Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding Related to COVID-19
Updated 4-6-2020

Patient Care and Researcher Safety is the First Priority
● The NIH is deeply concerned for the health and safety of people involved in NIH research, and about the effects of the COVID-19 public health emergency on the biomedical enterprise.
● NIH is providing many administrative flexibilities to help the research continue.

Stay Up to Date
● This is a rapidly evolving situation.
● Information provided in this presentation is current as of April 1, 2020.
● Latest information may be found at https://grants.nih.gov/policy/natural-disasters/coronavirus.htm

NIH is Open for Business
● Extramural staff are working remotely
● We continue to process applications and make awards
● We are conducting peer review meetings virtually
● We are working diligently to provide funding opportunities to support COVID-19 research

COVID-19 Funding Opportunities and Other Information for Applicants and Recipients
● Latest information available from Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding website

Donating Research Supplies
● To meet immediate and emergency needs, recipients may donate PPE and other research supplies purchased with NIH grant funds in support of efforts related to COVID-19 (e.g. to hospitals and local healthcare facilities).

● Recipients may:
  0 re-budget grant funds to repurchase supplies at a later date
  0 use large unobligated balances
  0 or submit an administrative supplement request
    ▪ Note: NIH can only provide additional funds to support supplies that are directly charged to the project(s).

● Reach out to your NIH program officer and grants management staff with specific questions.
● Learn more: FAQs grants.nih.gov/faqs#/covid-19.htm

Application Deadlines
• NIH will accept late applications through May 1 for deadlines between March 9 and May 1.
• No justification for the late submission is needed
• FOAs expiring within that time period will be extended
• Details in NOT-OD-20-091

Salaries and Stipends
• If unable to work on grant or training activities, salaries and stipends may be charged to NIH grants
  o only, if your organization's policy allows such charges from all funding sources, federal and non-federal
• Prior approval is not required to divert faculty from research to clinical work related to COVID-19 until the end of the public health emergency period.
• Learn more: NOT-OD-20-086 and FAQs at grants.nih.gov/faqs/#/covid-19.htm

Guidance on Human Subjects Research affected by COVID-19
• Ensure the safety of all human participants and research staff involved in clinical trials and human subjects studies.
• Consult with IRBs and institutions about protective measures, such as:
  o Limiting study visits to those needed for participant safety or coincident with clinical care.
  o Conducting virtual study visits
  o Implementing flexibilities for required laboratory tests or imaging needed for safety monitoring
• NIH will be flexible regarding project extensions and accommodating unanticipated costs
• Learn more: NOT-OD-20-087 and FAQs at grants.nih.gov/faqs/#/covid-19.htm

Administrative Flexibilities
• OMB has authorized agencies to utilize administrative flexibilities to recipients conducting COVID-19 research and recipients affected by COVID-19
• NIH is allowing pre-award costs to be incurred
• Extensions of post-award reporting
• Prior approval requirement waivers
• Numerous flexibilities regarding expenditures of funds
• Learn more: NOT-OD-20-086 and FAQs at grants.nih.gov/faqs/#/covid-19.htm

Accommodations for Loss of Time for Investigators Early in their Careers
• Extensions for early stage investigator eligibility due to COVID-19-related disruptions will be considered
• NIH will be flexible with extending time constraints for fellowship, career development and training awards, including phased awards
Final Advice

- Learn more: FAQs at grants.nih.gov/faqs#/covid-19.htm

- For general questions regarding these flexibilities contact the NIH Office of Extramural Research at grantspolicy@nih.gov

- For questions specific to your NIH award contact the grants management and program staff of the funding institute or center.

- Monitor Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding website for new information