Budget News

• As of December 27, 2020, NIH is funded under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260).

• NIHs FY 2021 budget amount is $42.9 billion which represents a 3 percent increase over the FY 2020 final funding level

• The American Rescue Plan (Public Law 117-2) awarded additional monies to HHS in support the COVID-19 public health emergency response.

• Research Priority Highlights:
  • Cancer Research $195 million
  • BRAIN Initiative $100 million (NINDS & NIMH)
  • All of Us Prevision Medicine Initiative ($109 million)
  • Common Fund ($635.9 million)
  • Pediatric Research Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act ($12.6 million)
  • COVID-19 Emergency Appropriations ($1.25 billion, available until Sept. 2024)
Fiscal Policy Updates

• NIH has issued several important fiscal policy Guide Notices:
  • NOT-OD-21-057, FY 2021 Salary Cap
    • Effective Jan 3, 2021: $199,300
  • NOT-OD-21-056, FY 2021 Legislative Mandates
  • NOT-OD-21-049, FY 2021 NRSA Stipend Levels
    • Effective for all FY21 NRSA awards
  • NOT-OD-21-058, Notice of Fiscal Policies in Effect for FY 2021

• Additional details on Fiscal Operations, including specific funding strategies for ICs, will be posted on the NIH Funding Strategies webpage.
NRSA Childcare Costs

- NIH has begun providing childcare support to recipients of NRSA fellowships as of April 8, 2021
- Applies to full-time NIH-NRSA-supported fellowship positions.
  - Each fellow is eligible to receive $2,500 per budget period
  - For households where both parents are NRSA fellows, each parent is eligible to receive $2,500.
- Costs are permitted for dependent children living in the eligible fellow’s home from birth under the age of 13, or children who are disabled and under age 18.
  - Childcare costs do not apply to elder or non-child dependent care costs.

See details and application instructions: NOT-OD-21-069
Recipients have reported a significant increase in errors in submitting reports via a single-entry point since January 1.

Errors mainly caused because the system does not allow recipients to submit reports that do not reconcile expenditure versus quarterly cash transaction data.

Given the significant impact, agencies will provide leniency, as appropriate, where these challenges prevent recipients from submitting timely FFRs.

- Notify the Grants Management Official of any delays and retain all documentation related to this flexibility in the event of an audit finding.

NIH and its partners are working closely with HHS PMS to address this matter as quickly as possible, and will continue to provide updates, as available.

Learn more: NOT-OD_21-060
Mandatory Submission of SF-425/FFR via Payment Management System- Points of Contact

- Direct all systems policy inquiries to:
  - NIH Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration (OPERA) Systems Policy Branch
    Email: OPERAsystemspolicy@nih.gov

- Direct all eRA systems-related inquiries to:
  - eRA Service Desk
    Submit a web ticket: [https://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html](https://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html)
    Toll-free: 1-866-504-9552
    Phone: 301-402-7469

- Direct all PMS systems-related inquiries to:
  - ONE-DHHS Help Desk
    Email: PMSSupport@psc.hhs.gov
    Toll-free: 1-877-614-5533

- PMS Training opportunities will be posted at: [https://pms.psc.gov/training/gr-ffr-training.html](https://pms.psc.gov/training/gr-ffr-training.html)

NIH Implementation of the Revised Federal-wide Research Terms and Conditions (RTCs)

• OMB mandated awarding agencies adopt recent revisions to 2 CFR part 200 effective November 12, 2020.

• Accordingly, the Federal-wide RTCs have been revised by the participating agencies, including NIH, for harmonization of regulatory practices across Federal research agencies with the revised 2 CFR §200.

• The National Science Foundation hosts and maintains the RTC website on behalf of all the participating agencies.

• NIH implementation of these Federal-wide RTCs is also outlined in the NIH Grants Policy Statement, Section 3.1

• Please make note of the NIH Agency Specific Requirements.

Learn more: NOT-OD-21-029
Grants Policy Statement

• GPS Publication Guide Notice
  • [NOT-OD-21-107](https://doi.org/10.1529/blood-2021-03-102859) announced that publication of the revised NIH GPS for FY2021, applicable to all grants and cooperative agreements with budget periods beginning on or after October 1, 2020.
  • A significant changes document was published alongside the updates.

• Significant Changes
  • Implementation of the updated Research Terms and Conditions
  • Updated Biosketch and Other Support language throughout to align with the Joint Committee on the Research Environment (JCORE) report.
  • Updated elements of the Notice of Award (NoA) to adopt implementation of HHS's Notice of Award Page One.
  • Updated language to adopt NIH's new diversity statement, including specifying categories of underrepresented populations.
  • Updated SBIR/STTR language and program levels to adopt the latest Omnibus solicitation.

Learn more: [NOT-OD-21-107](https://doi.org/10.1529/blood-2021-03-102859)
Expanding Requirement for eRA Commons IDs to All Senior/Key Personnel

- NIH, AHRQ, FDA, and ORD/VA will require all individuals listed on the R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Form to have an eRA Commons username (Commons ID) for due dates on or after January 25, 2022.
  - This will facilitate better data collection, assist in disambiguating data on applications, and facilitate the identification of conflicts of interest in peer review.

- An eRA Commons ID will need to be entered for all Senior/Key Personnel (as defined in NIH GPS 1.2) listed on the R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Form.
  - For multi-project applications, this requirement also applies to the individual components of the application.

Learn more: NOT-OD-21-109
Prohibition on Expending NIH Grant Funds for Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services

• Effective for all agencies on August 13, 2020. Recipients and subrecipients are prohibited from expending grant funds to:
  • Procure or obtain; extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system.

• Term of award outlined in NOT-OD-21-041 applies to all NIH grants.

• Recipients may rebudget funds originally allocated for covered telecommunications equipment or services, as appropriate.

• There are no waivers for grants for this statutory provision.

Learn more: NOT-OD-21-041 and FAQs
COMMITMENT
TRANSPARENCY
What is commitment transparency?

Transparency and reporting of *all* research activities, domestic and foreign

• Openness and transparency enables productive collaboration and helps ensure appropriate disclosure of potential conflicts of interest and commitment

• Failure by some researchers at NIH-funded institutions to disclose substantial contributions of resources from other organizations, including foreign governments, threatens to distort decisions about the appropriate use of NIH funds
Our Approach

• What’s NOT changing?
  • Foreign Component
  • Financial Conflicts of Interest

• To support the need for full transparency, NIH has updated the Biosketch and Other Support forms and instructions

• Utilized JCORE guidance, and collaborated with other research agencies
COMMITMENT
TRANSPARENCY
– WHAT’S
CHANGING?
Biosketch Format Updates

• Biosketch Form & Instructions:
  - Updated title of Section B to capture all scientific appointments (all positions and scientific appointments, foreign and domestic)
  - Removed Section D: Research Support, which duplicates information provided in Other Support
    Note: Scholastic Performance will remain in Section D for fellowship Biosketch
  - Page limit has not changed (5 pages)
  - Updated SciENcv template is available!
## Old Format

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Seniority personnel and other significant contributors. Follow this format for each person. DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):</td>
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<tr>
<td>POSITION TITLE:</td>
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**EDUCATION/TRAINING** (Begin with bachelor’s or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION AND LOCATION</th>
<th>DEGREE <em>(if applicable)</em></th>
<th>COMPLETION DATE MM/YYYY</th>
<th>FIELD OF STUDY</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Personal Statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Positions and Honors</td>
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<td>C. Contributions to Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance</td>
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## Updated – March 2021

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<tr>
<td>A. Personal Statement</td>
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<td>B. Positions, <strong>Scientific Appointments</strong>, and Honors</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Contributions to Science</td>
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</table>
Biosketch Mock-Up – Fellowship Format Page

Old Format

BIOPHICAL SKETCH

NAME:
eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE:

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE (if applicable) | Start Date MM/YYYY | Completion Date MM/YYYY | FIELD OF STUDY

A. Personal Statement
B. Positions and Honors
C. Contributions to Science
D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance

YEAR | COURSE TITLE | GRADE

Updated – March 2021

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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A. Personal Statement
B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors
C. Contributions to Science
D. Scholastic Performance

YEAR | COURSE TITLE | GRADE
Other Support Updates – Highlights

• Updated form and instructions provide more structured format

• Supporting documentation: supporting documentation, which includes copies of contracts, grants or any other agreement specific to senior/key personnel foreign appointments and/or employment with a foreign institution for all foreign activities and resources that are reported in Other Support. If the contracts, grants or other agreements are not in English, recipients must provide translated copies.

• Immediate notification of undisclosed Other Support: When a recipient organization discovers that a PI or other Senior/Key personnel on an active NIH grant failed to disclose Other Support information outside of Just-in-Time or the RPPR, as applicable, the recipient must submit updated Other Support to the Grants Management Specialist named in the Notice of Award as soon as it becomes known.

• PI or other senior/key personnel will electronically sign submissions to certify accuracy of the information provided
### Other Support Updates – Format Page

**Updated Form – March 2021**

#### Other Support – Projects/Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name of Individual</th>
<th>Commons ID</th>
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<td>O Active, O Pending, O Completed</td>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Primary Place of Performance</th>
<th>Approved/Proposed Start Date (MM/YYYY)</th>
<th>Approved/Proposed End Date (MM/YYYY)</th>
<th>Total Award Amount (including Indirect Costs)</th>
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<th>Person-Month(s) (Calendar/Academic/Summer) Per Calendar Year Committed to the Project</th>
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<td>Calendar Year (YYYY)</td>
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Estimated Dollar Value of In-Kind Contribution: $

#### Other Support – In-Kind

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<th>#</th>
<th>Summary of In-Kind Contributions</th>
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Status of Support: O Active, O Pending

Source:

Primary Place of Performance:

Approved/Proposed Project Start Date (MM/YYYY): 

Approved/Proposed Project End Date (MM/YYYY):

Person-Month(s) (Calendar/Academic/Summer) Per Calendar Year Committed to the Project:

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OVERLAP (summarized for each individual):
Implementation of Changes to the Biographical Sketch and Other Support Format Page

• NIH expects applicants and recipients to use the updated Biosketch and Other Support format for applications, Just-in-Time (JIT) Reports, and Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPRs) as of **May 25, 2021**

• NIH will require the use of the updated format pages on and after **January 25, 2022**
  • Electronic signatures and supporting documentation will be required beginning **January 25, 2022**
  • Failure to follow the appropriate formats on or after January 25, 2022, may cause NIH to withdraw applications from or delay consideration of funding.

• Applicants and recipients remain responsible for disclosing all research endeavors regardless of the version of the forms used.

Learn more: [NOT-OD-21-110](NOT-OD-21-110)
Additional Resources

• **Other Support Page**
  • Forms, Instructions, FAQs and samples

• **Biosketch Page**
  • Forms, Instructions, FAQs and samples

• More detailed training video coming in May

Learn more: [NOT-OD-21-073](#) and [FAQs](#)
Other Support and Biosketch Questions?

• Send inquiries related to changes to the biographical sketch and other support templates to nihosbiosketch@nih.gov.

• NIH is diligently working to ensure complete and timely responses to inquiries received to date via existing email inboxes. The research community may elect to forward inquiries that are pending a response to the new central email inbox, as needed.

Learn more: NOT-OD-21-122 and FAQs
eRA Information: Use of Internet Explorer for eRA Modules to be Phased Out by July 19, 2021

• As originally announced by Microsoft, support of Internet Explorer 11 (IE) will be discontinued for Microsoft 365 applications and services by August 17, 2021.

• Due to security and interoperability concerns, eRA will phase out the use of IE for eRA all modules by July 19, 2021. As of that date, eRA systems will no longer be available when using the IE browser.

• eRA will provide additional reminders and information as the phaseout date approaches.

Learn more: eRA Announcement