



A publication of the Office of Sponsored Projects and Research

Table of Contents:

In The News.....	1
IRB Schedule.....	2
OSPR Workshop Schedule.....	2
Program Highlight.....	2
Tips for Grant Writing.....	3
Deadlines.....	4

OSPR Website:

<http://www.usip.edu/research/ospr/>
Log on to the OSPR website to view other news and information.

IN THE NEWS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

NIH Requires Mandatory Use of the eRA Commons Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) Module

Effective July 1, 2009: The purpose of the Federal regulation at 42 CFR Part 50 Subpart F, *Responsibility of Applicants for Promoting Objectivity in Research for which PHS Funding is Sought*, is to promote objectivity in research by establishing standards to ensure there is no reasonable expectation that the design, conduct or reporting of research funded under Public Health Service (PHS) grants or cooperative agreements will be biased by any conflicting financial interest of an investigator. Specifically, 42 CFR Part 50.604(g)(2) requires that prior to spending any funds under an award, the Institution must report to the NIH the existence of any conflicting financial interests, but not the nature of the interest or other details found by the institution, and assure that the interest has been managed, reduced, or eliminated. In addition, for any interest that the Institution identifies as conflicting subsequent to the Institution's initial report under the award, a report must be made and the conflicting interest managed, reduced, or eliminated, at least on an interim basis, within sixty days of that identification.

Beginning July 1, 2009, the NIH will require all Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) reports for grants and cooperative agreements to be submitted using the new electronic Research Administration (eRA) Commons FCOI Module. The FCOI Module is part of the eRA Commons, an online interface where grantees and Federal staff share information. The FCOI Module provides institutional users the ability to electronically prepare and submit FCOI reports through the eRA Commons. NIH encourages Institutions to begin using the FCOI Module now; however, Institutions may continue to submit FCOI reports directly to the Chief Grants Management Officer of the NIH awarding component through June 30, 2009.

The FCOI Module allows institutional users to 1) initiate and prepare FCOI reports, 2) electronically submit reports, 3) search and view FCOI reports previously submitted through the Commons, 4) edit or rescind submitted reports, and 5) create and access a history of institutional actions.

The institution's Signing Official (SO) must log into eRA Commons and assign FCOI roles to Institutional Users before a FCOI report can be initiated.

This change in business process for the submission of FCOI reports does not affect other funding components within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) (e.g., AHRQ, CDC, FDA, etc.) or other Federal agencies. This feature may become available to other HHS funding components sometime in the future.

NIH Extends AREA Expiration Date

The Parent R15 Academic Research Enhancement Award program announcement [PA-06-042](#) will be active until **September 8, 2009**. Standard receipt dates for submission are in force for May 7, 2009, June 25, 2009 and the

AIDS & AIDS-related September 7, 2009 submission dates. An updated funding opportunity announcement (PA) for the Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) parent R15 will be released in time for the October 25, 2009 receipt date. All other aspects of [PA-06-042](#) remain unchanged

The next Institutional Review Board (IRB) Meeting is April 7, 2009. Other meeting dates are listed below:

Meeting Date	Protocols due in OSPR
June 2, 2009	May 19, 2009
July 7, 2009	June 23, 2009

American Health Assistance Foundation

Research Grants

The AHAF programs are designed to provide initial funding for highly innovative experimental ideas. Most of the awardees use the AHAF donor award money to demonstrate key findings that lead to later interest and additional funding from industrial or governmental funding agencies. It is their firm belief that having the courage to invest in innovative ideas will lead to revolutionary therapies.

The supported research extends from basic molecular and cellular biology through clinical and behavioral health research.

The AHAF is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that funds research seeking cures for Alzheimer's disease, age-related macular degeneration and glaucoma, and provides the public with information about risk factors, preventative lifestyles, available treatments and coping strategies.

Program Highlight

Alzheimer's Disease Research

Standard Awards = \$400,000 budgeted over 3 years

Pilot Awards = \$150,000 budgeted over 2 years

Research Fellowships = \$100,000 budgeted over 2 years

- Application due by: **October 19, 2009**

Macular Degeneration Research (\$100,000 budgeted over 2 years)

- Letter of Intent due by **July 10, 2009**
- Application due by: **October 29, 2009**

National Glaucoma Research (\$100,000 budgeted over 2 years)

- Application due by: **October 23, 2009**

For more information log on to:
<http://www.ahaf.org/research/>

The Office of Sponsored Research Training Schedule.

Faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend. To register call X7490 and indicate which class you will attend.

Date	Class	Room	Time
June 16, 2009	Progress Reports and Effort Reporting (lunch)	RH 100	11:30am - 1:00pm



.....the attainment of wealth, favor, or eminence.

Remember an unwritten proposal is never funded!

Tips for Grant Writing: Organize Your Research Plan

Help reviewers find exactly what they are looking for in your research plan by breaking your proposal down according to the primary review criteria: significance, investigator(s), innovation, approach, and environment. Begin each section with clear, descriptive headers that effectively frame your research plan.

A succinct introduction should address the significance of your project, weighing its impact on your field and related fields, as well its impact in the greater context of public health. Consider the following questions from the Enhanced Review Criteria chart:

- Does the project address an important problem or critical barrier to progress in the field?
- If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved?
- How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?

Next, address how PD/PIs, collaborators, and other researchers are suited to the project. Outline appropriate experience and training, and highlight any accomplishments that have encouraged advancements in the field(s). If the project is collaborative or multi-PD/PI, show that investigators have complementary and integrated experience.

Now reflect on the innovation that project offers. Keep in mind that even if a project not, by nature, innovative, it may nonetheless be essential to advancing a field. Discuss how your work will challenge or improve current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches, or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions or by refining the use of these concepts, approaches, methodologies, or instrumentation.

A thorough description of the approach you will take is critical. Show how well-reasoned and appropriate your overall strategy, methodology, and analyses are to accomplishing the specific aims of your project.

Following the details of your approach, include a profile of the environment in which the work will be done. Consider the adequacy of resources such as institutional support and equipment. Also take into account how the project will benefit from any unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements.

Finally, add a section that addresses items of ethical concern applicable to your project—for example the use of vertebrate animals or human subjects (including gender and minority representation or the inclusion of children).

For more resources you can use as you prepare your application, please visit <http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt/>.

(Excerpt from NIH Extramural Nexus, April 2009)



Agency	Title	Deadline	Description
Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, Inc	Special Grant Program in the Chemical Sciences http://www.dreyfus.org/awards/special_grant_program_chemical.shtml	Jun 04, 2009	Special Grant Program in the Chemical Sciences offers support to eligible institutions for innovative projects. It's intended to strengthen chemistry teaching and research, with the expectation that awardees will find continuing funding from other sources. However, proposals are invited in any area consistent with the foundation's basic objectives in the chemical sciences and not covered by other foundation programs. The foundation prefers to fund projects that are not already receiving substantial support from government agencies or other foundations. Past areas of support include development of curricular and instructional materials, including new media; institutional enhancement of education and research; public understanding of the role of chemistry in society, and encouragement of high school students and teachers.
Gerber Foundation	Pediatric Health Grants http://www.gerberfoundation.org/html/research_pediatichealth.html	Jun 1, 2009	Promoting health and preventing disease is the primary focus of pediatric health grants. Of particular interest are applied research projects focused on reducing the incidence of serious neonatal and early childhood illnesses, or improving cognitive, social, and emotional aspects of development.
National Foundation for the Arts and the Humanities National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)	Grants for Arts Projects http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/Artsed.html	May 28, 2009 Jun 11, 2009 Aug 13, 2009	Projects, regardless of the size or type of applicant organization, that are of national, regional, or field-wide significance; that tour in several states; or that provide an unusual or especially valuable contribution because of geographic location. This includes local projects that can have significant effects within communities or that are likely to serve as models for a field. Grants are available in three categories: 1. Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth: To advance arts education for children and youth in school-based or community-based settings 2. Access to Artistic Excellence: To encourage and support artistic excellence, preserve our cultural heritage, and provide access to the arts for all Americans 3. Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants: For support, primarily to small and mid-sized organizations, of projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations