Grants Process Overview

GET STARTED

Learn the Basics

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

Plan Your Approach

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

APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING

Prepare to Apply

Ensure all registrations are in place, get familiar with requirements, and choose which of the available submission options you will use.
[>6-8 WEEKS BEFORE SUBMISSION]

Write Application

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

Submit

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

[SUBMIT EARLY!]

APPLICATION REFERRAL & REVIEW

Receipt & Referral

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

[MONTH 1 AFTER SUBMISSION]

Peer Review

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

[MONTHS 2-8 AFTER SUBMISSION]

PRE-AWARD & AWARD PROCESS

Pre-Award & Award Process

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

[MONTHS 7-10 AFTER SUBMISSION]

Post-Award Monitoring & Reporting

NIH monitors grants carefully. Active monitoring includes reports and correspondence from the grantee, audit reports, site visits, and other information.

[DURATION OF AWARD]