

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL of MEDICINE
THE BOWMAN GRAY CAMPUS
OFFICE OF RESEARCH

<http://www.wfubmc.edu/or>

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RADIATION SAFETY 61201
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PURSUIT

RESEARCH INFORMATION BULLETIN Vol. 20, No. 1, Jan/Feb 2006

BE PREPARED FOR GRANTS.GOV

What is Grants.gov? Grants.gov is a new federal initiative that allows users to electronically find, apply, and manage grant opportunities through an agency-wide web portal. NIH has already implemented mandatory deadlines for submitting applications through Grants.gov.

R15	February 25, 2006
R03 and R21	June 1, 2006
R01	February 1, 2007

Grants.gov is a way for grant seekers to fill out the forms needed for a specific opportunity and a method for transmitting applications to a federal sponsoring agency. Grants.gov has a training demo site at <http://grants.gov/CompleteApplication#demo>, where you can view a step-by-step demonstration of submitting a proposal through Grants.gov.

Do I need to register? If you are not a registered NIH eRA Commons user with online access to view award notices, participate on peer review panels, or submit eSNAP and extensions electronically, you probably still need to establish a Commons account. We are proactively working to ensure investigators are registered. If you are not already registered, contact Angela Horton (ahorton@wfubmc.edu) for registration assistance. Don't delay in getting registered, as per NIH registration can take from 2 days to 2 weeks. Wake Forest University Health Sciences has completed the necessary Grants.gov registration.

What do we need to do to submit? A synopsis of the submission process is:

1. Register as a NIH Commons user.
2. Find and download the program application package to which you want to apply at Grants.gov, under the **Find Grant Opportunities** tab.
3. Complete and compile the application, attaching necessary PDFs (Portable Document Files) to create a single application file. All attachments must be in .pdf format. During compilation the file remains resident on your computer and can only be accessed by one person at a time.
4. Submit the completed file by upload to a secure Office of Research (OR) website (TBA).

Continued on page 2.....

CONCERN LINES

ANIMAL CARE & USE - 716-5899
 RESEARCH CONDUCT - 716-0338
 COMPLIANCE - 1-877-880-7888

REGULATORY COMMITTEE DEADLINES

ANIMAL CARE AND USE
 COMMITTEE - MARCH 3 AND APRIL 7, 2006

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD -
 NOON - FRIDAYS

INTRAMURAL RESEARCH SUPPORT COMMITTEE DEADLINES

*REGULAR AND INTERIM -
 APRIL 14, 2006

* CLINICAL STUDIES OR OTHER
 RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMANS
 ARE ENCOURAGED

RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS SESSIONS

**MARCH 9, 2006 - GRANTS.GOV
 AND GENERAL UPDATES**

ALL SESSIONS ARE HELD AT 10:00 AM IN
 COMMONS CONFERENCE ROOMS 2&3.
 PLEASE E-MAIL AMY COMER
 (ACOMER@WFUBMC.EDU) TO BE ADDED
 TO THE EMAIL LIST.

5. After a final review, OR will submit the application to Grants.gov. Grants.gov will route the application to the appropriate federal agency.
6. Verify the submission. NIH requires verification of the submission two days following submission by the investigator and OR.

What about the WFUHS Proposal Review and Certification Form (route form)? The route form will still be required and must be completed and delivered to the Office of Research prior to submission to funding agency. The submission of the route form 3 days in advance of the deadline, along with your near-final proposal draft, will allow OR to continue to provide enhanced proposal review support and will help avoid last-minute submission delays. OR is investigating options to support electronic routing approval.

Do we need software? Yes, you need PureEdge Viewer and a PDF software.

PureEdge Viewer. In order to view application packages, instructions, and complete the necessary forms, you will need to download and install the PureEdge Viewer. We encourage you to download the PureEdge Viewer now.

a. From the Main Page (<http://www.grants.gov>), on the right side, under the "Apply for Grants" header: Prepare to Apply for Grants through Grants.gov, you must click on "Download PureEdge Viewer."

b. Click on the link http://www.grants.gov/PEViewer/ICSViewer602_grants.exe, under "Downloading and Installation". Follow the instructions to download and install the PureEdge Viewer on your computer.

What about Macintosh users? Grants.gov and NIH have partnered to provide free access to Citrix servers which allow Macintosh users to remotely launch a Windows session on their own machines. While connected to the server, Mac users can develop their grant application using PureEdge forms.

PDF Software. For a fee of \$30, Adobe Acrobat is available for installation from Information Services by completing the form found at <http://infinet.wfubmc.edu/hdesk/forms/adobeform.html>; alternative PDF generation solutions are available at <http://grants.gov/assets/PDFConversion.pdf>

Contact your system administrator if you encounter security problems associated with downloading this software.

Will there be training? Yes. OR will be providing introductions and hands-on training for department administrators and investigators. Hands-on training sessions have been scheduled for month of March. Please contact Angela Horton in the Office of Research (ahorton@wfubmc.edu).

Brown Bag Session--"What's Up with Grants.gov"

Friday, March 17, 2006 1:00 – 3:30

Description - An informative session geared to prepare users for new institutional procedures and help facilitate and ease into the transition of using Grants.gov, the portal through which all federal grants will be submitted.

Location - Commons Conference Rooms 1-3

JAN WAGNER APPOINTED AS DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DEAN AND INTERIM DIRECTOR, ANIMAL RESOURCES PROGRAM (ARP)

William B. Applegate, M.D., M.P.H., has appointed Dr. Jan Wagner to the newly established role of Deputy Associate Dean for Research with emphasis on the growing and successful research programs using animal models. The appointment is effective December 1, 2005. Dr. Wagner has also agreed to serve as the Interim Director of the Animal Resources Program (ARP), and Attending Veterinarian for the University, while a national search is conducted to identify a new Director. Dr. Wagner has been on the faculty at Wake Forest since 1989 and is currently a Professor of Pathology in the section of Comparative Medicine. She received a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine from the Ohio State University, a M.S. degree in pharmacology from the University of Virginia, and a Ph.D. degree in pathology from Wake Forest University. Dr. Wagner is also a diplomate in the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Dr. Wagner is an established and nationally respected scientist. She has been a reviewer for a number of NIH committees and scientific journals and is a guest editor for a future journal edition on Animal Models for Type 2 Diabetes that has been commissioned by the Institute for Laboratory Animal Research (ILAR). Her research interests are in diabetes, cardiovascular disease and women's health. She has received grant support from both NIH and industry. Dr. Wagner has published over 20 book chapters and 60 journal articles and has given over 80 talks primarily dealing with the effects of sex hormones on lipid metabolism, atherosclerosis, and diabetes.

SEARCHING FOR FUNDING?

WFUHS currently subscribes to COS (Community of Science), a web-based service that allows faculty to search the database for funding opportunities and available, as well as access the WFUHS Faculty Expertise Database, which allows people inside and outside WFUHS to search for faculty interest or involvement in a particular research or clinical area. To access COS, go to the Office of Research's website (www.wfubmc.edu/or), click on "Applications and Awards", then click on "Fund Search Engines". If you have any questions about COS, contact Amy Comer (acomer@wfubmc.edu).

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Office of Research has planned workshops, brown bags and training sessions for the upcoming year. Please see the insert in this issue for a comprehensive list of training opportunities listed by section. Watch the side bar on this page of future issues of Pursuit for upcoming sessions.

GOT TRANSLATORS?

THE TWO INDIVIDUALS LISTED BELOW CAN TRANSLATE STUDY CONSENT FORMS, RECRUITMENT BROCHURES, WEB SITE INFORMATION, POWER POINT SLIDES, OR OTHER RESEARCH-RELATED (OR NON-RESEARCH) DOCUMENTS. BOTH ARE FLUENT IN SPANISH, FRENCH AND ENGLISH, AND ENJOY DOING THIS KIND OF WORK:

SASHA MARGITIC:
SMARGITIC@YAHOO.COM

VICTOR HUGO GARZA GARCIA
VICTOR_HUGO_147@YAHOO.ES

DEAR DR. OR



Dear Dr. OR:

The close-out documents are due for my NIH grant which ended 3 months ago. Do I need to route the final invention statement and final progress report through the Office of Research for signature?

Signed,
Ready to complete

Dear Ready:

The final invention statement and final progress report for NIH grants can now be completed electronically through NIH Commons. The PI can log into Commons, identify his or her grant and click on "Close-out". The final progress report can be uploaded as a Word or PDF document. The final invention statement must be initiated by the PI and verified by the Office of Research, an email is sent to the Office of Research once the PI initiates this process. Click on "Yes" and complete the form if you have inventions to Disclose, otherwise click "No." No paper copies are needed. Remember, final reports are due within 90 days after the grant ends.

Questions for Dr. OR should be submitted in writing to Angela Horton, Office of Research, or by email ahorton@wfubmc.edu

TRANSGENIC MOUSE CORE UPDATE

A number of of faculty have inquired about making their own genetically engineered mice that over express or have knocked out their gene of interest. The following information on alternative ways to obtain the DNA or targeting constructs needed ot generate these animals has been recently added to the Transgenic Mouse Core website at www.wfubmc.edu/pathology/tgmc/core/

How can I generate the DNA or targeting constructs needed to produce transgenic and knockout mice?

The generation of genetically-engineered mice requires the production of DNA containing the gene of interest for transgenic animals, or a targeting construct containing the information for generation of the appropriate gene knockout. An excellent summary of how one goes about doing this can be found at the following websites.

- Beginners with transgenic or knockout mice, start here: www.cellmigration.org/resource/komouse/komouse_approaches.html
- For a guide to the basics of preparing gene targeting constructs, go here: www.cellmigration.org/resource/komouse/komouse_resources_targeting4beginners.html

The best way to obtain the needed DNA or targeting constructs is either to make them yourself, to collaborate with a molecular biologist in your department or elsewhere, or to have them made commercially. The Transgenic Core does not provide as a service the generation of the DNA or targeting constructs, nor do most other transgenic cores. We do, however, have information about commercial companies who will do this for a fee. Please contact Dr. Liqing Yu (6-0920, lyu@wfubmc.edu) if you would like information about these companies. Once the DNA or Targeting Constructs have been produced, they can be used by our Transgenic Core for production of the genetically-engineered mice.

NEWS FROM THE ANIMAL RESOURCES PROGRAM (ARP)

Please join with the ARP to extend a warm welcome to several new key staff members who have recently joined the department:

- **ARP – Bowman Gray Operations Coordinator, Ms. Pamela Extrom**

Ms. Extrom's home office is located on the 7th floor of the Hanes Building on the Bowman Gray Campus. She will provide direction, guidance, and training to personnel entering the Rodent Barrier Facility, and assist in overall animal facility daily operations on the 6th floor of the NRC Building of the Bowman Gray Campus.

- **Environmental Enrichment Coordinator, Ms. Heather Kirby**

Ms. Kirby's home office is located at the Friedberg Campus, but her work will take her to all campuses to help enrich the lives of a wide variety of animal species.

- **ARP – Bowman Gray Staff Veterinarian, Dr. Maria Zayas**

Dr. Zayas's home office is located on the E floor of the NRC Building on the Bowman Gray Campus. She will be responsible for providing veterinary clinical care to animals housed at the Bowman Gray and Reynolda Campuses.

Please take a moment to introduce yourself and help make them feel welcome in their new positions. We think you will enjoy working with them and find them an excellent fit with our Program.

PURSUITE "I DO THE CARING FOR YOU!" - QUALITY ANIMAL CARE EQUALS QUALITY SCIENCE

The 7th Annual International Laboratory Animal Technician Week was celebrated this year from January 29th through February 4th to recognize the importance of technicians as an essential part of the research team by providing compassionate attention to the animals in their care. The "quality care" lab animal technicians provide for their animals produces "quality science" that benefits all of us.

The American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) created this annual event to acknowledge laboratory animal technicians nationwide. AALAS is a professional nonprofit association of people concerned with the study, care, and production of laboratory animals, serving society through education, certification, and the advancement of responsible laboratory animal care and use. Since 1950, AALAS has been dedicated to the humane care and treatment of laboratory animals and the quality research that leads to scientific gains that benefit mankind and animals.

Please acknowledge the technicians at our facility - throughout the year! Remember how important daily animal care is to the end result of the research being conducted.

GRANT AND CONTRACT PROPOSAL WATCH

	Fiscal Year 06 July - Dec	Fiscal Year 05 July - Dec	% Change
Proposals Submitted	572	486	17.7%
Dollars Requested	\$356,037,918	\$263,923,319	34.9%



Women's Health Educational and Research Opportunities for Clinicians and Scientists

*For upcoming conferences and lectures, visit our calendar at
www.wfubmc.edu/women*

1ST ANNUAL WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH DAY

Mark your calendars! This year's Research Day will take place on April 25, 2006, from 8:30am – 3:30pm in the Comprehensive Cancer Center, Rooms 2A & B. The keynote speaker is Sarah Berga, M.D., Ph.D., Emory Clinic Chair and James Robert McCord Professor, Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Emory University. The focus of this Research Day is "Healthy Living across the Lifespan". Come hear our own leading researchers speak of a variety of topics, such as Quality of Life, Cancer, Nutrition & Exercise, Perinatal Research, Cardiovascular Research and Domestic Violence. For forthcoming details, visit our website at <http://www.wfubmc.edu/whcoe/>.

2006 EXCELLENCE TRIATHLON

It is the time of year to begin planning for our annual Triathlon, which raises awareness of domestic violence. The event will once again be held at beautiful Tanglewood Park, in Clemmons, on May 20, 2006. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the event, please contact Natalie Barrett at nbarrett@wfubmc.edu or 713-4230. We're also looking for interested sponsors. For more information or to offer sponsorship, please contact Stacy Rega at srega@wfubmc.edu or 716-9714. To register online to participate in the Triathlon, visit our website at <http://www.excellencetriathlon.org>.

2006 NIH RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The Office of Research for Women's Health has released the electronic version of the 2006 National Institute of Health Research Priorities for Women's Health. To access the PDF version of this document, go to <http://orwh.od.nih.gov/>.

WOMEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE SCIENTIFIC WEBSITE NOW AVAILABLE

The WHI scientific website, <http://www.whiscience.org/> is now available. It contains lists of all the data elements including funded ancillary studies and blood specimens already completed. The purpose of this website is to assist scientists who want to submit study proposals using WHI data and biospecimen resources. The documents on this site will introduce investigators to the WHI program, its major components, the data that have been acquired thus far, and already completed studies and published papers.

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute has posted a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), and the link is available on this website. This BAA offers the scientific community an opportunity to compete for funding and to access WHI data and biospecimen resources. This website includes documentation describing the process to compete for BAA resources. Scientists who are interested in proposing other studies using WHI resources not addressed by the BAA may seek collaboration with WHI investigators, who are familiar with the WHI program and can acquaint you with possible opportunities and specific procedures for proposing WHI ancillary studies.

OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST:

February is Heart Month. For more information and/or to request materials, visit the American Heart Association website at www.americanheart.org.

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. For more information and/or to request materials, visit the Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation website at www.preventcancer.org/colorectal.

March is also National Nutrition Month. For more information and/or to request materials, visit the American Dietetic Association website at www.eatright.org.

CONTROLLER'S CORNER - GRANTS MANAGEMENT

EFFORT REPORTS

The period of July 1, 2005 thru December 31, 2005 is now available for certification. All monthly-paid effort should have been certified by February 20th. A note to Business Managers, please complete the variance reports by March 7th.

PROPOSAL BUDGET REVIEW

As mentioned in prior Pursuits, we have had problems with the timely submission of proposal budgets. Consequently, we have asked that all budgets be completed and turned in to the Controller's Office 8 business days prior to the proposal due date. This "8 day rule" is to ensure that we have adequate time to review the final budget. We want to share some statistics with the hope that we can continue to improve upon this important deadline:

October	Reviewed 84 budgets, 54 were late	— 64% late
November	Reviewed 52 budgets, 10 were late	— 19% late
December	Reviewed 61 budgets, 25 were late	— 41% late
January (through 1/10)	Reviewed 32 budgets, 25 were late	— 78% late

We realize that there will always be last minute budgets to review but, we would like this to be a rare occurrence. We must maintain quality reviews, therefore, please submit final and complete budgets in enough time for an adequate review. The above numbers do not include the budgets that were reviewed multiple times (some up to 4 times). Please be sure that the PI and any other departmental reviews are completed prior to submitting the budgets to the Controller's Office.

Ways to help us to serve you faster:

- If you are inquiring about the status of a payment or travel voucher, please inquire with Accounts Payable.
- If you are trying to find the PO number on a requisition or where it is in the approval process, please use the Life cycle of a requisition screen in PeopleSoft.
- Please supply as much information as you have to help us process your HR requests. If you are filling a TBN position, put that in the notes. If a person is replacing some one on a grant, please let us know that. It saves us from having to ask the questions and thus speeds up the process.
- Please use grant numbers on all documentation instead of grant acronyms or titles.
- Please process JCRs as soon as a grant ends as we must meet reporting deadlines which are usually 90 days after the end date. Having these completed by the end date or shortly afterwards allows us to have an accurate accounting of payroll for the report.

RESEARCH PRIORITIES FOR THE AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY (AHRQ) - NOT-HS-06-032

AHRQ has identified the highest research priorities for unsolicited applications for fiscal year 2006. AHRQ will continue to provide regular updates of research priorities as research budget information becomes available. Applications focused on priority areas identified in this Special Emphasis Notice may be submitted on regular research and training grant application receipt dates and will be reviewed by standing AHRQ study sections. Application mechanisms currently accepted by AHRQ include R01, R03, R13, R18, K02, K08, F31, F32, and R36 applications. Specific research areas could include the following:

- Approaches to providing coordinated, patient-centered care to individuals with multiple co-morbid conditions over time and in multiple health care settings.
- The relationship of the “medical home” to health care access and to improved health care quality and outcomes for patients with multiple health conditions.
- Strategies for the assessment and treatment of multiple high risk health behaviors (including lack of physical activity, unhealthy diet, and tobacco use) and providing multiple evidence-based preventive services in primary care settings.
- Effective methods for managing polypharmacy in individuals with multiple co-morbidities including patient centered medication therapy management programs.
- Methods of providing health education and teaching self-management skills to patients with multiple co-morbid conditions and high risk behaviors.
- Strategies to reduce racial, ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in the care of sicker adults.
- Optimal methods of organizing health care teams in primary care, including the roles of various health professionals in the care of patients with multiple co-morbid conditions; implications for medical education and health professions training.
- The short- and long-term financial implications of providing coordinated, patient-centered care to individuals with multiple health conditions, including at-risk populations, such as the near-elderly and Medicaid populations.
- Translating effective research strategies to improve chronic illness care into cost-effective health system improvements.
- Consequences of pay-for-performance strategies on quality, cost, and access to care for patients with multiple co-morbidities; identification of pay-for-performance program characteristics most closely associated with quality improvement and efficiency gains in this population.

Due to limitations on available grant funds for fiscal year 2006 AHRQ will limit large research grant applications to \$300,000 total costs (direct and indirect) per year and \$100,000 total costs per year for large conference grant applications.

The complete notice can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HS-06-032.html>.

NEWS FROM NIH



OFFICE OF EXTRAMURAL RESEARCH BEGINS ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

The National Institutes of Health Office of Extramural Research (OER) has begun a bimonthly electronic newsletter for the research community, the *NIH Extramural Nexus*. Each issue will acquaint readers with topical information about extramural policies and initiatives, as well as the various programs that comprise the OER. Topics in the first issue include an update on electronic submission of grant applications, the new multiple PI and new investigator initiatives, NIH fiscal operations policies for FY 2006, and more. Link to the Nexus at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/outside/0106Nexus.htm>.

NIH BIOSKETCH – CHANGE IN FORMAT

Effective immediately, sections A. (Positions and Honors) and B. (Publications) may exceed 2 of the 4 page limit for an NIH Biosketch. Also, remember that section C. is for Research Support, current active and completed in the past three years only. Do not include pending projects, percent efforts, or dollar amounts.

NIH RAISES SALARY CAP

Effective January 1, 2006, Executive Level I salary rose from \$180,100 to \$183,500. All NIH budgets submitted from this point forward should use the new cap of \$183,500. The ability to obtain the highest salary can be lost if the NIH budget is not filled out properly. When a PI's institutional base salary exceeds the capped amount, place the actual salary, rather than the current limit, in the institutional base salary box of the table on Form Page 4 of the PHS 398 form. Then, if the salary limit is raised between the time of submission and award, the new salary limit will be applied to the formerly reported salary. Complete details can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-031.html>.

NIH REGIONAL SEMINARS IN PROGRAM FUNDING AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

2006 Regional Seminars in Program Funding and Grants Administration

Two regional seminars covering topics related to NIH extramural program funding and grants administration have been planned for 2005. The two-day seminars provide information about the NIH funding process, from opportunity identification and application preparation through post award administration. Presentations are targeted towards research administrators, researchers new to NIH, post docs and trainees. Opportunities for informal interactions between seminar participants and NIH grants management, program, policy and review staff are incorporated into the program and such interactions are highly encouraged. NIH electronic research administration labs are offered on the Wednesday preceding the seminar. The seminars will be held on:

March 30-31, 2006 – co-hosted by Harvard University and Mass General Hospital - Boston, Massachusetts

May 31 – June 1, 2006 – hosted by University of California - Riverside

PURSUIT

Information on programs is available from the NIH Office of Extramural Research regional seminar website at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/seminars.htm>.

PILOT STUDY TO SHORTEN THE REVIEW CYCLE FOR NEW INVESTIGATOR R01 APPLICATIONS

Shortening the review cycle is a high priority for the NIH and the biomedical and behavioral research communities. There is also a great interest in the career development of scientists and NIH is committed to supporting new investigators in their efforts to obtain R01 research grant funding. The Center for Scientific Review convened a trans-NIH working group to develop a process to shorten the referral and review cycle in order to permit a new investigator to submit an amended application for the next submission date. The working group recommended an initial pilot, followed by an evaluation phase before consideration of modification and/or expansion. The pilot is designed to shorten the time to the next review for some new investigators who are not successful in a R01 grant submission and are readily able to address the concerns raised and issues identified in the Summary Statement. Under carefully defined circumstances for this pilot, new investigators will be able to resubmit amended applications for the next review meeting, rather than waiting a cycle. This will shorten the time for the next consideration of the resubmission application by four months. This pilot incorporates a number of features, including a shortened time for reviewers to consider applications, earlier study section meetings, accelerated production of Summary Statements, and a delayed submission date for these amended applications. Since the NIH limits the number of resubmissions to two, new investigators will need to consider carefully whether this option is appropriate for their situation. Consultation with Institute/Center program staff and senior colleagues will be important in this process. Not all Study Sections are participating in this pilot study; a list of participating Study Sections and the qualifications that must be met to be eligible are available at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-013.html>.

FISCAL NEWS FROM THE NHLBI

Dr. Elizabeth Nabel, director of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), recently sent a letter to awardees describing the institute's budget situation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 and the budget outlook for FY 2007. Some key points outlined in the letter:

- The overall NHLBI budget for FY 2006 is \$2.895 billion, about \$27 million less than FY 2005. Dr. Nabel stated that although the situation “will call for some belt-tightening”, drastic measures should not be required.
- In FY 2006, the NHLBI anticipates that new research project grants approved by the Advisory Council will be funded at the full level recommended.
- Program Project grants for FY 2006 and FY 2007 will have a direct cost cap of \$1,515,000, with annual increases in direct costs not to exceed 3%.
- Competing renewal grants will generally be limited to a 10% increase in budget over the level of the last noncompeting budget period. For policies concerning program project grants, modular grants, and grants that entail non-recurring equipment costs, go to <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/funding/policies/operguid.htm>.
- For noncompeting renewals, direct costs will be awarded at 97.65% of the committed amount (shown on the Notice of Grant Award for the previous budget period). **This policy is being implemented across all NIH institutes.**
- For grants likely to be funded in FY 2007, competing renewals will be limited to an annual increase of 3% in direct costs.
- Help for new investigators: The NHLBI has established a separate payline for new investigators that is 5 percentile points above the NHLBI payline. Furthermore, new investigators whose grants miss the “new investigator” payline by 5 percentile points or fewer can address the criticisms of the initial review group in an expedited administrative review. For details, go to <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/about/director/new-investigators.htm>.

COMMONLY ENCOUNTERED EARLY-CAREER K AWARDS: ELIGIBILITY RULES

K01: Mentored Research Scientist Development

Ineligible If - PI of any other simultaneous NIH applications or PI of any current NIH grant

OK: previous PI of R03 or R21? - NO

K08 : Mentored Clinical Scientist Development (for clinically trained person doing *any type* of research)

Ineligible If - Current or past PI of an R01, R29, K01, K07, K23 or project within PPG

OK: previous PI of R03 or R21? - YES

K12 Institutional Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program

Ineligible If - Current or past PI of an R01, R29, K01, K07, K23 or project within PPG

OK: previous PI of R03 or R21? - YES

K22: Career Transition

Ineligible If - PI of any pending NIH applications of another type; current or past PI of any NIH grant >\$100K/yr in direct costs

OK: previous PI of R03 or R21? - Maybe – see above

K23: Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development (for clinically trained person doing *patient-oriented* research)

Ineligible If - Current or past PI of an R01, R29, K01, K07, K23 or project within PPG; PI of any pending NIH applications of another type; Current or past PI of any NIH grant >\$100K/yr in direct costs

OK: previous PI of R03 or R21? - Maybe – see above

RUTH L. KIRSCHSTEIN NATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE AWARD (NRSA)

STIPEND INCREASE FOR FY 2006

NIH announced that it has increased the stipend level on all institutional and individual NRSA training awards made on or after October 1, 2005. The new stipends are as follows:

Predoctoral \$20,772

Postdoctoral (based on years of service):

0	\$36,996
1	\$38,976
2	\$41,796
3	\$43,428
4	\$45,048
5	\$46,992
6	\$48,852
7 or more	\$51,036

According to NIH, these stipend levels are effective only for awards made with FY 2006 funds. Retroactive adjustments or stipend supplements with NRSA funds for awards made prior to October 1, 2005 are not permitted. NIH notes that the new stipend levels are to be used in the preparation of future competing and non-competing NRSA institutional training grant and individual fellowship applications. The new stipend levels will be administratively applied to all applications now in the review process.

INSTITUTIONAL ALLOWANCE AND TRAINING RELATED EXPENSES FOR POSTDOCTORAL NRSA RECIPIENTS:

The Training Related Expenses for each predoctoral and postdoctoral trainee as well as the Institutional Allowance for all predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows remains at the amounts shown below for all awards made with FY 2006 funds:

Training Related Expenses on Institutional Training Grants

Predocctoral Trainees:	\$2,200
Postdoctoral Trainees:	\$3,850

Institutional Allowance on Individual Fellows Sponsored by non-Federal Public and Private Institutions (Domestic and Foreign)

Predocctoral Fellows:	\$2,750
Postdoctoral Fellows:	\$7,000

Institutional Allowance for Individual Fellows Sponsored by Federal and For-Profit Institutions:

Predocctoral Fellows:	\$1,650
Postdoctoral Fellows:	\$5,900

These amounts will be applied to all competing and non-competing NRSA awards made with FY 2006 funds. Competing and non-competing awards issued on or after October 1, 2005 which used the FY 2005 levels will be revised by the NIH awarding component to reflect the new level. These new levels are to be used in the preparation of future competing and non-competing NRSA institutional training grant and individual fellowship applications. They will be administratively applied to all applications now in the review process.

Research Funding Opportunities

For all funding information contact Angela Horton, Office of Research, 60780, unless noted otherwise in the funding announcement

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

POSITION: NIH Pathway to Independence Awards – PA-06-133

DESCRIPTION: The primary goal of this pilot initiative is to facilitate receiving an R01 award earlier in a research career and to assist investigators in securing a stable research position during the critical transition stage of their career. The NIH Pathway to Independence Award will provide up to five years of support consisting of two phases. The initial mentored phase will provide support for salary and research expenses for up to 2 years for the most promising and exceptionally talented new investigators who have no more than 5 years of postdoctoral research training experience at the time of initial application or subsequent resubmission(s). This initial phase of mentored support will allow the candidate time to complete research, publish results, and bridge to an independent research position. As part of the application, the candidate must propose a research project that will also be pursued as an independent investigator during the second phase of the award. The candidate and mentors together will be responsible for all aspects of the mentored career development and research program. An individual may submit an application from an extramural or intramural sponsoring institution/organization that has a rich and extensive research program in the area of interest as well as the faculty, facilities and resources to support the proposed research endeavor. The individual must select an appropriate mentor with a track record of funded research related to the selected research topic and experience as a supervisor and mentor. The sponsoring institution must ensure that the candidate has the protected time needed to conduct the proposed research. Following the mentored phase, the individual may request up to 3 years of support to transition, as an independent scientist, to an extramural sponsoring institution/organization to which the individual has been recruited. This support is to allow the individual to continue to work toward establishing his/her own independent research program and prepare an application for regular research grant support (R01). Support for the independent phase, however, is not automatic and is contingent upon being accepted by an extramural institution and the successful NIH programmatic review of the individual's mentored phase of the award. This funding opportunity will use the new combination K99/R00 funding mechanism. At time of submission, applicants must:

- have earned a terminal clinical or research doctorate
- have no more than 5 years of postdoctoral research training
- Individuals are NOT eligible if they:
- have currently or previously held research faculty or other professorships or their equivalent in academia, industry or elsewhere; or
- have more than five years of related postdoctoral research training at time of initial application or resubmission(s); or
- have been a principal investigator on NIH research grants (such as R01, P01 or subprojects of such grants) or have been a principal investigator on peer-reviewed non-NIH research grants over \$100,000 in direct costs per year intended for faculty members;

Former principal investigators of NIH Small Grants (R03), Exploratory/Developmental Grants (R21), and Phase I Small Business Research Grants (SBIR/STTR) remain eligible. Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with the scientific/research contact person listed in Section VII of the program announcement prior to the submission of an application to discuss eligibility and program requirements. The complete program announcement can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-133.html>.

DEADLINES: April 7, June 1, October 1, 2006

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Research Grants-The Society's Extramural Grants Program seeks to support and promote high impact and innovative cancer-related research across a wide range of disciplines to meet critically important needs in the control of cancer. The Society offers extramural support in various areas.

Research Scholar Grants are available in the following areas: **Basic, Pre-clinical, Clinical and Epidemiology Research; Cancer Control and Prevention; Psychosocial and Behavioral Research; and Cancer Control and Prevention: Health Services and Health Policy Research** – these awards provide support for investigator-initiated research projects. Awards are for up to four years and for up to \$200,000 per year. Investigators must be in their first six years of an independent research career or faculty appointment to be eligible to apply.

DEADLINES: April 1 and October 15, annually

Postdoctoral Fellowships - these awards provide support for the training of researchers who have received a doctorate providing initial funding leading to an independent career in cancer research (including basic, preclinical, clinical, cancer control, psychosocial, behavioral, epidemiology, health services and health policy research). Awards are for up to three years with progressive stipends of \$40,000, \$42,000 and \$44,000 per year, plus a \$4,000 per year institutional allowance.

DEADLINES: April 1 and October 15, annually

Mentored Research Scholar Grants in Applied and Clinical Research – these awards support mentored research by full-time faculty, typically within the first four years of their appointment, with the goal of becoming independent investigators in clinical, cancer control and prevention, epidemiologic, psychosocial, behavioral, health services and health policy research. Awards are made up to five years and for up to \$135,000 per year. These grants are not renewable.

DEADLINES: April 1 and October 15, annually

MARCH OF DIMES

POSITION: Prematurity Research Initiative

DESCRIPTION: The Foundation seeks applications requesting grant support for projects related to causes of prematurity. Research proposals of new paradigms based on strong conceptual frameworks are invited. The intent is to provide new insights into the large, and increasing, proportion of preterm deliveries in which the cause (and thus the means of prevention) remains elusive. The proposals need to consider especially, but not be limited to, genetics, gene-environment interactions, and animal models. Novel approaches are encouraged. These grants do not cover the recipient's or other faculty salaries, but do provide salary for technical help. Awards will range from \$88,000 to \$165,000. Potential applicants should submit electronically the required administrative information and a Letter of Intent summarizing the proposed studies via the online system at

<http://researchgrants.marchofdimes.com/pri>.

DEADLINE: Letter of Intent Due - April 15, 2006

Research Funding Opportunities

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NARSAD, THE MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

POSITION: Independent Investigator Award Program

DESCRIPTION: NARSAD, the Mental Health Research Association (previously known as the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression), is a private, not-for-profit public charity organized for the purpose of raising funds for scientific research into the causes, cures, treatments, and prevention of severe psychiatric brain disorders such as schizophrenia and depression. NARSAD's Independent Investigator Award Program provides support for investigators during the critical period between the initiation of research and the receipt of sustained funding. A two-year award up to \$50,000 per year (maximum of \$100,000 for two years) is provided to scientists at the associate-professor level or equivalent who are clearly independent and have won national competitive support as a principal investigator. Basic and/or clinical investigators are supported, but research must be relevant to schizophrenia, major affective disorders, or other serious mental illnesses. The program is intended to facilitate innovative research opportunities. Visit the NARSAD Web site for program information and application procedures, as well as details on other NARSAD research award opportunities. <http://www.narsad.org/research/apply/>

DEADLINE: March 6, 2006

PEREGRINE CHARITIES

POSITION: Research Grants

DESCRIPTION: Peregrine Charities, a foundation created in May 2004 to assist children and families coping with rare pediatric diseases, is accepting grant applications. In keeping with the mission of the foundation, grants will be issued to not-for-profit organizations that support medical research into the origin, treatment, and cure of pediatric diseases — in particular, rare and under-funded pediatric diseases. Grants will range from \$2,000 to \$50,000, are issued on a bi-annual basis, and can be considered for renewal. Grant guidelines and application instructions are available at the foundation's Web site:

<http://www.peregrinecharities.org/>

DEADLINE: March 30, 2006

MARCH OF DIMES

POSITION: Research Grants

DESCRIPTION: The Foundation invites applications for research grants. Applicants must hold a faculty appointment. Research subjects appropriate for support by the Foundation include basic biological processes governing development, genetics, clinical studies, studies of reproductive health, environmental toxicology, and social and behavioral studies relevant to their mission. These grants do not cover the recipient's or other faculty salaries, but do provide salary for technical help. Previous years awards range from \$32,731 to \$102,476. Potential applicants should submit electronically the required administrative information and a Letter of Intent summarizing the proposed studies via the online system at

<http://researchgrants.marchofdimes.com/loi>.

DEADLINE: Letter of Intent Due - April 30, 2006

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS

POSITION: DOD/CDMRP 2006 Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP)

DESCRIPTION: The overall goal of the FY06 PCRP is to find and fund innovative, high-impact research that seeks to (1) prevent prostate cancer, (2) detect prostate cancer in its earliest stages of development, (3) cure prostate cancer, and (4) improve the quality of life for individuals living with prostate cancer and their families. The 2006 PCRP includes funding opportunities in eleven different mechanisms. Pre-doctoral and post-doctoral M.D., Ph.D., and M.D./Ph.D. applicants (including medical students, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows and residents) are encouraged to apply for the new Prostate Cancer Training Award.

18 April 2006 Submission Deadline: **Exploration - Hypothesis Development Award; Health Disparity Research Award; Health Disparity Training - Prostate Scholar Award; Idea Development Award; New Investigator Award; Prostate Cancer Training Award**

20 June 2006 Submission Deadline: **Physician Research Training Award; Clinical Consortium Award; Clinical Trial Award**

The electronic submission process must be completed by the applicant and his/her institutional contracting representative by the stated deadline using the CDMRP Electronic Proposal Submission website: <https://cdmrp.org/proposals>.

POSITION: DOD 2006 Breast Cancer Research Program

DESCRIPTION: Detailed descriptions of each of the mechanisms, evaluation criteria, and submission requirements can be found in the FY06 BCRP Program Announcement for each mechanism. These can be downloaded from the CDMRP web site <http://cdmrp.army.mil>.

Center of Excellence Award: Pre-Proposal April 11, 2006

Clinical Translational Research Award: Pre-Proposal April 11, 2006;

Era of Hope Postdoctoral Award: Nomination Deadline April 11, 2006;

Era of Hope Scholars Award: Nomination Deadline April 11, 2006

Idea Award: May 23, 2006

Multidisciplinary Postdoctoral Awards: May 23, 2006

Predoctoral Traineeship Awards: May 23, 2006

Synergistic Idea Award: May 23, 2006

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Research Funding Opportunities

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the funding announcement

REMINDER

"THREE DAY RULE" FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted to the Office of Research for review and institutional signature no less than **three days prior** to the agency deadline.

PURSUIT STAFF

AMY COMER
ANGELA HORTON
KAREN KLEIN
KRIS RHODES

KEY FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(DHHS) INSTITUTES - (<http://www.nih.gov/icd/>)

AHRQ - Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

NCCAM - National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine

NCI - National Cancer Institute

NCRR - National Center for Research Resources

NEI - National Eye Institute

NHLBI - National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

NHGRI - National Human Genome Research Institute

NIAAA - National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

NIA - National Institute on Aging

NIAID - National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

NIAMS - National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

NIBIB - National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering

NICHD - National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

NIDA - National Institute on Drug Abuse

NIDCD - National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

NIDDK - National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

NIDCR - National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

NIEHS - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

NIGMS - National Institute of General Medical Sciences

NIMH - National Institute of Mental Health

NINDS - National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

NINR - National Institute of Nursing Research

NLM - National Library of Medicine

ORWH - Office of Research on Women's Health