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

NIH National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health

aka: nih.gov

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Claremont Graduate University

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

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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

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How does NIH Work?

Your best pages at **nih.gov**

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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.

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Your page at **nih.gov**

About Grants

Your page at nih.gov

Grant Basics

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Your videos at the NIH YouTube Channel

NIH Grants Process: The Big Picture

NAVIGATING NIH PEER REVIEW
For Fellowship Applicants

NIH PEER REVIEW REVEALED

NIH TIPS FOR APPLICANTS

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Grant Basics

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What does NIH Look For?

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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

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.

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Your page at **nih.gov**

What does NIH Look For?

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About Grants

Grants Process Overview

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Who is Eligible

Types of Grant Programs

Types of Applications

Plan Your Application

How to Apply   ✚

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

NIH RePORTER Search Tool

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What does NIH want to fund next?

NIH Funding Opportunity Notices

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")

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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

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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

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# 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

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How Hard is it to get an NIH grant?

NIH Data Book

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

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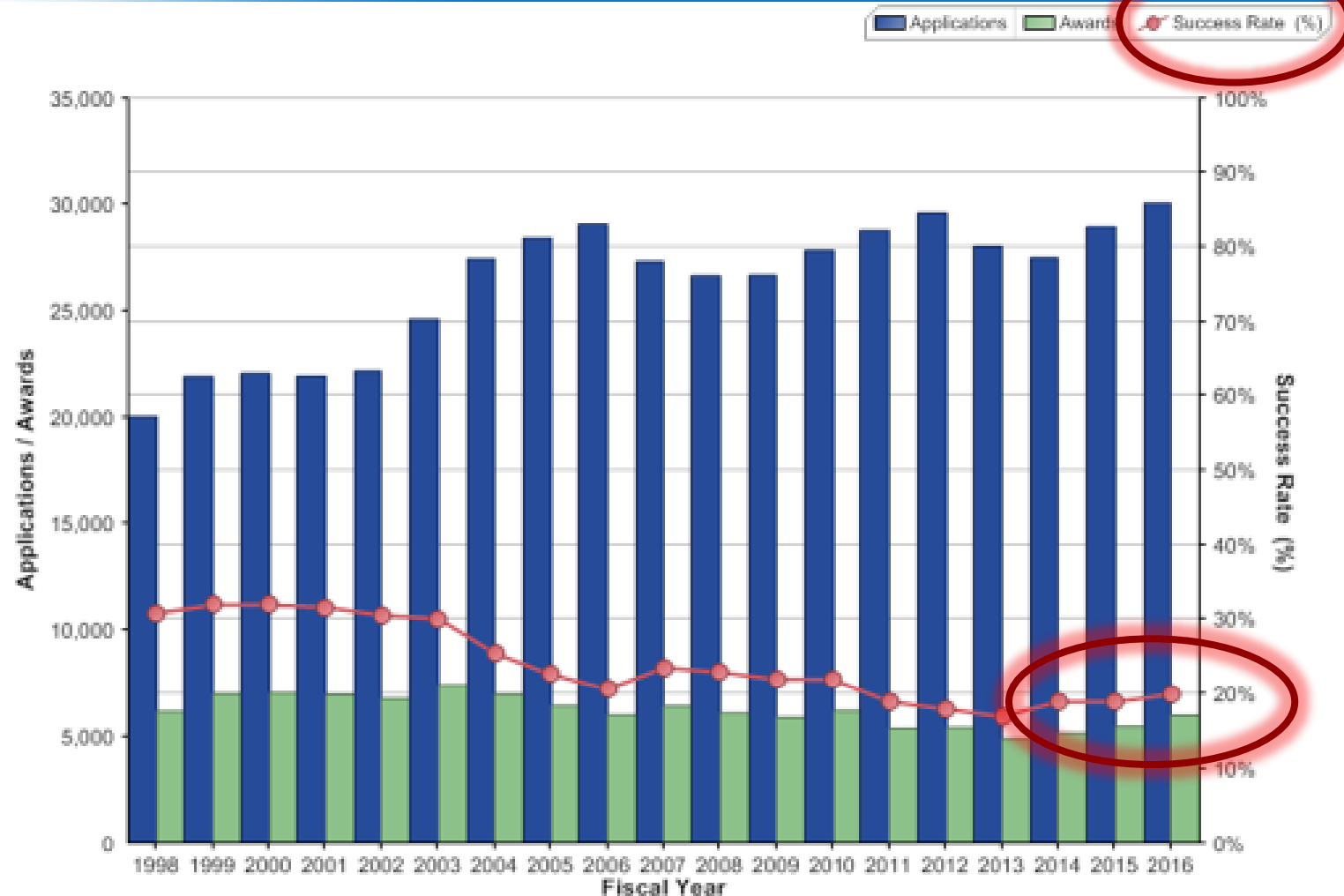
How hard is it to get your *first* NIH grant?

NIH Data Book

R01-Equivalent grants, New (Type 1)
Success rates, by career stage of investigator
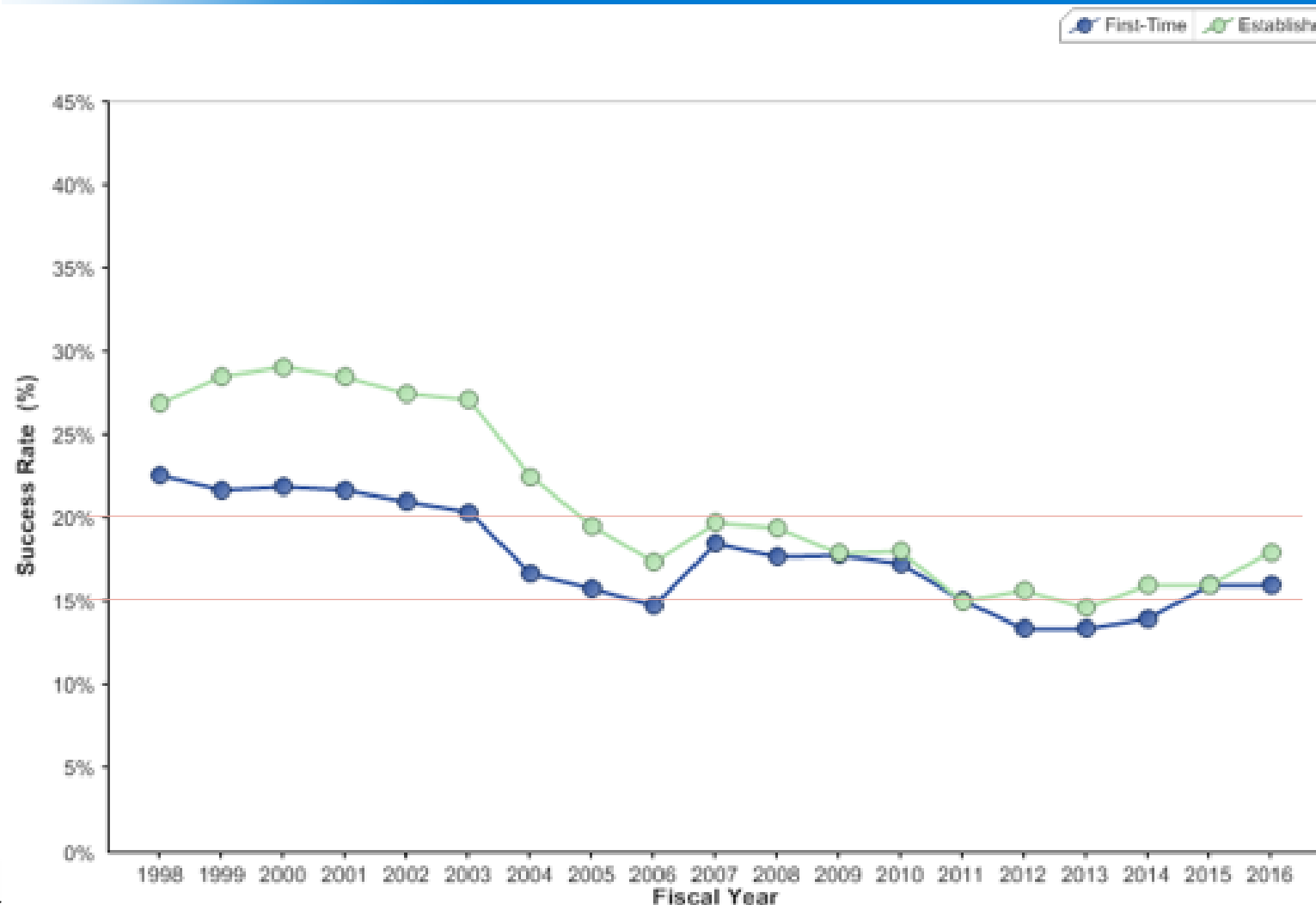
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Good luck at NIH!

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