



Talking to NIH Staff:

Who, What, When, Why and How?

| CENTER TO REDUCE
| CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

Behrouz Davani, PhD



Outline

- *Identifying NIH Funding Opportunities*
- *Agency Contacts*
- *The life Cycle of an Application/Grant*
- *Examples*

GRANTS & FUNDING

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.



Funding

NIH offers funding for many types of grants, contracts, and even programs that help repay loans for researchers.



Due Dates

Grant applications and associated documents (e.g., reference letters) are due by 5:00 PM local time of application organization on the specified due date.



About Grants

An orientation to NIH funding, grant programs, how the grants process works, and how to apply.



Forms Library

A comprehensive inventory of forms, instructions, and format pages for each stage of the grant life cycle.



How to Apply

Instructions for submitting a grant application to NIH and other Public Health Service agencies.



Policy & Compliance

By accepting a grant award, grantees agree to comply with the requirements in the NIH Grants Policy Statement unless the notice of award states otherwise.

Search the NIH Guide

Quick Links



RePORT



eRA Commons



NIH Common Fund



NIH and the American Recovery Act

Identifying NIH Funding Opportunities

- Most NIH Institutes establish specific research Initiatives and Priorities
- Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs)
- Official publication listing NIH funding opportunities and policy notices
 - Program Announcements (PA, PAR, PAS)
 - Request for Applications (RFA)
 - Request for Proposals (RFP)
 - Notices (NOT)

Identifying NIH Initiatives

Participating Organization(s)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Components of Participating Organizations

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Funding Opportunity Title

NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K08)

Activity Code

K08 Clinical Investigator Award (CIA)

Announcement Type

Reissue of [PAR-15-060](#)

Related Notices

- [March 1, 2017](#) - Notice of Change to PAR-16-400. See Notice [NOT-CA-17-035](#).

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number

PAR-16-400

Companion Funding Opportunity

[PAR-16-399](#), [K23](#) Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award
[PAR-16-401](#), [K01](#) Research Scientist Development Award - Research & Training

Number of Applications

See [Section III. 3. Additional Information on Eligibility](#).

Four Simple Steps

- Read FOA
- Read FOA, Notices therein, and the application instructions carefully
- Again....Read FOA, Notices therein, and the application instructions carefully
- Write down your questions and **contact NIH staff**

Who Do I Contact at NIH Before Applying?

Section VII. Agency Contacts

We encourage inquiries concerning this funding opportunity and welcome the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants.

Application Submission Contacts

eRA Service Desk (Questions regarding ASSIST, eRA Commons registration, submitting and tracking an application, documenting system problems that threaten submission by the due date, post submission issues)

Finding Help Online: <https://grants.nih.gov/support/> (preferred method of contact)

Telephone: 301-402-7469 or 866-504-9552 (Toll Free)

[Grants.gov Customer Support](#) (Questions regarding Grants.gov registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages)

Contact Center Telephone: 800-518-4726

Email: support@grants.gov

GrantsInfo (Questions regarding application instructions and process, finding NIH grant resources)

Email: GrantsInfo@nih.gov (preferred method of contact)

Telephone: 301-945-7573

Scientific/Research Contact(s)

John O. Ojeifo, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Telephone: 240-276-6186

Email: ojeifo@mail.nih.gov

Peer Review Contact(s)

Referral Officer

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Telephone: 240-276-6390

Email: ncirefof@dea.nci.nih.gov

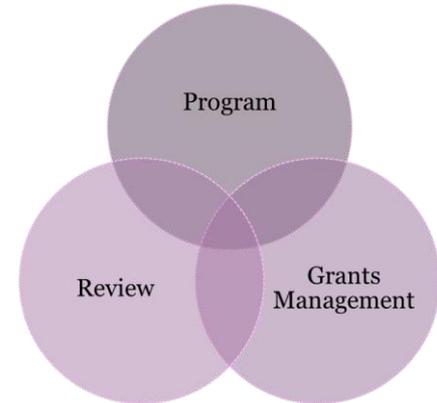
Financial/Grants Management Contact(s)

Sean Hline

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

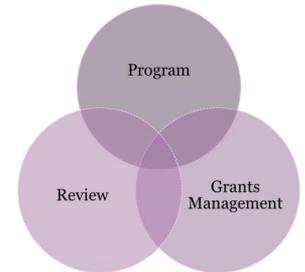
Telephone: 240-276-6291

Email: hlines@mail.nih.gov



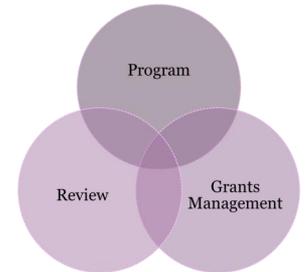
Program Official (PO or PD)

- Develops initiatives
- Responsible for the programmatic, scientific, and/or technical aspects of a grant
- Provides scientific guidance to investigators pre- and post-award
- Helps PIs understand summary statements
- Provides post-award oversight
- Provides information about other funding opportunities



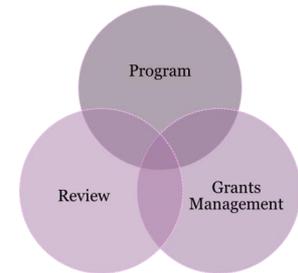
Scientific Review Officer (SRO)

- Responsible for scientific and technical review
- Ensures fair and unbiased evaluation of scientific and technical merit
- Provides a summary of the evaluation
- Reviews applications for completeness and conformance with application requirements
- Point of contact for applicants during the review process

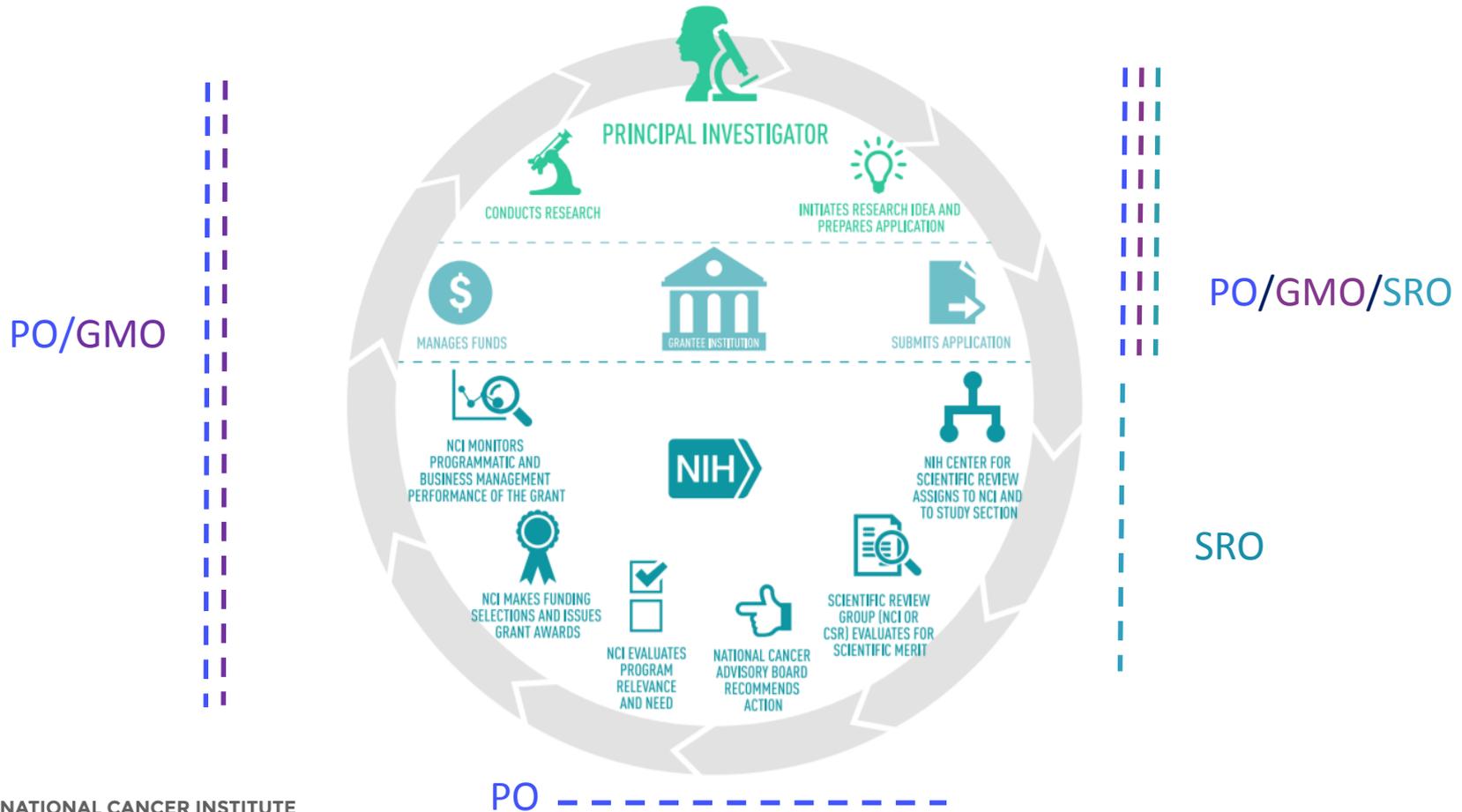


Grants Management Officer (GMO)

- Responsible for the business management and non-programmatic aspects of the award
- Evaluates applications for administrative content and compliance with policy
- Negotiates Awards
- Interprets grants administration policies
- Provides guidance to investigators pre- and post-award (for administrative content and compliance with regulations)
- Focal point for receiving and acting on requests for NIH prior approval or for changes in the terms and conditions of award
- Grants closeout



The Lifecycle of a Grant



Example 1: Initial Contact with PO

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 1:40 PM
To: Davani, Behrous (NIH/NCI) [E] <behrous.davani@nih.gov>
Subject: NIH Grant

Hi Dr. Davani,

My name is John [REDACTED] and I am considering applying for PAR-15-053 (R21 to promote diversity) and wanted your expert guidance and have a couple of questions. Is there any time that we can talk next Friday?

Thanks a lot for you anticipated reply.

Sincerely,

John [REDACTED]

You must do the thing which you think you cannot do. ~ Eleanor Roosevelt~

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Needs Improvement

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Example 2: Who to Notify? PO or SRO?

You submit your application on June 12.

1. Your manuscript which was submitted to the *Cancer Research* is accepted on June 28.
2. On July first, your mentor obtains notice of a new award from NIH.

Example 2: Who to Notify? PO or SRO?

You submit your application on June 12.

1. Your manuscript which was submitted to the *Cancer Research* is accepted on June 28.
2. On July first, your mentor obtains notice of a new award from NIH.

SRO

Example 3: Right or Wrong?

The summary statement is released on September 1 around 9 am (EST). Your primary score is 29. You send an email to your PO around 9:30 am and tell him/her “I would appreciate if you can tell me a good time to talk to you”.

Example 3: Right or Wrong?

The summary statement is released on September 1 around 9 am (EST). Your primary score is 29. You send an email to your PO around 9:30 am and tell him/her “I would appreciate if you can tell me a good time to talk to you”.

Wrong

Example 4: Who Should You Inform?

You receive Notice of Award with start date of September 1, 2017. But due to an unforeseen delay in the IRB approval by your organization, you can't start your project on time.

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GMO

Use All Recourses

- Do your research
 - Understand the NIH process, policies, & expectations
- Build support
 - Learn who can help you at your institution
 - Understand your institutional process and timelines for grant related activities
- Reach out
 - Contact NIH Program staff early
 - Stay connected and monitor what is happening at NIH

Use All Recourses and Start Early



We Hope You Find Success with NIH Funding. Good Luck!





**NATIONAL
CANCER
INSTITUTE**

cancer.gov/crchd