

# The Grant Seeking Environment at NIH: Notes for Faculty at the 7C's, May 2017



aka: **nih.gov**

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**CGU Vice Provost**  
**Office of Research and Sponsored Programs**

# What is NIH? Alphabet Soup, \$\$\$, and Scope

- **The nation's premier medical research agency** Part of USDHHS, part of PHS along with CDC, FDA, HRSA, AHRQ, SAMHSA, IHS...
- **World's largest grant-maker:** 2017 budget \$32 Billion, of which external grants exceed **\$25 Billion**, mainly research project grants (RPGs) to domestic universities and academic medical centers
- **Has 24 grant-giving Institutes and Centers (IC's)** + 3 internal service Centers. Each grant-giving IC has its own research agenda. Most but not all focus on disease types or organ systems (Cancer, Heart/Lung/Blood, Drug Abuse)
- **Funds all disciplines bearing on human health:** life sciences, biophysics, bioengineering, biotechnology, bioinformatics, biostatistics, applied math, epidemiology, applied computer science, behavioral & social sciences



# What is NIH? Bricks & Mortar + Politics

**Headquarters and \$6B of research: Main campus, Bethesda, Md., 300 acres, 75 buildings.**

James Shannon Building  
(Bldg. #1, 1938)



Mark O. Hatfield &  
Warren Grant Magnuson  
Clinical Centers



Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine  
Research Center (Building #40)



National Institute of Environmental  
Health Sciences, Research Triangle  
Park, North Carolina



# How does NIH Work?

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Your best  
pages at  
**nih.gov**

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

**NIH** National Institutes of Health  
Turning Discovery Into Health

Search NIH

NIH Employee Intranet | Staff Directory | En Español

Health Information | **Grants & Funding** | News & Events | Research & Training | Institutes at NIH | About NIH

## 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.

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

**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.

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

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

**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





Your page  
at  
**nih.gov**

-----  
**About  
Grants**



### About Grants

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



Your page  
at  
**nih.gov**

-----  
**About  
Grants**

**NIH** National Institutes of Health  
Office of Extramural Research

**Grants & Funding**  
NIH's Central Resource for Grants and Funding Information

Entire Site

**HOME** **ABOUT GRANTS** **FUNDING** **POLICY & COMPLIANCE** **NEWS & EVENTS**

Home » About Grants

**About Grants**

- Grants Process Overview
- Get Started
- How to Apply
- Application Referral and Review
- Pre-Award and Post-Award Processes
- Forms Library

**About Grants**

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 building the research foundation that drives discovery. Read on for an orientation to NIH funding, grant programs, how the grants process works, and how to apply.

**Grants Process Overview**

Learn the steps needed for an application to proceed from planning and submission to award and close out. Drill down on each step for guidance that can deepen your understanding of the grants process and help you submit a grant application and manage your grant award.

**Get Started**

Before getting started, learn the basics like why it is important to understand the structure of NIH and how we approach grant funding, what types of organizations and people are eligible to apply, what we look for in a research project, and the types of grant programs we offer. Once you have the big picture move on to learn about planning your application.

**Apply for Grant Funding**

**Process to Apply**

Ensure all registrations are in place, get familiar with requirements, and choose which of the available submission options you will use.

**Applications**

**Grants**

**NIH REGIONAL SEMINAR**  
*New Orleans*  
May 3-5, 2017  
Learn More

# Your page at nih.gov

## Grant Basics



The screenshot shows the NIH Grants Basics page. The navigation bar includes links for HOME, ABOUT GRANTS, FUNDING, POLICY & COMPLIANCE, NEWS & EVENTS, and ABOUT OER. The left sidebar lists various topics, with 'Learn the Basics' highlighted by a red circle. A large orange arrow points from this link to a graphic titled 'NIH Grants Process: The Big Picture'. The main content area is titled 'Grants Basics' and includes an introductory paragraph about understanding the NIH structure. Below this, there are sections for 'Understanding NIH: Finding the Right Fit for Your Research', 'What Does NIH Look For?', 'Who is Eligible', and 'Types of Grant Programs'. A small image of a NIH Regional Seminar in New Orleans is also visible in the bottom left corner.

**HOME** **ABOUT GRANTS** **FUNDING** **POLICY & COMPLIANCE** **NEWS & EVENTS** **ABOUT OER**

Home » About Grants » Grants Basics

**About Grants**

Grants Process Overview

**Get Started**

**Learn the Basics**

Understand NIH

What Does NIH Look For

Who is Eligible

Types of Grant Programs

Types of Applications

Plan Your Application

How to Apply

Application Referral and Review

Pre-Award and Post-Award Processes

Forms Library

## Grants Basics

Before getting started, learn why it is important to understand the structure of NIH and how we approach grant funding, what types of organizations and people are eligible to apply, what we look for in a research project, and the types of grant programs we offer.

### NIH Grants Process: The Big Picture

*The Road to Funding*

#### Understanding NIH: Finding the Right Fit for Your Research

As you begin your journey in search of NIH grant funding, learn why understanding the structure of NIH is important to successfully navigate the grants process. [Learn more.](#)

#### What Does NIH Look For?

The NIH provides financial support in the form of grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to support the advancement of the NIH mission to enhance health, extend healthy lives, and reduce the burdens of illness and disability. We encourage submission of unique projects of high scientific caliber. [Learn more.](#)

#### Who is Eligible

Each type of NIH grant program has its own set of eligibility requirements. Applicants can find eligibility information in Section III of each funding opportunity announcement (FOA). While the principal investigator conceives and writes the application, NIH recognizes the applicant institution as the grantee for most grant types. [Learn more.](#)

#### Types of Grant Programs

This page will help you explore the types of grant funding NIH offers, from research grants to career development awards, research training and fellowships, center grants, and more.

NIH REGIONAL SEMINAR  
New Orleans





Your  
videos at  
the NIH  
YouTube  
Channel





Your page  
at  
**nih.gov**

# Grant Basics



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**About Grants**

- Grants Process Overview
- Get Started
- Learn the Basics**
  - Understand NIH
  - What Does NIH Look For** (highlighted with a red circle and a red arrow)
  - Who is Eligible
  - Types of Grant Programs
  - Types of Applications
  - Plan Your Application
- How to Apply
- Application Referral and Review
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Additional images on the page include a red double-decker bus and a poster for the NIH Regional Seminar in New Orleans.

Your page  
at  
**nih.gov**

What  
does  
NIH  
Look  
For?

Home » About Grants » Grants Basics » What Does NIH Look For?

## About Grants

Grants Process Overview

### Get Started

Learn the Basics

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Forms Library

## What Does NIH Look For?

The NIH provides financial support in the form of [grants](#), [cooperative agreements](#), and [contracts](#). This assistance supports the advancement of the [NIH mission](#) of enhancing health, extending healthy life, and reducing the burdens of illness and disability. While NIH awards many grants specifically for research, we also provide grant opportunities that support research-related activities, including: fellowship and training, career development, scientific conferences, resource and construction. Learn more about the [types of programs](#) NIH supports. We encourage:

### • Projects of High Scientific Caliber

NIH looks for grant proposals of high scientific caliber that are relevant to public health needs and are within [NIH Institute and Center](#) (IC) priorities. ICs highlight their research priorities on their individual [websites](#). Applicants are urged to contact the [appropriate scientific program staff](#) at the Institute or Center to discuss the relevancy and/or focus of their proposed research before submitting an application.

### • NIH-Requested Research

NIH Institutes and Centers regularly identify specific research areas and program priorities to carry out their scientific missions. To encourage and stimulate research and the submission of research applications in these areas, many ICs will issue [funding opportunity announcements \(FOAs\)](#) in the form of [program announcements \(PAs\)](#) and [requests for applications \(RFAs\)](#). These FOAs may be issued to support research in an understudied area of science, to take advantage of current scientific opportunities, to address a high scientific program priority, or to meet additional needs in research training and infrastructure. To find an FOA in your scientific field, search the [NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts](#) which includes all funding opportunities offered by NIH, or [Grants.gov](#) to search across all Federal agencies.

### • Unsolicited Research

NIH supports “unsolicited” research and training applications that do not fall within the scope of NIH-requested targeted announcements. These applications originate from your research idea or training need, yet also address the scientific mission of the NIH and one or more of its ICs. These “unsolicited” applications should be submitted through “[parent announcements \(PAs\)](#)”, which are funding opportunity announcements that span the breadth of the NIH mission.

### • Unique Research Projects

Projects must be unique. By law, NIH cannot support a project already funded or pay for research that has already been done. Although you may not send the same application to more than one [Public Health Service \(PHS\)](#) agency at the same time, you can apply to an organization outside the PHS with the same application. If the project gets funded by another organization, however, it cannot be funded by NIH as well.



Your page  
at  
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**What  
does  
NIH  
Look  
For?**

[Home](#) » [About Grants](#) » [Grants Basics](#) » [What E](#)

## About Grants

[Grants Process Overview](#)

### Get Started

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[Types of Grant Programs](#)

[Types of Applications](#)

[Plan Your Application](#)

[How to Apply](#)



What has  
NIH looked  
for (funded)  
in the past?

NIH  
RePORTER  
Search Tool

The screenshot shows the NIH RePORTER search tool interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links: HOME, ABOUT RePORT, FAQs, GLOSSARY, CONTACT US. Below this is a header with tabs: QUICK LINKS, RESEARCH, ORGANIZATIONS, WORKFORCE, FUNDING, REPORTS, and LINKS & DATA. The main content area is titled "NIH RePORTER" and includes a "CHECK OUT FEDERAL RePORTER" button. Below this are tabs for QUERY, BROWSE NIH, MATCHMAKER, and SEARCH PUBLICATIONS WITH. The "QUERY" tab is active, showing a "SUBMIT QUERY" and "CLEAR QUERY" button. The "Fiscal Year (FY)" is set to "Current FY is 2017" with a dropdown for "Active Projects". The "RESEARCHER AND ORGANIZATION" section includes fields for Principal Investigator (PI) / Project Leader (Last Name, First Name), Organization (with a "LOOKUP" button), Department (with a "SELECT" button), and Organization Type (with a "SELECT" button). It also includes fields for City, State (with a "SELECT" button), Country (with a "SELECT" button), Congressional District (with a "SELECT" button), and DUNS Number. The "TEXT SEARCH" section includes a "Text Search (Logic)" dropdown with options "Add", "Or", and "Advanced". It also includes a "Search in" dropdown with options "Projects", "Publications", and "News". The "Limit Project search to" section includes checkboxes for "Project Title", "Project Terms", and "Project Abstracts". The "Limit Publication search to" section includes dropdowns for "Start Year" (2016) and "End Year" (2017). The "PROJECT DETAILS" section includes fields for Project Number / Application ID (with a "LOOKUP" button), OR, and Program Officer (PO) (Last Name, First Name). It also includes fields for Agency/Institute/Center (with a "SELECT" button), NIH Spending Category (with a "SELECT" button), Funding Mechanism (with a "SELECT" button), Award Type (with a "SELECT" button), and Activity Code (with a "SELECT" button).





# What does NIH want to fund next?

## NIH Funding Opportunity Notices

**NIH** National Institutes of Health  
Office of Extramural Research

**Grants & Funding**  
NIH's Central Resource for Grants and Funding Information

Entire Site Search this Site

eRA | Glossary & Acronyms | FAQs | Help

HOME ABOUT GRANTS **FUNDING** POLICY & COMPLIANCE NEWS & EVENTS ABOUT OER

### NIH Guide to Grants and Contracts

The NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts is our official publication for NIH grant policies, guidelines and funding opportunities. We publish daily, and issue a [table of contents](#) weekly. Learn more [about the NIH Guide](#) and [subscribe today!](#)

The [old advanced search](#) is still available.

**New Features:**

- **Tabular view** - You can now view the search results in table format.
- **Export to excel** - Search results can now be exported to excel for reporting purposes.

Current Search ?

Search Summary or Number

Search Title

☒ Any of these words  
☐ All of these words  
☐ This exact word or phrase

Export to Save this Search

Results: 1 to 25 of 1105

Page: 1 of 45 Next Last

Display Results as: **Table** Detailed

Active FOAs Expired FOAs Notices

Title	FOA Number	Organization	Released ▼	Expires	Activity Code
Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (P30)	<a href="#">RFA-AG-18-003</a>	NIA	04-05-2017	07-21-2017	P30
Resource Centers for Minority Aging (RCMAR) Coordinating Center (R24)	<a href="#">RFA-AG-18-004</a>	NIA	04-05-2017	07-21-2017	R24
Alzheimer's-related Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (AD-RCMAR) (P30)	<a href="#">RFA-AG-18-002</a>	NIA	04-05-2017	07-21-2017	P30
Limited Competition: Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) Phase III - Transitional Centers (P30)	<a href="#">PAR-17-249</a>	NIGMS	04-04-2017	05-29-2019	P30
Extracellular Vesicles and Substance Use Disorders (R21)	<a href="#">PAR-17-242</a>	NIDA	04-04-2017	01-16-2020	2 Trackers
Extracellular Vesicles and Substance Use Disorders	<a href="#">PAR-17-250</a>	NIDA	04-04-2017	01-16-2020	R01

Back to Top

▼ Type Of Funding Opportunities ?

☒ Program Announcements (PAs)  
☐ Parent Announcements Only  
☒ Requests for Applications (RFAs)



# What *types* of grants does NIH fund?

- The main types of NIH grant funding
  - **Research Grants** (R series, e.g. R01, the most common type)
  - **Career Development Awards** (K series, e.g. K08, individual support)
  - **Research Training and Fellowships** (T & F series, e.g. F31, predoc and postdoc)
  - **Program Project/Center Grants** (P series, e.g. P50, projects and “cores”)

# NIH R series grants (1)

- **Research Project Grant (R01)**
  - Discrete, well specified, circumscribed projects for which preliminary study results are generally presented in the proposal
  - Generally awarded for 3 -5 years, may be competitively renewed
  - Usually no specific dollar limit, but advance permission required for \$500,000 or more (direct costs) in any year
- **Academic Research Enhancement Award (R15)**
  - Supports small research projects in the biomedical and behavioral sciences conducted by faculty with undergraduate and/or graduate students in colleges or universities *that have not been major recipients of NIH research grant funds*
  - Up to 3 years, total direct cost limited to \$300,000

# NIH R series grants (2)

- **Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21)**
  - New, exploratory, and developmental research projects. Sometimes used for pilot and feasibility studies. No preliminary data is required (usually)
  - Up to two years, combined total direct costs usually not to exceed \$275,000.
- **Small Research Grant (R03)**
  - For pilot or feasibility studies, collection of preliminary data, secondary analysis of existing data, small self-contained projects, development of new research technology, etc.
  - For 1 or 2 years, not renewable, funding limited to \$50,000/year



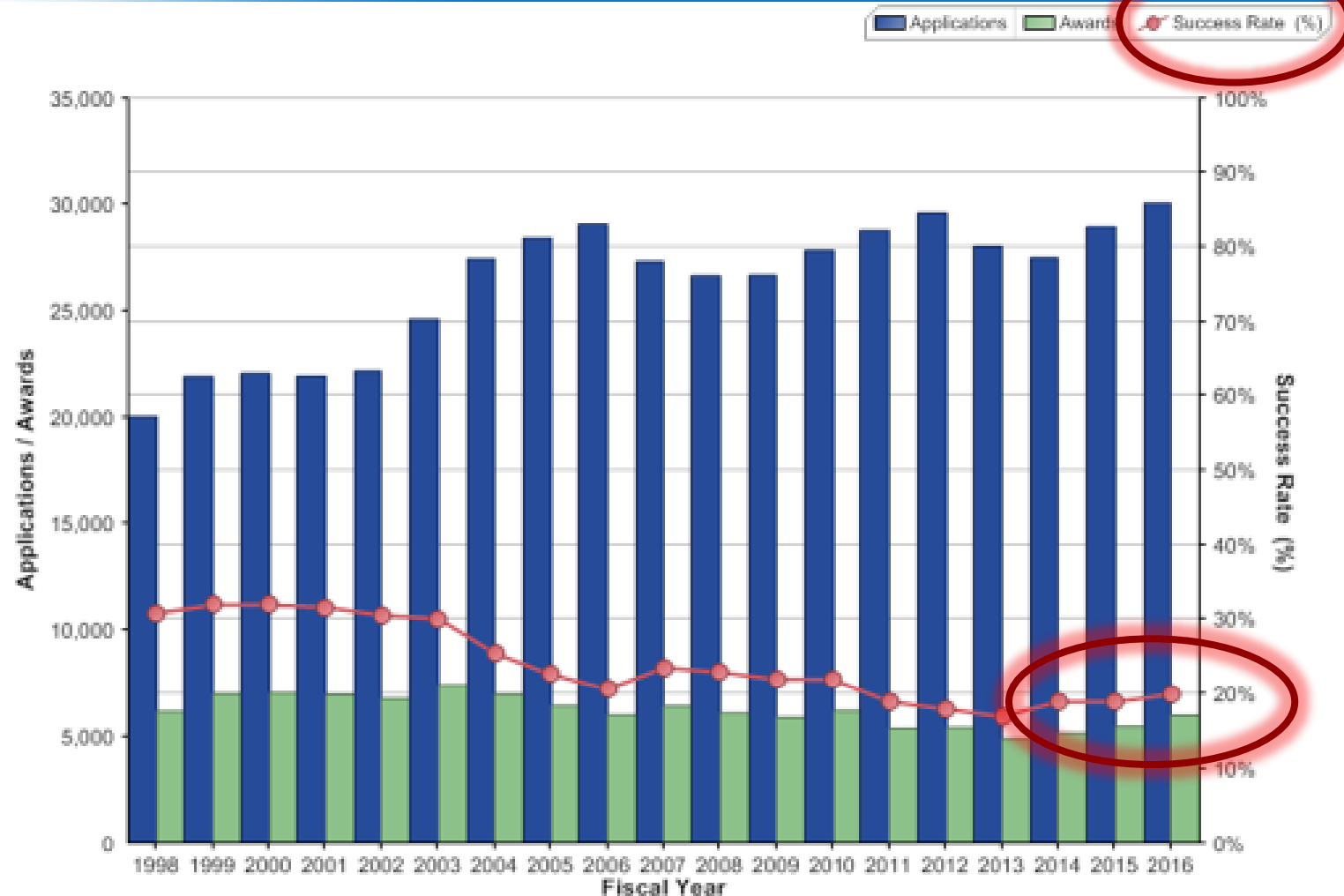
# NIH R series grants (3)

- **NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (R13)**
  - Support for high quality conferences/scientific meetings that are relevant to NIH's scientific mission and to the public health
  - Requires advance permission from the funding Institute or Center (IC)
  - Award amounts vary, set by individual IC
  - Up to 5 years may be possible

How Hard  
is it to get  
an NIH  
grant?

NIH Data  
Book

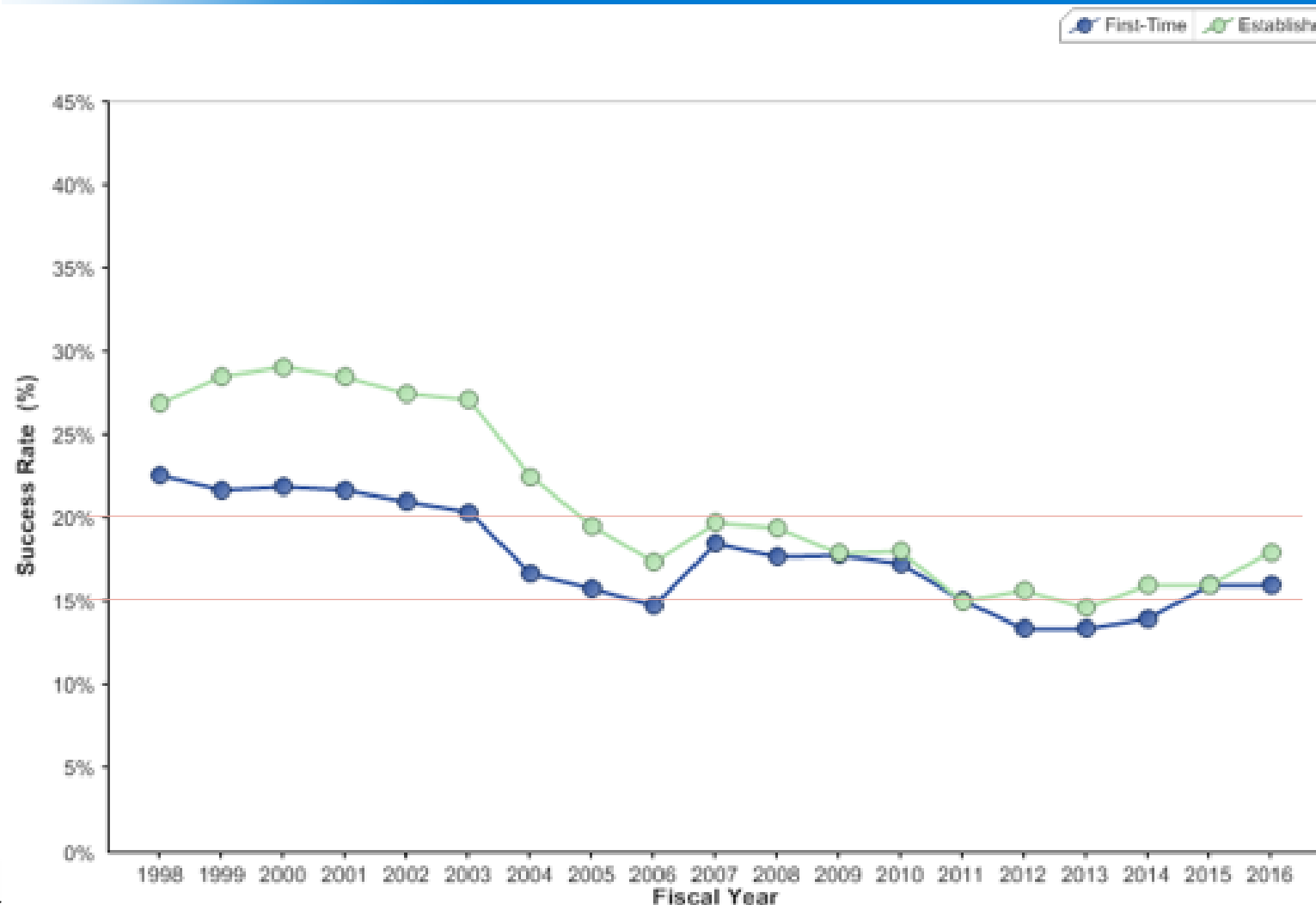
## R01-Equivalent grants Competing applications, awards, and success rates



How hard  
is it to get  
your *first*  
NIH  
grant?

-----  
NIH Data  
Book

## R01-Equivalent grants, New (Type 1) Success rates, by career stage of investigator



# Good luck at NIH!



aka: **nih.gov**

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