection and monitoring plans; and statistical design and power.”
- Refer to Information in the Form - However, the Form cannot be used as a way to avoid Research Strategy’s page limit
3. Research Strategy

- (a) Significance
- (b) Innovation
- (c) Approach
- Includes Preliminary Studies/Progress Report

12 pages for an R01 application
6 pages for R03 and R21 applications
3. Research Strategy - (a) Significance

- **Importance** of the problem/ Impact on a **critical barrier** to **progress** in the field
- “**Strengths and weaknesses** in the **rigor of the prior research**” (e.g., preliminary data), published/unpublished, that supports the proposed research
- How “**scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice**” will be **improved**
- How the “**concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions**” will be **impacted** if research is successful
3. Research Strategy – (b) Innovation

- How proposal changes “current research or clinical practice paradigms”

- “Novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used” - advantages over current practice

- Improvements/new applications of current “concepts, approaches, methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions”
3. Research Strategy – (c) Approach

- **Overall** strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims’’

- “Plans to address **weaknesses** in the **rigor** of the **prior research**” that support the proposed research

- How will experimental design and methods lead to “robust and unbiased results”

- How “**data** will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted”

- Potential **problems** (**challenges/limitations**), **alternative strategies/approaches**

- **Benchmarks** (milestones) for success, “strategies to establish feasibility”, “high risk aspects”
## Timeline for Specific Aims and Benchmarks/Milestones of Research Progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmarks/ Milestones</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>Summary of Specific Aim 1a</td>
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<td>Summary of Specific Aim 3</td>
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# Timeline for Specific Aims and Benchmarks/Milestones of Research Progress

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<td>Summary of Specific Aim 3</td>
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Specific Aims: Milestones

Specific Aim 1a Milestone:

Specific Aim 1b Milestone #1:

Specific Aim 1b Milestone #2:

Specific Aim 2a Milestone #1:

Specific Aim 2a Milestone #2:

Specific Aim 2b Milestone #1:

Specific Aim 2b Milestone #2:

Specific Aim 3 Milestone:
3. Research Strategy – (c) Approach

- How relevant *biological variables* (e.g., sex) are incorporated into the research design and analyses. Studies with only one sex must provide strong justification.

- “Sex as a Biological Variable” is evaluated by reviewers.

- Involvement of *human research subjects* discussed here as well as in following appropriate sections.

- For *trials* with randomized groups/interventions, describe methods for sample size and analysis.

Reviewer Guidance to Evaluate Sex as a Biological Variable (SABV)

Main points

• NIH expects that sex as a biological variable will be factored into research designs, analyses, and reporting in vertebrate animal and human studies.
• Strong justification from the scientific literature, preliminary data, or other relevant considerations must be provided for applications proposing to study only one sex.
• This decision tree is meant to be used as a guide, but does not encompass the entire policy. See NOT-OD-15-102 for more information.

Reviewer Guidance to Evaluate Sex as a Biological Variable (SABV)

Does the study involve vertebrate animals or humans?\(^1\)

\[\text{NO}\]

No further consideration of SABV required; not considered a weakness
Reviewer Guidance to Evaluate Sex as a Biological Variable (SABV)

Is the study intended to test for sex differences?²

Yes

Is the design/analysis adequately rigorous to test for sex differences?

Yes

Acknowledgment as a strength in the critique and discussion and score accordingly

No

Acknowledgment as a weakness in the critique and discussion and score accordingly

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Reviewer Guidance to Evaluate Sex as a Biological Variable (SABV)

- Acknowledge as a weakness in the critique and discussion and score accordingly
- Acknowledge as a strength in the critique and discussion and score accordingly

- Is strong justification provided for the single sex study?³
- Does the proposal demonstrate plans to report data disaggregated by sex?⁴

- Are both sexes included in the study?
- Is the study intended to test for sex differences?²

3. Research Strategy – changes

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<td>Describe the scientific premise for the proposed project, including consideration</td>
<td>Describe the strengths and weaknesses in the rigor of the prior research (both</td>
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<td>of the strengths and weaknesses of published research or preliminary data crucial</td>
<td>published and unpublished) that serves as the key support for the proposed project.</td>
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3. Research Strategy – Preliminary Studies

- Aids reviewers in assessing the likelihood of project’s feasibility and success
- Helps establishes the competence and experience of PI and research team
- Helps demonstrate the availability of required “research resources” (e.g., patient population, access to unique animal models, reagents, databases or specialized instrumentation, etc.)


- For competitive renewal applications
Research Plan Section

2. Specific Aims

3. *Research Strategy

4. Progress Report Publication List

- **Complete references** of all “appropriate publications, manuscripts accepted for publication, patents, and other printed materials” resulting from the project

- Can include “interim research products”

- Include the PubMed Central (PMC) (PMCID#) or NIH Manuscript Submission reference number (NIHMS#) for publications that fall under NIH Public Access Policy
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</table>
5. Vertebrate Animals

1) **Description of Procedures**: In addition to description of procedures, identify “species, strains, ages, sex, and total numbers of animals”

2) **Justifications**: Justify use of species, why the proposed research could not be accomplished with an alternative model (e.g., “computational, human, invertebrate, *in vitro*”).

3) **Minimization of Pain and Distress**: ‘Describe the interventions, including analgesia, anesthesia, sedation, palliative care, and humane endpoints… to minimize discomfort, distress, pain and injury’.

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6. Select Agents

“hazardous biological agents and toxins that have been identified by HHS or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as having the potential to pose a severe threat to public health and safety, to animal and plant health, or to animal and plant products…”

Federal Select Agent Program:

http://www.selectagents.gov
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https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.400-phs-398-research-plan-form.htm

7. Multiple PD/PI Leadership Plan

Leadership plan must be included:

- **Rationale** for choosing Multiple PDs/PIs

- **Governance and organizational structure**, “communication plans, process for making joint decisions on scientific direction, and procedures for resolving conflicts”

- “**Roles** and administrative, technical, and scientific **responsibilities** … for each of the PDs/PIs and other collaborators”

- Distribution of **budget** and **resources** “to specific components of the project or the individual PDs/Pis”
7. Multiple PD/PI Leadership Plan

- Can strengthen a multi-disciplinary application

- Multiple PI’s do not need to be at the same institution.
  - Award document (Notice of Grant Award) made to the institution of the Contact PI
  - If other MPI’s are at other institutions, then they are funded via a subcontract from the Contact PI’s institution (prime)

- To meet the requirements for the ESI payline, all MPI’s must be ESI’s
### Other Research Plan Section

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8. Consortium/Contractual Agreements

- Provide a detailed explanation of “programmatic, fiscal, and administrative arrangements”

- If this component is “a significant portion of the overall project, explain why applicant organization,” not the subcontract, should be grantee

- In addition to official administrative and budgetary documentation from the subcontracted organization, a Letter of Support/Collaboration from the lead subcontract investigator is included as well as their NIH Biosketch

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.: http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
### Other Research Plan Section

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9. Letters of Support

- e.g., Consultants, Subcontract PI’s, Collaborators, Individuals providing special research resources, access to core facilities, Advisory Board member

- All letters in one single PDF file

- Many of these individuals will also provide an NIH Biosketch (different section)

- Key Personnel and Other Significant Contributors

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g-400-phs-398-research-plan-form.htm

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
9. Letters of Support

Not “Letters of Reference” from those not involved in the project

Should not contain information that should instead be in the Research Plan Section (Specific Aims, Research Strategy); e.g., Background, Significance, preliminary data, graphs, tables, other figures

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g-400-phs-398-research-plan-form.htm
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https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g-400-phs-398-research-plan-form.htm
10. Resource Sharing

- **Sharing Model Organisms**
  - If developing a model organism, describe a “plan for sharing and distributing” this unique model organism.
  - If sharing is impossible or restricted, provide reasons.

Model Organism Sharing Policy

Learn how NIH expects applicants to share novel model organisms and related resources generated with NIH funding or support.

ON THIS PAGE:

🔗 Why Share Model Organisms?
🔗 Policy Overview
🔗 Applicability
🔗 Definitions of Model Organisms and Related Resources
🔗 Interaction with other NIH Data Sharing Policies
🔗 Compliance
🔗 Sharing Plans
🔗 Sample Sharing Plans
🔗 Costs of Sharing
🔗 Intellectual Property

FAQs
10. Resource Sharing

- **Research Tools**
  - “sharing of unique research resources developed through NIH-sponsored research…”
  - “When resources have been developed with NIH funds, and the associated research findings published or provided to NIH, it is important that they be made readily available for research purposes to qualified individuals within the scientific community.”

Research Tools Policy

Explore how NIH expects funding recipients to appropriately disseminate and access research tools developed with NIH funding.

ON THIS PAGE:

- NIH Research Tools Policy
- Definition of Research Tools
- Principles of Disseminating Research Tools
- Dissemination Expectations
- Obligations to Other Funding Sources
- Limiting Exclusive Licenses to Appropriate Field of Use
- Prompt Publication Expectation
- Consistent Obligations to Share Materials
- Grantbacks
- Definitions of Materials in Agreements
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Sharing of Model Organism and Related Resources

Expand/Collapse All Headers

A. Definitions, Policy, Applicability, and Rationale
B. Considerations for Developers/Providers of Model Organisms
C. Writing the Sharing Plan, Review, and Progress Reporting
D. Considerations for Requestors/Recipients of Model Organisms
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11. Other Plans

- **Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan**
  - For specific application activity codes (e.g., R’s K’s)
  - Proposed “research that will generate scientific data”

- **Genomic Data Sharing Policy**
  - “research that generates large-scale human or non-human genomic data”
Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan

- **Elements to Include**

- Recommended to be no more than **2 pages**

- NIH optional DMS Plan [format page]

- Sample Plans available

- NIH [Institute](https://sharing.nih.gov/other-sharing-policies/nih-institute-and-center-data-sharing-policies) and Center Data Sharing Policies

- Notice of Funding Opportunity ([NOFO](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g-400-phs-398-research-plan-form.htm)) may also have additional requirements
Data Management and Sharing Policy

NIH has a longstanding commitment to making the results of NIH-funded research available. Responsible data management and sharing has many benefits, including accelerating the pace of biomedical research, enabling validation of research results, and providing accessibility to high-value datasets.

About Data Management & Sharing Policies

NIH encourages the sharing of data whenever possible. Learn about the 2003 NIH Data Sharing policy and the 2023 NIH Data Management and Sharing policy as well as how they apply to NIH funded research and data.

Planning & Budgeting for Data Management and Sharing

Find out what NIH expects in a Data Management & Sharing plan and what costs are allowed in a request.

Data Management

Proper data management is crucial for maintaining scientific rigor and research integrity. Learn about best practices for scientific data management.

Sharing Scientific Data

Under the NIH Data Management & Sharing Policy, investigators are empowered to choose the most appropriate methods for sharing scientific data. Learn more about methods for data sharing and selecting data repositories.

Protecting Participant Privacy When Sharing Scientific Data

Responsible scientific data sharing practices promote both effective data stewardship and protection of human research participant privacy. Learn about how to protect the privacy of human research participants when sharing data under NIH policies.
Writing a Data Management & Sharing Plan

- Writing a Data Management and Sharing Plan
- Submitting Data Management and Sharing Plans
- Data Management and Sharing Plan Format
- Elements to Include in a Data Management and Sharing Plan
- Sample Plans
- Assessment of Data Management and Sharing Plans
- Revising Data Management and Sharing Plans
- Additional Considerations

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- A. Policy Scope
- B. Managing and Sharing Scientific Data
- C. Considerations for Scientific Data Derived from Human Participants
- D. Compliance and Enforcement
- E. Contracts
- F. Budget/Costs
Assessment of Data Management and Sharing Plans

- “Program staff… will assess DMS Plans to ensure the Elements of a DMS Plan have been adequately addressed and to assess the reasonableness of those responses…
- During peer review, reviewers will not be asked to comment on the DMS Plan nor will they factor the DMS Plan into the Overall Impact score, unless sharing data is integral to the project design and specified in the funding opportunity…
- Although part of the official submission, when not considered during peer review the attachment is maintained as a separate “Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan” document… This document is viewable by authorized users and is not part of the assembled e-Application.”
11. Other Plans

- **Genomic Data Sharing (GDS)**
  - “Research that generates large-scale human or non-human genomic data”
  - Data derived from humans: “How the privacy, rights, and confidentiality of human research participants will be protected (e.g., through de-identification, Certificates of Confidentiality, and other protective measures)…”
  - Institutional Certification may be involved
Genomic Data Sharing Policy

About Genomic Data Sharing
Learn about NIH's GDS policy, how it applies to your research, and any addition expectations from NIH Institutes and Centers.

Developing Genomic Data Sharing Plans
Genomic Data Sharing (GDS) plans describe how the research will meet the expectations of NIH's GDS policy. Learn how to write and submit a GDS plan.

Institutional Certifications
Investigators working with large-scale human genomic data are required to submit an Institutional Certification to NIH. Learn about this important document and how to prepare

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.: http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
https://sharing.nih.gov/genomic-data-sharing-policy
**Other Research Plan Section**

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Implementing Rigor and Transparency in NIH & AHRQ Research Grant Applications

Notice Number: NOT-OD-16-011

These updates focus on four areas deemed important for enhancing rigor and transparency:

1) the scientific premise forming the basis of the proposed research,
2) rigorous experimental design for robust and unbiased results,
3) consideration of relevant biological variables, and
4) authentication of key biological and/or chemical resources.
12. Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources

- “Briefly describe methods to ensure the identity and validity of key biological and/or chemical resources used in the proposed studies”
- 1 page is suggested
12. Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources

- Key biological and/or chemical resources:
  (generated with or without NIH funds)
  - "1) May differ from laboratory to laboratory or over time"
  - "2) May have qualities and/or qualifications that could influence the research data; and"
  - "3) Are integral to the proposed research" [e.g., "cell lines, specialty chemicals, antibodies, and other biologics"]

- Standard laboratory reagents [e.g., common biologicals/chemicals] that are not expected to vary do not need to be included"
Limited listing of allowed documents, includes:
- “Blank data collection forms, blank survey forms and blank questionnaires... interview questions... Blank informed consent/assent forms”

Not permitted, includes:
- List of acronyms, larger versions of figures, publications

Additional items may be specified in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information
Definition of Human Subjects Research

Decision Tool: Am I Doing Human Subjects Research?
The questionnaire is a tool to assist you with determining whether your project involves non-exempt human subjects research, meets the criteria for exempt human subjects research, or does not involve human subjects research.

Human Subjects Research Infographic
This resource summarizes the definition of human subjects research and provides examples of human subjects research projects. It also describes what you will need when you are preparing your NIH application and what is required if you are funded.

Exempt Human Subjects Research Infographic
This resource is a guide to simplify the understanding of the criteria for exempt human subjects research.

Research Involving Private Information or Biospecimens Flowchart
Studies involving the use of human specimens or data may or may not be considered to be research involving human subjects, depending on the details of the materials to be used. Use this flowchart to help determine if studies involving private information or biospecimens may meet the definition of human subjects research.

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
**Human Subjects Research**

Research involving a living individual about whom data or biospecimens are obtained/used/studied/analyzed through interaction/intervention, or identifiable, private information is used/studied/analyzed/generated.

**Examples of human subjects research include:**

- Collecting blood
- Conducting a survey
- Changing participants’ environment
- Administering medicine
- Interviewing
- Administering a psychological test
- Collecting data
- Conducting a focus group
- Testing a new educational technique

**Included in the NIH application:**

☑ Protection of Human Subjects attachment
Meets the definition of human subjects research.
Exempt studies involve human subjects research: research involving a living individual about whom data or biospecimens are obtained/used/studied/analyzed through interaction/intervention, or identifiable, private information is used/studied/analyzed/generated.

Meets the criteria of one of the following exemptions:

**Exemption 1:** conducted in an educational setting using normal educational practices*
*Cannot include any other procedures, such as collection of clinical data or biospecimens

**Exemption 2:** uses educational tests, surveys, interviews, or observations of public behavior*
*Limited IRB review may be required.

**Exemption 3:** benign behavioral interventions in adults*
*Limited IRB review may be required.

**Exemption 4:** involves the collection/study of data or specimens if publicly available, or recorded such that subjects cannot be identified*
*May be identifiable in limited cases. See §46.104(d)(4)(iii) and (iv)

**Exemption 5:** research or demonstration projects designed to study, evaluate, improve, or examine an NIH public benefit or service program*
*Applies to projects that NIH itself administers

**Exemption 6:** taste and food quality evaluations

**Exemption 7:** storage of identifiable information or biospecimens for secondary research use. **Broad consent** and **limited IRB review are required**

**Exemption 8:** secondary research use of identifiable information or biospecimens. **Broad consent and limited IRB review are required**

For more information see the NIH OER Human Subjects Research website. Send questions/comments to OER-HS@nih.gov.

NIH Requirements:
- HS education
- Inclusion tracking for all except 4.

45 CFR 46 Requirements:
- Limited IRB review for 7 & 8, and some study designs under 2 & 3.
- Broad consent for 7 & 8.

Cannot involve **prisoners**, unless includes a broader population that happens to include prisoners.

Cannot involve **children** in:
- Exemption 2 if investigators participate in the activity being observed or includes identifiable info, OR
- Exemption 3.
Research Involving Private Information or Biospecimens

Are the biospecimens/information obtained from living individuals?

NO, individuals are NOT living

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES, individuals ARE living

Are the biospecimens/information:
- Human cell lines obtained from a commercial provider (e.g., ATCC), or
- Human cells about which all information has been published; or
- Unidentifiable biospecimens/information obtained from a commercial provider; or
- Unidentifiable biospecimens/information obtained from a provider that is prohibited from releasing identifiers by established regulations or policies

NO

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES

Were/will the biospecimens/information (be) collected specifically for the proposed research through an interaction or intervention with living individuals?

NO

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES

Can the recipient link the biospecimens/information directly to identifiable private information of living individuals?

NO

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES

Human Subjects Research

Can the provider link the biospecimens/information directly to identifiable private information of living individuals?

NO

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES

Human Subjects Research

Does the provider meet the definition of an “investigator” in the recipient’s research?

NO, the provider is “solely providing”

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES, the provider is collaborating in the recipient’s research

Are the biospecimens/information provided with a code linking them to identifiable private information of living individuals?

NO

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES

Human Subjects Research

Can the recipient readily ascertain the identities of the individuals to whom the biospecimens/information pertain? Examples of situations in which the recipient cannot link the biospecimens/information to living individuals include:
- the key to decipher the code is destroyed before the research begins; or
- the investigators and the holder of the key to the code enter into an agreement preventing the release of the key to investigators under any circumstances; or
- there are IRB-approved written policies in place preventing the release of the key under any circumstances; or
- there are other legal requirements prohibiting the release of the key under any circumstances.

NO

NOT Human Subjects Research

YES

Human Subjects Research

Please note: this document is intended to be a resource only. Final decisions should be made in accordance with 45 CFR 46.
The PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form is used to collect information on human subjects research, clinical research, and/or clinical trials, including:

- study population characteristics,
- protection and monitoring plans, and a
- protocol synopsis.

This form accommodates the full spectrum of all types of clinical trials, including, but not limited to, behavioral, exploratory/development, mechanistic, pilot/feasibility, early phase, efficacy, effectiveness, group-randomized, and others.”
**NIH Definition of a Clinical Trial**

“A research study in which one or more human subjects are prospectively assigned to one or more interventions (which may include placebo or other control) to evaluate the effects of those interventions on health-related biomedical or behavioral outcomes.”
“Use the following four questions to determine the difference between a clinical study and a clinical trial:

1. Does the study involve human participants?
2. Are the participants prospectively assigned to an intervention?
3. Is the study designed to evaluate the effect of the intervention on the participants?
4. Is the effect that will be evaluated a health-related biomedical or behavioral outcome?
“Note that if the answers to the 4 questions are yes, your study meets the NIH definition of a clinical trial, even if…

• You are studying healthy participants
• Your study does not have a comparison group (e.g., placebo or control)
• Your study is only designed to assess the pharmacokinetics, safety, and/or maximum tolerated dose of an investigational drug
• Your study is utilizing a behavioral intervention
• Only one aim or sub-aim of your study meets the clinical trial definition

Studies intended solely to refine measures are not considered clinical trials. Studies that involve secondary research with biological specimens or health information are not clinical trials.”
Regardless of your answer to the question "Are Human Subjects Involved?" on the G.220 - R&R Other Project Information Form, answer the following question(s) about the use of human specimens and/or human data."
Research Involving Private Information or Biospecimens flowchart

“Does any of the proposed research in the application involve human specimens and/or data?...

Note: Applications involving the use of human specimens or data may not be considered to be research involving human subjects, depending on the details of the materials to be used.

Provide an explanation for any use of human specimens and/or data not considered to be human subjects research...

If you answered "Yes" to the "Does any of the proposed research in the application involve human specimens and/or data?" question, you must provide an explanation for any use of human specimens and/or data not considered to be human subjects research...

This explanation should include:
• information on who is providing the data/biological specimens and their role in the proposed research;
• a description of the identifiers that will be associated with the human specimens and data;
• a list of who has access to subjects' identities; and
• information about the manner in which the privacy of research participants and confidentiality of data will be protected.”
A separate **Study Record** is included for **each protocol** involving human subjects proposed in the application.

Each Study Record contains the following sections:

- **Section 1** - Basic Information
  - e.g., Study title, Exemption Number, Clinical Trial Questionnaire

- **Section 2** – Study Population Characteristics
  - Including: Eligibility; Age limits; Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children; Recruitment; Inclusion Enrollment Report

- **Section 3** – Protection and Monitoring Plans

- **Section 4** – Protocol Synopsis

- **Section 5** – Other Clinical Trial-related Attachments

A separate Study Record is included for each protocol involving human subjects proposed in the application.

Each Study Record contains the following sections:

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- **Section 3 – Protection and Monitoring Plans**

- **Section 4 – Protocol Synopsis**

- **Section 5 – Other Clinical Trial-related Attachments**
1.4. * Clinical Trial Questionnaire

If the answers to all four questions below are yes, this study meets the definition of a Clinical Trial.

1.4.a. Does the study involve human participants?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No

1.4.b. Are the participants prospectively assigned to an intervention?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No

1.4.c. Is the study designed to evaluate the effect of the intervention on the participants?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No

1.4.d. Is the effect that will be evaluated a health-related biomedical or behavioral outcome?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No
# PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information

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PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information

- A separate study record is included for each protocol involving human subjects proposed in the application.

- Each Study Record contains the following sections:
  - Section 1 - Basic Information
    - e.g., Study title, Exemption Number, Clinical Trial Questionnaire
  - Section 2 – Study Population Characteristics
    - Including: Disease/Condition, Eligibility; Age limits, Inclusion of Individuals Across the Lifespan, Women and Minorities, Recruitment and Retention Plan, Timeline, Inclusion Enrollment Report
  - Section 3 – Protection and Monitoring Plans
  - Section 4 – Protocol Synopsis
  - Section 5 – Other Clinical Trial-related Attachments


Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
“NIH is revising its NIH Policy and Guidelines on the Inclusion of Children. Changes to the policy include (1) the applicability of the policy to individuals of all ages, including children and older adults; (2) clarification of potentially acceptable reasons for excluding participants based on age; and (3) a requirement to provide data on participant age at enrollment in progress reports…. This policy applies to all NIH conducted or supported research involving human subjects, including research that is otherwise "exempt"…. 
"It is the policy of NIH that individuals of all ages, including children (i.e. individuals under the age of 18) and older adults, must be included in all human subjects research… unless there are scientific or ethical reasons not to include them…

Applications or proposals for research involving human subjects must address the age-appropriate inclusion or exclusion of individuals in the proposed research project. Applications/proposals must include a description of plans for including individuals across the lifespan, including a rationale for selecting the specific age range justified in the context of the scientific question proposed. If individuals will be excluded from the research based on age, the recipient/offeror must provide an acceptable justification for the exclusion.”
## Inclusion Enrollment Report

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https://era.nih.gov/erahelp/assist/Content/ASSIST_Help_Topics/3_Form_Screens/PHS_HS_CT/Incl_Enroll_Rprt.htm

# PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information

## Inclusion Enrollment Report

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Source:
- [https://era.nih.gov/erahelp/assist/Content/ASSIST_Help_Topics/3_Form_Screens/PHS_HS_CT/Incl_Enroll_Rprt.htm](https://era.nih.gov/erahelp/assist/Content/ASSIST_Help_Topics/3_Form_Screens/PHS_HS_CT/Incl_Enroll_Rprt.htm)
A separate study record is included for each protocol involving human subjects proposed in the application.

Each Study Record contains the following sections:

- **Section 1 - Basic Information**
  - e.g., Study title, Exemption Number, Clinical Trial Questionnaire
- **Section 2 – Study Population Characteristics**
  - Including: Eligibility; Age limits; Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children; Inclusion Enrollment Report
- **Section 3 – Protection and Monitoring Plans**
- **Section 4 – Protocol Synopsis**
- **Section 5 – Other Clinical Trial-related Attachments**
3.1 Protection of Human Subjects

1. Risks to Human Subjects
   - a. Human Subjects Involvement, Characteristics, and Design
   - b. Study Procedures, Materials, and Potential Risks

2. Adequacy of Protection Against Risks
   - a. Informed Consent and Assent
   - b. Protections Against Risk
   - c. Populations that are vulnerable to coercion or undue influence and pregnant women, fetuses and neonates, if relevant to your study

3. Potential Benefits of the Proposed Research to Research Participants and Others

4. Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained
3.2 Is this a multi-site study that will use the same protocol to conduct non-exempt human subjects research at more than one domestic site?
- If yes, a single Institutional Review Board (sIRB) would usually be required

3.3 Data and Safety Monitoring Plan

3.4 Data and Safety Monitoring Board

3.5 Structure of Study Team (may be optional)
- Organizational and administrative structure
  - Administrative site(s), Data coordinating site(s), Enrollment site(s), Lab or testing site(s)
- Roles, Governance, Decision-making
A separate study record is included for each protocol involving human subjects proposed in the application.

Each study record contains the following sections:

- **Section 1 - Basic Information**
  - e.g., Study title, Exemption Number, Clinical Trial Questionnaire
- **Section 2 – Study Population Characteristics**
  - Including: Eligibility; Age limits; Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children; Recruitment; Inclusion Enrollment Report
- **Section 3 – Protection and Monitoring Plans**
- **Section 4 – Protocol Synopsis**
- **Section 5 – Other Clinical Trial-related Attachments**
4.1 Study Design
4.2 Outcomes Measures
4.3 Statistical Design and Power
4.4 Subject Participation Duration
4.5 FDA-regulated intervention?
4.6 Clinical trial under FDA Amendments Act (FDAAA)?
4.7 Dissemination Plan
A separate study record is included for each protocol involving human subjects proposed in the application.

Each study record contains the following sections:

- **Section 1 - Basic Information**
  - e.g., Study title, Exemption Number, Clinical Trial Questionnaire

- **Section 2 – Study Population Characteristics**
  - Including: Eligibility; Age limits; Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children; Recruitment; Inclusion Enrollment Report

- **Section 3 – Protection and Monitoring Plans**

- **Section 4 – Protocol Synopsis**

- **Section 5 – Other Clinical Trial-related Attachments**
Include if Funding Opportunity Announcement permits or requires

- **5.1 Other Clinical Trial-related Attachments**
  - Maximum of 10 PDF attachments is allowed
  - Provide only if funding opportunity announcement (FOA) specifically requests
    - Use requested file names
Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Form

RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)
Credential, agency login: NIH eRA Commons username - required field
Multiple Principal Investigators (MPI)

- The contact PI is listed first
- If there is more than one Principal Investigator, all are given the role of “PD/PI” (even if not at applicant organization)
- NIH does not use the term co-PD/PI

[PD = Project Director]
### RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

#### PROFILE - Senior/Key Person 1

- **Prefix:**
- **First Name:**
- **Middle Name:**
- **Last Name:**
- **Suffix:**
- **Position/Title:**
- **Department:**
- **Organization Name:**
- **Division:**
- **Street1:**
- **Street2:**
- **City:**
- **County:**
- **State:**
- **Province:**
- **Country:** United States
- **Zip / Postal Code:**
- **Phone Number:**
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- **E-Mail:**
- **Credential, e.g., agency login:**

#### Other Project Role Category:

- **Project Role:**

#### Attachments

- **Biographical Sketch**
- **Current & Pending Support**

#### Actions

- **Add Attachment**
- **Delete Attachment**
- **View Attachment**

---

Senior/Key Personnel

Senior/Key Personnel “are defined as all individuals who contribute in a substantive, meaningful way to the scientific development or execution of the project, whether or not salaries are requested… List individuals that meet the definition of senior/key regardless of what organization they work for.”

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.240-r&r-seniorkey-person-profile-(expanded)-form.htm
“Senior/key personnel must devote measurable effort to the project whether or not salaries or compensation are requested. "Zero percent" effort or "as needed" are not acceptable levels of involvement for those designated as Senior/Key Personnel.”

List alphabetically by last name after principal investigator.

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm#Senior/KeyPersonnel
### RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

**Profile - Senior/Key Person 1**

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**Attach Biographical Sketch**

**Attach Current & Pending Support**
### RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

#### PROFILE - Senior/Key Person 1

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**Credential, e.g., agency login:**

**Project Role:**

**Other Project Role Category:**

**Degree Type:**

**Degree Year:**

#### Attach Biographical Sketch

Attach Current & Pending Support

**Add Attachment**

**Delete Attachment**

**View Attachment**
Other Significant Contributors

- “contribute to the scientific development or execution of the project”
- **No committed measurable effort** - “zero person months” or “as needed”
- Listed after Senior/Key Personnel
- Can include NIH Biosketch
- e.g., Advisors

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm#OtherSignificantContributorsOSCs)
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Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Form

RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

Biosketch Format
Biographical Sketch

- For Key Personnel (e.g., PI’s, Co-Investigators, Collaborators), Other Significant Contributors, Advisors, Consultants, etc.
- Used by reviewers to assess each individual’s qualifications for their proposed role, in addition to the overall competence of the entire research team.
- [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm)
- No graphics, figures, pictures, tables, etc.
- 5 pages in length total
Biosketch Format Pages, Instructions and Samples

- Biosketch topic page
- FAQs
- Learn whether a particular activity should be reported in the biosketch, other support, or annual progress reports: NIH Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Other Support
- Format Attachments (fonts, margins, page limits, etc.)
- Related Topics:
  - Other Support topic page
  - Annual Progress Reports (RPPR)

Try SciENcv to help you develop your biosketch and automatically format it according to NIH requirements.

Note: Only the OMB Expiration Date has changed since FORMS-G version. FORMS-G and FORMS-H versions are both acceptable.

Updated Date
May 2023

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

I. General
II. SciENcv
III. Citations
IV. Contributions to Science
V. Biosketch Compliance

Featured Questions

Q: The Biosketch instructions state that all positions and scientific appointments must be provided. Does this refer to active positions and appointments, or all positions a researcher has ever held?

The Biosketch must include all current positions and scientific appointments.
ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:
During the review of this application, reviewers and/or NIH staff noted that one or more biosketches did not comply with the required format (NOT-OD-15-032). An electronic notification has been sent to the contact Program Director/Principal Investigator and Signing Official for this application, to ensure that future applications use the correct biosketch format. NIH has the authority to withdraw such applications from review or consideration for funding.
Biographical Sketch

Education Block: Education and Training

A. Personal Statement

- Why you have the expertise for your role in the proposed project (e.g., training, previous relevant experimental experience, technical expertise, collaborations, scientific environment, past relevant performance, etc.)

- Up to four relevant "research products" relevant to proposed project (e.g., publications, conference proceedings/abstracts/posters/presentations, databases, software). Citing interim research products is permitted (e.g., preprints, preregistered protocol)

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm
Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.: http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
Biographical Sketch

■ **Education Block: Education and Training**

■ **A. Personal Statement (cont.)**
  ■ “Contributions to Science” not included in Section C.
  ■ Ongoing and recently completed research projects (last 3 years)
    ■ Relevant to the proposed research
    ■ Other projects that you want to highlight for the reviewers
      (e.g., another large/complex project that you lead or had another significant role, high profile award)
  ■ “Impediments” to past productivity (e.g., family responsibilities, illness, disability, military service) (optional)
Biographical Sketch

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments and Honors

(most current listed first)

- Current positions/Scientific appointments (Domestic and Foreign)
  - “Including affiliations with foreign entities or governments. This includes titled academic, professional, or institutional appointments whether or not remuneration is received, and whether full-time, part-time, or voluntary (including adjunct, visiting, or honorary)”

- Professional experience
- Previous positions/employment
- Honors, awards, fellowships
- Professional achievements/recognition
- Advisory/Review committees
- Professional memberships
- Clinical licensures, specialty board certifications
C. Contributions to Science

Describe your most significant contributions to science (up to five), Not longer than ½ page

- Historical background of scientific problem
- Main finding(s) – Impact on the field/progress of science and/or the application to health or technology
- Describe your specific role in each “Contribution”
- May mention not yet accepted publications (not cited “research product”)
Biographical Sketch

C. Contributions to Science

- Reference up to 4 “research products” [e.g., publications, “interim research product” (with citation), abstracts, presentations, patents, databases, protocols, software]
  - May describe your specific contribution/role in “Contribution”
- May include URL to a full list of publications (not required)
  - If included, must be a federal website
  - NIH recommends “My Bibliography”
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors. Follow this format for each person. DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.

NAME:

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE:

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

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<th>DEGREE (if applicable)</th>
<th>Completion Date MM/YYYY</th>
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A. Personal Statement

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm
**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors. Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

**NAME:** Hunt, Morgan Casey

**ERA COMMONS USER NAME** (credential, e.g., agency login): huntmc1

**POSITION TITLE:** Associate Professor of Psychology

**EDUCATION/TRAINING** *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION AND LOCATION</th>
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<td>University of Vermont</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of California, Berkeley</td>
<td>Postdoctoral</td>
<td>08/2013</td>
<td>Public Health and Epidemiology</td>
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https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm
A. Personal Statement

I am an Associate Professor of Psychology, and my research is focused on neuropsychological changes associated with addiction. I have a broad background in psychology, with specific training and expertise in ethnographic and survey research and secondary data analysis on psychological aspects of drug addiction. As PI or co-Investigator on several university- and NIH-funded grants, I laid the groundwork for the proposed research by developing effective measures of disability, depression, and other psychosocial factors relevant to the aging substance abuser, and by establishing strong ties with community providers that will make it possible to recruit and track participants over time as documented in the following publications. In addition, I successfully administered the projects (e.g. staffing, research protections, budget), collaborated with other researchers, and produced several peer-reviewed publications from each project. As a result of these previous experiences, I am aware of the importance of frequent communication among project members and of constructing a realistic research plan, timeline, and budget. The current application builds logically on my prior work. During 2015-2016, my career was disrupted due to family obligations. However, upon returning to the field, I immediately resumed my research projects and collaborations and successfully competed for NIH support. In summary, I have the expertise, leadership, training, expertise and motivation necessary to successfully carry out the proposed research project.

Ongoing and recently completed projects that I would like to highlight include:

R01 DA942367
Hunt (PI)
09/01/16-08/31/21
Health trajectories and behavioral interventions among older substance abusers

R01 MH922731
Merrylee (PI), Role: co-investigator
12/15/17-11/30/22
Physical disability, depression and substance abuse in the elderly

R21 AA998075
Hunt (PI)
01/01/19-12/31/21
Community-based intervention for alcohol abuse

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm
Citations:

### B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

#### Positions and Scientific Appointments

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<td>2020 – Present</td>
<td>Adjunct Professor, McGill University Department of Psychology, Montreal, Quebec, Canada</td>
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<td>2018 – Present</td>
<td>NIH Risk, Adult Addictions Study Section, members</td>
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<td>Consultant, Coastal Psychological Services, San Francisco, CA</td>
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<td>Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO</td>
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<td>2013 – 2014</td>
<td>Lecturer, Department of Psychology, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT</td>
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#### Honors

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</table>
C. Contributions to Science

1. My early publications directly addressed the fact that substance abuse is often overlooked in older adults. However, because many older adults were raised during an era of increased drug and alcohol use, there are reasons to believe that this will become an increasing issue as the population ages. These publications found that older adults appear in a variety of primary care settings or seek mental health providers to deal with emerging addiction problems. These publications document this emerging problem and guide primary care providers and geriatric mental health providers to recognize symptoms, assess the nature of the problem and apply the necessary interventions. By providing evidence and simple clinical approaches, this body of work has changed the standards of care for addicted older adults and will continue to provide assistance in relevant medical settings well into the future. I served as the primary investigator or co-investigator in all of these studies.


# RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

**PROFILE - Senior/Key Person 1**

- **Prefix:**
- **First Name:**
- **Middle Name:**
- **Last Name:**
- **Suffix:**
- **Position/Title:**
- **Department:**
- **Organization Name:**
- **Division:**
- **Street1:**
- **Street2:**
- **City:**
- **County/Parish:**
- **State:**
- **Province:**
- **Country:** USA: UNITED STATES
- **Zip / Postal Code:**
- **Phone Number:**
- **Fax Number:**
- **E-Mail:**
- **Credential, e.g., agency login:**
- **Project Role:**
- **Other Project Role Category:**
- **Degree Type:**
- **Degree Year:**

**Attach Biographical Sketch**

**Attach Current & Pending Support**
Other Support

- Usually, not included with NIH research applications, unless requested in the funding announcement.
- Will be requested after peer review before an award is made, part of the “Just-In-Time” submission.
- Key Personnel only.
- Not requested for Other Significant Contributors.

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/othersupport.htm
Common Forms for Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support

- NIH has been working closely with the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other federal agencies on the Common Forms for the Biosketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support, as part of the U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Research Security Subcommittee.
- The Common Forms have been cleared by OSTP and OMB.
  - New forms are posted on the NSF website.
- Estimated timeline:
  - Common Forms (Biosketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support) Implementation: January 2025
  - SciE nv templates available: May 2025
- Reminder: Until the Common Forms are fully adopted by NIH, NIH requires applicants and recipients to use the current NIH Biosketch and Other Support formats for applications, Just-in-Time (JIT) Reports, and Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPRs).
  - Electronic signatures and supporting documentation are required.
  - Failure to follow the appropriate formats may cause NIH to withdraw applications from or delay consideration of funding.

Learn more: NIH GPS Section 2.3.7.12 and Guidance for Implementing National Security Presidential Memorandum 33.
Learn More: Biosketch FAQs & Other Support FAQs; Send inquiries to: nihosbiosketch@nih.gov
NIH: Upcoming Grant Application Changes

- New Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO’s) to be issued (e.g., Parent Announcements expiring)
- New application Forms (FORMS-I)
- New Biosketch template - Commons Form (1/2025), then SciENcv (5/2025)
- New Peer Review Framework (applications submitted ≥1/25/2025)

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Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

R&R Budget Form

RESEARCH & RELATED BUDGET
Budget Justification

- Complete
- Comprehensive
- Concise
- Calculated correctly
Budget - overview

- NIH and other agencies usually require **detailed budgets** and **budget justifications**

- Make sure that the requested **funding** ‘matches’ the scientific **project proposed**
  - Peer reviewers will be able to detect if:
    - The budget is **padded**
    - The budget is **insufficient** to support the project, evoking questions concerning how well the investigator understands scope of project

- Describe additional funding for project, if any
Budget - overview

- Categories are sometimes increased 2%-3% per year
  - NIH may not award (fund) “cost-of-living” increases
- **Equipment** is usually purchased early in the research
- “Unusual” changes in future years, which are a result of planned research activity (e.g., additional personnel, reduction in the number of patient care costs), should be “built into” the budget and explained in the budget justification
- Work with your Department’s research administrator!

Budget - categories

A. and B. Senior/Key and Other Personnel

- Salary and fringe; employees of the applicant organization
- Do not include Other Significant Contributors (no committed effort, no salary/fringe) or Collaborators from other institutions (will be included in subaward budget)

Budget Justification: Role on Project

- Identify role, does not have to be official university title
- Justify and describe specific functions
- Describe background and expertise as they pertain to role in this project

# RESEARCH & RELATED BUDGET - Budget Period 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATIONAL DUNS:</th>
<th>Enter name of Organization:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Budget Type:**  
- [ ] Project  
- [ ] Subaward/Consortium  

**Budget Period:** 1  
**Start Date:**  
**End Date:**  

## A. Senior/Key Person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>Last</th>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Base Salary ($)</th>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Fringe Benefits ($)</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Cal.</td>
<td>Acad.</td>
<td>Sum.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Role:** PD/PI

**Additional Senior Key Persons:**

- [ ] Add Attachment  
- [ ] Delete Attachment  
- [ ] View Attachment

**Total Funds requested for all Senior Key Persons in the attached file:**

**Total Senior/Key Person:**

## B. Other Personnel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Personnel</th>
<th>Project Role</th>
<th>Post Doctoral Associates</th>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Requested Salary ($)</th>
<th>Fringe Benefits ($)</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>Cal.</td>
<td>Acad.</td>
<td>Sum.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Graduate Students</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Undergraduate Students</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Secretarial/Clerical</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Number Other Personnel:**

**Total Other Personnel:**

**Total Salary, Wages and Fringe Benefits (A+B):**
Personnel

- Institutional Base Salary
  - Prorate for budget period
  - Take into consideration yearly increases for professional and support staff
  - NIH (and “sister” DHHS agencies) use a salary cap of $221,900/year (as of 1/1/2024)

- “Special” rules for some categories of personnel
  - e.g., Graduate Research Assistants (GRA’s), administrative/clerical staff

Salary Requested

- Usually, institutional base salary x effort on grant
- Usually, based on calendar months (federal grants)
  - e.g., 6 calendar months = 50% effort

Fringe Benefits

- Government-funded sponsored projects
  - Rate may change from year-to-year
- Non-Govt.-funded sponsored projects may have a fringe benefits rate different from the government sponsored projects rate
### C. Equipment Description

List items and dollar amount for each item exceeding $5,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment item</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

Additional Equipment: [ ] Add Attachment [ ] Delete Attachment [ ] View Attachment

Total funds requested for all equipment listed in the attached file

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Equipment</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

### D. Travel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Domestic Travel Costs (Incl. Canada, Mexico and U.S. Possessions)

2. Foreign Travel Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Travel Cost</th>
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</table>

### E. Participant/Trainee Support Costs

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Tuition/Fees/Health Insurance

2. Stipends

3. Travel

4. Subsistence

5. Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Participant/Trainee Support Costs</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Participants/Trainees</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
C. Equipment

- Items costing $5,000 or more with a “service life” of at least one year
- List each item separately
- Justify each item
- May include price quote
D. Travel

- Itemize in budget justification
- Justify purpose, destination of each trip, no. of individuals traveling, length of trip
- Special consideration for foreign travel
E. Participant/Trainee Support Costs

- Usually not used for NIH applications
- Tuition for Graduate Research Assistants (GRA’s) is listed in “F. Other Direct Costs”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Other Direct Costs</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Materials and Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Publication Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Consultant Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>ADP/Computer Services</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Subawards/Consortium/Contractual Costs</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Equipment or Facility Rental/User Fees</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Alterations and Renovations</td>
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</table>

Total Other Direct Costs:
Budget - categories

- **F. Other Direct Costs**
  - **Material and Supplies**
    - Glassware, chemicals and reagents, radioisotopes, tissue culture/molecular biology supplies (Categories ≥ $1,000)
  - **Animals:**
    - Number, species
    - Animal care: Number of days, cost per day


[https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.300-r&r-budget-form.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.300-r&r-budget-form.htm)
Budget - categories

- Publication Costs
- Consultant Costs
- Subawards/Consortiums
- Patient Care Costs
- Service Agreements
- Core Facilities
- Data Management and Sharing Costs
Consultants

- Individuals involved in project who are *not* employees of applicant organization or those involved in subcontracts
- Include names and organizations/affiliations
- Describe **role and services** to be performed (e.g., member of advisory committee, monitoring board, consulting physician)
- Describe no. of days involved, compensation, travel, per diem, etc.
Subawards/Consortiums

- A portion of the work will be conducted at another site, funding will “flow” from NIH to applicant organization (prime) to subcontracted institution (domestic or foreign)

- Prime institution’s budget includes Subaward’s Total Costs (Direct and Indirect Costs)

- NIH allows for the exclusion of Subcontract’s/Consortium’s Indirect Costs when determining if the application meets the funding announcement’s Direct Costs cap or limitation (if there is one); e.g., D.C. ≥$500K/year
Subawards/Consortiums

- Subaward completes similar budget forms and justification

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.300-r&r-budget-form.htm

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10 YEAR R&R SUBAWARD BUDGET ATTACHMENT(S) FORM

Instructions: On this form, you will attach the 10 Year R&R Subaward Budget files for your grant application. Complete the subawardee budget(s) in accordance with the 10 Year R&R budget instructions. Please remember that any files you attach must be a PDF document.

Click here to extract the 10 Year R&R Subaward Budget Attachment

Important: Please attach your subawardee budget file(s) with the file name of the subawardee organization. Each file name must be unique.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attachment</th>
<th>Add Attachment</th>
<th>Delete Attachment</th>
<th>View Attachment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Please attach Attachment 1</td>
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<td>10) Please attach Attachment 10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Contracted Costs

- e.g., **Support services** (e.g., testing of biological samples, clinical services)
- Provide detailed information in Budget Justification
Patient Care Costs

- **Inpatient** and/or **outpatient** costs

**Budget Justification:**

- Names of hospitals and/or clinics
  - Amounts for each, per budget period
  - Do they have a current HHS-negotiated research patient care rate agreement?
  - If not, how were the costs calculated?

- **Number** of patient days, **costs** per day, costs per test/treatment, costs per item, per budget period, per site

- Expected patient **accrual** for each site, per budget period

- **Other available support**; e.g., third party recovery, drug company

- Role of organization’s **Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA)** program

Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Costs

- “Costs… must be requested in the appropriate cost category(ies), e.g., personnel, equipment, supplies, and other expenses”

- **Single line item**: Data Management and Sharing Costs

- Costs described in the **Budget Justification**

- Information available to **peer reviewers**


https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.300-t&r-budget-form.htm
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indirect Cost Type</th>
<th>Indirect Cost Rate (%)</th>
<th>Indirect Cost Base ($)</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Total Indirect Costs**

**Cognizant Federal Agency**
(Agency Name, POC Name, and POC Phone Number)

**Total Direct and Indirect Costs**

**Total Direct and Indirect Institutional Costs (G + H)**

Funds Requested ($)
Indirect Costs

- Also called **Facilities and Administration** (F&A)
- Federally **negotiated** rate
- **Percentage** of direct costs
- **MTDC-Modified Total Direct Costs:**
  
  Some items (equipment, patient care costs, tuition, subaward/consortium > $25K) not included in Direct Costs base
- **Some institutions’ rates are based on “Salary & Wages”**

Indirect Costs

- Some NIH programs have a **lower rate**: 8% on training grants (T) and career development awards (K)

- **Non-government, non-profit agencies** (e.g., voluntary health organizations, professional societies, foundations) may have lower rates (e.g., 25%, 10%, 0%)

- Non-federal agencies may use total Direct Costs as the base to calculate I.C.

- **Industry-sponsored** research contracts and clinical trials have other rates

Budget - Future Years

- Sometimes categories may be increased 2%-3% per year (NIH may not fund cost of living increases)
- Equipment is usually purchased early in the project
- Plan for unusual changes in future years (e.g., additional personnel, use of core facility, reduction in patient care costs), and “build” that into the budget and explain in the budget justification
- Some agencies may require composite, not detailed, budgets for future years

# RESEARCH & RELATED BUDGET - Cumulative Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Totals ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Senior/Key Person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Other Personnel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Total Salary, Wages and Fringe Benefits (A+B)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Travel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Domestic</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Foreign</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Participant/Trainee Support Costs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Tuition/Fees/Health Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Stipends</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Subsistence</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Number of Participants/Trainees</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Other Direct Costs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Materials and Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Publication Costs</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Alterations and Renovations</td>
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<td>Other 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Direct Costs (A thru F)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Indirect Costs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Total Direct and Indirect Costs (G + H)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Fee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Total Costs and Fee (I + J)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Budget Justification

- Must be included
- Detailed information on personnel and their expertise and role in proposed project
- Budget calculations for other categorical items
- Separate budget justification for subcontract/consortium
- Discuss significant increases or decreases
- Discuss and explain budget categories that use more than the standard yearly increase (NIH may not fund standard yearly increases)
- Can include price quotes (e.g., for equipment)

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https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-h/general/g.300-r&r-budget-form.htm
Budget Justification

Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan

- **Labeled**: "Data Management and Sharing Justification" with estimated total Direct Costs (approx. ½ page)
- List **general categories and costs** (e.g., “curating data and developing supporting documentation, local data management activities, preserving and sharing data through established repositories”)
- Summary of **type/amount** of “data to be preserved and shared and the name of the established repository(ies) where they will be preserved and shared”
- State if there are **no** DMS Plan costs

Components of the NIH R01 Grant Application

PHS 398 Modular Budget Form
Modular Budgets: The Rationale

- Redefines the “R”-type grants as an assistance mechanism
- Detailed categorical budget information not submitted with the application
- Simplifies process
- Focuses all parties (e.g., investigators, academic institutions, peer reviewers, NIH staff) on science, rather than the details of the budget
Modular Budgets

- Applies to all new/competing R01, R03, and R21 proposals with up to $250,000 requested direct costs in every year.
- $250,000 “cap” does not include Indirect Costs of subaward/consortium.
- RFAs with budgets of more than $250,000 may be modular at NIH Institute/Center’s discretion.
- Direct costs requested in module amounts of $25,000 (e.g., 10 modules = $250,000).

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Modular Budgets

- If **Direct Costs > $250,000 in any year**, then detailed budget format (**non-modular**) must be used for the full application.

- For most proposals, the same number of modules are requested in each year; **no modules are added for inflationary increases**.

- Cannot be used for projects involving human fetal tissue obtained from elective abortions (HFT).
Additional Direct Costs can be added in $25,000 modules (up to $250,000) for increases due to large, one-time equipment purchases or major changes in budget due to research needs (e.g., varying patient costs or the short term need for specific personnel).

Yearly variations in the number of modules must be justified in narrative form.

Institutes/Centers may adjust award amount as per their cost management plan.
How to Determine the Standard Number of Modules

- Determine the total project’s Direct Costs Divide by $25,000 and by number of years. Round to a whole number.

- Example:
  - Year 01: $150,000, Year 02: $153,000, Year 03: $156,060, Year 04: $159,181, and Year 05: $162,365 (2% yearly increase)
  - Total for the five years: $780,606
  - Divided by $25,000: 31.22
  - Divided by 5 years: 6.24
  - 6 modules: $150,000; 7 modules: $175,000

Jaime S. Rubin, Ph.D.; http://grantscourse.columbia.edu
# PHS 398 Modular Budget

**Budget Period: 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**A. Direct Costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct Cost less Consortium Indirect (F&amp;A)</th>
<th>0.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consortium Indirect (F&amp;A)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Direct Costs</strong></td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**B. Indirect (F&A) Costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indirect (F&amp;A) Type</th>
<th>Indirect (F&amp;A) Rate (%)</th>
<th>Indirect (F&amp;A) Base ($)</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Cognizant Agency (Agency Name, POC Name and Phone Number)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indirect (F&amp;A) Rate Agreement Date</th>
<th>Total Indirect (F&amp;A) Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**C. Total Direct and Indirect (F&A) Costs (A + B)**

<p>| Funds Requested ($) |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 0.00                |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section A, Total Direct Cost less Consortium Indirect (F&amp;A) for Entire Project Period</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section A, Total Consortium Indirect (F&amp;A) for Entire Project Period</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section A, Total Direct Costs for Entire Project Period</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section B, Total Indirect (F&amp;A) Costs for Entire Project Period</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section C, Total Direct and Indirect (F&amp;A) Costs (A+B) for Entire Project Period</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2. Budget Justifications

- **Personnel Justification**
  - Add Attachment
  - Delete Attachment
  - View Attachment

- **Consortium Justification**
  - Add Attachment
  - Delete Attachment
  - View Attachment

- **Additional Narrative Justification**
  - Add Attachment
  - Delete Attachment
  - View Attachment
# PHS 398 Modular Budget

**Budget Period:** 1  
Start Date: 10/01/2014  
End Date: 09/30/2015

## A. Direct Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
<th>Direct Cost less Consortium F&amp;A</th>
<th>Consortium F&amp;A</th>
<th>Total Direct Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$250,000.00</td>
<td>$13,750.00</td>
<td>$263,750.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## B. Indirect Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indirect Cost Type</th>
<th>Indirect Cost Rate (%)</th>
<th>Indirect Cost Base ($)</th>
<th>Funds Requested ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. MTDC</td>
<td>55.00</td>
<td>$245,000.00</td>
<td>$134,750.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cognizant Agency (Agency Name, POC Name and Phone Number)**  
HHS  
Name of Regional Negotiator  
Phone Number of Regional Negotiator

**Indirect Cost Rate Agreement Date:** 01/31/2014

**Total Indirect Costs:** $134,750.00
Modular Budgets: Budget Justification

- Information, in narrative form:
  - Personnel
  - Subaward/Consortium arrangements
  - Additional Narrative
    - Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan
    - Significant budget items that result in a yearly change in the number of $25,000 modules

Modular Budgets: Budget Justification

- **Personnel:** List all personnel, including:
  - Names
  - Roles on the project
  - Background and expertise demonstrating that individual can accomplish their responsibilities
  - Effort - Number of calendar months
    - e.g., 6 calendar months = 50% effort
  - Do not provide individual salary information
Modular Budgets: Budget Justification

- **Consortium/Contractual costs:**
  - Name(s) of participating institution(s) and whether foreign or domestic
  - Estimate of total costs (direct plus indirect) for each year rounded to nearest $1,000
  - List all personnel
    - Role on the project, Effort on project

- **Additional Narrative:** e.g., (i) Required if Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan is required in the application, (ii) Justification for any yearly variation in the number of modules requested, (iii) Price quotes
Considerations for Developing a Research Grant Budget

- **Budget is not one of NIH’s major review criteria**
  - “Additional Review Consideration” – not given a score and not considered in the overall Impact Score

- **Determining the Budget follows after the Specific Aims and the Research Plan are well developed**
  - **Research team** with required expertise (Personnel Costs)
    - Individual’s % Effort
  - **Power analysis** for the different experimental groups
    - Patient Care costs
    - Animal costs

Considerations for Developing a Research Grant Budget

- **Do not Request Less than is Required to Conduct the Proposed Studies**
  - Requesting less than required reflects poorly on the Principal Investigator. Reviewers may see this as the PI does not appreciate the complexity of the proposed study.
  - If awarded, the PI is required to conduct the proposed research and progress towards meeting the goals described in the “Specific Aims” and “Research Plan” is addressed in the yearly required Progress Reports.

Considerations for Developing a Research Grant Budget

- **Do not Request Less than is Required to Conduct the Proposed Studies**
  - Insufficient funds will impact the PI’s ability to demonstrate productivity, publish the results of the funded research and thus submit a competitive renewal application.
  - Do not submit a modular budget if more than $250,000 of Direct Costs is required in any year. Applicants do not receive “extra points” from the reviewers for submitting a reduced budget.

Considerations for Developing a Research Grant Budget

- **Do not Request Less than is Required to Conduct the Proposed Studies**
  - Funded grants often receive an administrative “cut” at the time of award. This reduction of an application’s budget request that was already too low, will make it even more difficult for the research team to achieve the Specific Aims.

- Specific Aims of a funded application cannot be included in another grant application. Thus, do not include Specific Aims in an application that cannot be accomplished with the requested budget.
NIH Grant Forms and Instructions

- **How to Apply - Application Guide**

- **Annotated Application Forms**

- **Page Limits**

- **Format Attachments (e.g., fonts, margins)**

- **Forms Library**
  https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms.htm