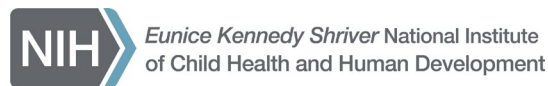


# Finding the Right Funding Opportunity for Your Research

Kathy Mann Koepke, PhD & Amanda Price, PhD  
NICHD





## ABOUT GRANTS

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Grants Process  
Overview

Get Started

How to Apply

Application Referral  
and Review

Pre-Award and Post-  
Award Processes

Forms Library

Information For

## About Grants

- + Did you know that NIH is the largest public funder of biomedical research in the world, investing more than \$32 billion a year to enhance life, and reduce illness and disability? NIH funded research has led to breakthroughs and new treatments, helping people live longer, healthier lives, and building the research foundation that drives discovery. Read on for an orientation to NIH funding, grant programs, how the grants process works, and how to apply.

**Apply for Grant Funding**

Prepare to Apply

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

> 6-8 Weeks Before Submission

## Grants Process Overview

Learn the steps needed for an application to proceed from planning and submission to award and close out. Drill down on each step for guidance that can deepen your understanding of the grants process and help you submit a grant application and manage your grant award.





# Funding Mechanisms for Extramural Training

- **Individual Research Fellowships (F):**  
National Research Service Award (NRSA) program for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.  
(NB: now F31, as well as F32, are open to all candidates.)
  - Individual Predoctoral (F31)
  - Individual Postdoctoral Fellowships (F32)
- **Institutional Training Grants (T32/K12):**  
Support groups of pre- and/or postdoctoral fellows in basic, clinical & behavioral sciences





# Funding Mechanism to Transition from Training to Career Development

## NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00)

- 1-2 years of mentored support for highly promising, postdoctoral research scientists (extended post-doc experience)
- Then up to 3 years of independent support contingent on securing an independent research position (in general, at another university and tenure track or equivalent)

Must have no more than 4 years of postdoctoral research experience at the time of application.

Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-20-188.html>

Independent Clinical Trial Required:

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-20-187.html>





# Common Research Grants

- **R01 Research Project Grant Program**

Up to 5 years, Up to \$500K direct (higher ONLY with waiver); are renewable; ends your New/Early Stage Investigator status  
Requires substantial pilot data to support proposal

- **R03 Small Grant Program**

Up to 2 years, \$50K/year direct; are not renewable; do not count against your N/ES I status; pilot data not required (but...)

- **R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award**

Up to 2 years, \$275K total direct costs for both years together; are not renewable; do not count against your N/ES I status

**Not all funding mechanisms are supported by every IC:**

[https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/funding\\_program.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/funding_program.htm)

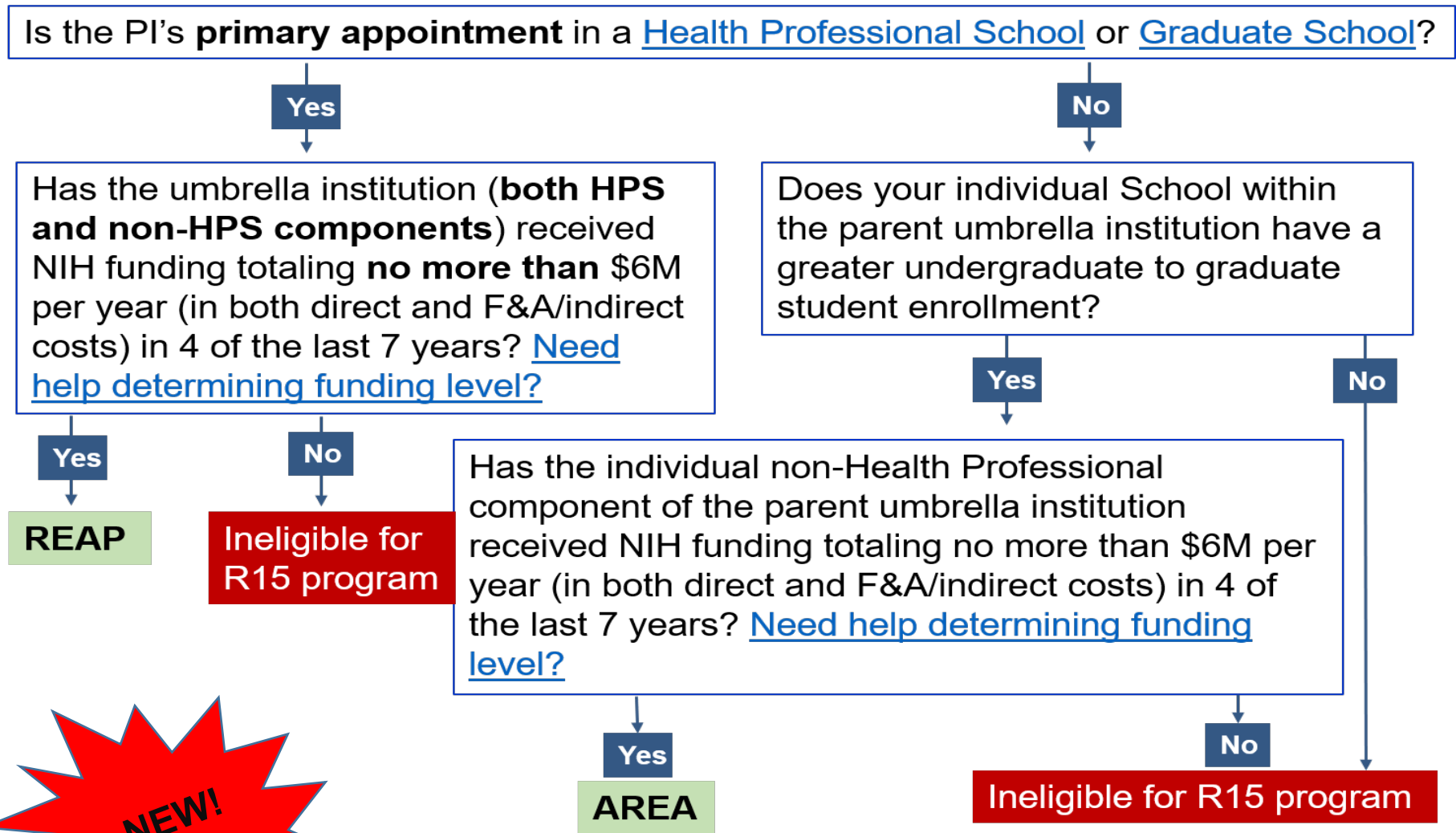


# Research Project Grants

Mechanism	R01	R03	R21	R15
Purpose	Discrete, <i>specified</i> , circumscribed research projects	--Small research projects -- <i>Pilot</i> and <i>feasibility</i> studies --Secondary data analysis --Development of research methodology and new technology	-- <i>Exploratory and developmental</i> research --Some risk but may lead to breakthrough in field, methods, or technical developments	--Small R01-like research projects --Engage <i>students</i> in research --Strengthen institution's research environment -- <i>U.S. institution does not receive significant NIH funding</i>
Budget	< \$500K/year or need prior approval	\$50K/year	\$275K/total all yrs.	\$300/total all yrs.
Proj. Period	5 years	2 years	2 years	3 years
Renewable?	Yes	No	No	Yes
NI/ES I Status?	Yes	No	No	No
Foreign Inst.?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No



# R15 Eligibility Decision Tree



**NEW!**





**Types of Investigators  
and  
Types of Funding Opportunity  
Announcements (FOAs)**





# Special Categories of Investigators

**R01** reviewers are instructed to be more forgiving of less pilot data and fewer publications for NIs/ESIs. NIH ICs adjust their R01 paylines for NIs/ESIs.

- **New Investigator (NI)** - No history of successful R01 or larger award
- **Early Stage Investigator (ESI)** – A New Investigator within 10 yrs of doctorate/terminal degree

[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new\\_investigators/](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/)





# Responding to Solicitations

- Every application must be in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) (aka PAs & RFAs) & to a specific Activity Codes (e.g., R01)
- Parent Announcements are FOAs to enable unsolicited or investigator-initiated applications & are mechanism (aka activity code) specific
- **Most funded grant applications are unsolicited applications**
- Always talk to your Office of Sponsored Projects and your NIH Program Officer LONG before the submission deadline! (Trainees: You must engage your mentor early!)





# <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/prepare-to-apply-and-register/understand-funding-opportunities.htm>

Type of FOA	Description
<u><a href="#">Parent Announcements</a></u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>--Broad FOAs allowing applicants to submit an investigator-initiated application for a specific <u><a href="#">activity code</a></u></li><li>--Many NIH institutes and centers (IC) participate</li><li>--Usually ongoing (3 yrs)</li><li>--Use <u><a href="#">standard due dates</a></u></li></ul>
<b>Program Announcements (PAs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>--FOAs issued by one or more ICs to highlight areas of scientific interest</li><li>--Encourage applications for a new or ongoing program</li><li>--Usually ongoing (3 years)</li><li>--Use <u><a href="#">standard due dates</a></u></li><li>--Types of PAs: <b>PAS</b>: with set-aside funds; <b>PAR</b>: special receipt, referral, and/or review considerations</li></ul>
<b>Requests for Applications (RFA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>--FOAs issued by one or more IC to highlight well-defined areas of scientific interest to accomplish specific program objectives (Make sure the science you are proposing fits the scope of the RFA!)</li><li>--Indicate the amount of set-aside funds</li><li>--Indicate anticipated number of awards</li><li>--Usually single due date</li><li>--IC usually convenes review panel</li></ul>





# FOAs also specify the allowability of clinical trials

Allowability	Description
Clinical Trial Not Allowed	Only accepts applications that do <u>not</u> propose clinical trial(s)
Clinical Trial Required	Only accepts applications that propose clinical trial(s)
Clinical Trial Optional	Accepts applications that either propose or do not propose clinical trial(s)
Basic Experimental Studies with Humans (BESH) Required	Only accepts applications that propose clinical trial(s) that also meet the definition of basic research

**NB: FOAs that accept clinical trials have specific review criteria to ensure that reviewers appropriately consider clinical trial-related information.**





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[Research Training and Career Development](#)



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[Extramural Diversity](#)

[NIH Funding Strategies](#)

## Funding

NIH offers funding for many types of grants, contracts, and even programs that help repay loans for researchers. Learn about these programs, as well as about NIH's budget process, grant funding strategies, and policies, and more.



### Find Funding

(NIH Guide to Grants and Contracts)

The NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts is our official publication for NIH grant policies, guidelines and funding opportunities. We publish daily, and issue a table of contents weekly. [Learn more](#) about the NIH Guide and subscribe today!

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The NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts is our official publication for NIH grant policies, guidelines and funding opportunities. We publish daily, and issue a table of contents weekly. [Learn more](#) about the NIH Guide and [subscribe today!](#)

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# Find Funding

**Organizations**

- Issuing Only
- All
  - AHRQ
  - DHHS
  - FDA
  - NIH

**Activity Code**

- All
- 332
- Admin Supp
- D43
- DP1
- F30
- F31
- F32
- F99/K00
- F12

**Type of Research**

Active Funding Opportunities and Notices ▼  Search [Advanced Search](#)

X Clear Search Query

Displaying: 1 to 25 of 156 results

Results Per Page  ▼

Title	FOA/Notice Number	Issuing Organization	Release Date ▼	Expiration Date	Activity Code
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Supporting Research Education in High-Priority Intervention and Services Research Areas for Mentoring Networks for Mental Health Research Education and Short Courses for Mental Health Related Research	NOT-MH-20-041	NIMH	Apr 8, 2020	May 26, 2022	R25
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): NIA Availability of Administrative Supplements and Revision Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	NOT-AG-20-022	NIA	Apr 2, 2020	May 1, 2021	Admin Supp
BRAIN Initiative: Exploratory Team-Research BRAIN Circuit Programs - eTeamBCP (U01 Clinical Trials Optional)	RFA-NS-20-029	NINDS	Apr 1, 2020	Jun 16, 2021	U01
Novel Mechanism Research on Neuropsychiatric Symptoms (NPS) in Alzheimer's Dementia (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)	PAR-20-157	NIMH	Mar 31, 2020	May 8, 2023	R01
Novel Mechanism Research on Neuropsychiatric Symptoms (NPS) in Alzheimer's Dementia (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)	PAR-20-159	NIMH	Mar 31, 2020	May 8, 2023	R21



# Notice of Special Interest (NOSI)

- NIH is moving away from the use of non-parent program announcements (PAs)
- Expanding the use of NOSIs to highlight scientific/research topics
- NOSIs now point to existing funding opportunity announcements (often NIH parent announcements) for the submission of applications using a specific mechanism
- **Applicants must include the notice number in the Agency Routing Identifier field (4b) of the SF424 (R&R) form** so that NIH can assign & track applications & awards for the described initiative (see NOT-OD-19-107)





# Reach out to us!

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