National Institutes of Health
Grants Process
At-A-Glance

Planning, Writing, and Submitting

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

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

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

Receipt and Referral

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

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

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

Peer Review

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

Priority Scores: Available to Principal Investigator in eRA Commons.

Summary Statement: Available to Principal Investigator in eRA Commons.

Second Level of Review: Advisory council/board reviews applications.

Award

*NIH Requests additional information needed Just-In-Time for award.

Pre-Award Process: IC grants management staff conducts final administrative review and negotiates award.*

Notification of Award: Institute/Center issues and sends Notice of Award (NoA) to applicant institution/organization.

Congratulations! Project period officially begins!

Post-Award Management

Administrative and fiscal monitoring, reporting, and compliance

Visit: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants_process.htm for more about the NIH grants process