

Orientation

for the National Cancer
Advisory Board

NCAB





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Advisory Board

NCAB

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health
National Cancer Institute
Division of Extramural Activities



FOREWORD

Congratulations on your recent appointment to the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB). Notably, the NCAB and the President's Cancer Panel are the only advisory bodies at either the National Institutes of Health or the Department of Health and Human Services whose members are appointed by the President. As you join this distinguished and historic panel, we could not be more honored to have you working with the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

The primary task of the NCAB is to advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Director of the NCI, and ultimately the President of the United States on a range of issues affecting the Nation's cancer program and, specifically, NCI operations. As a result of the National Cancer Act of 1971, the NCAB is required to conduct second-level peer review of grant applications and cooperative agreements referred to the NCI for funding. This briefing document has been prepared to provide new members of the NCAB with an overview of the mission, history, and activities of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the NCI.

The first section presents the NCI in the context of the total NIH organization. It includes budgetary information, cites current legislative statutes, and describes organizational structure, program disciplines, and mechanisms of funding used by the NCI. It also delineates the roles of those committees that advise the NCI in the conduct of its activities.

The second section describes the process used in the review of grant and cooperative agreement applications and contract proposals. It outlines the initial review procedures followed by the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) and the review groups of the NCI. Attention also is given to the initiation of special actions by NCI staff and the NCAB's role in the overall process.

We are pleased to provide you with this NCAB Orientation Book and hope you will refer to it often in fulfilling your responsibilities as a member of the NCAB.

Paulette S. Gray, Ph.D.
Director
Division of Extramural Activities
and
Executive Secretary
National Cancer Advisory Board
National Cancer Institute

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HHS MISSION AND ORGANIZATION

The mission of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is to enhance the health and well being of Americans by providing for effective health and human services and by fostering strong, sustained advances in the sciences underlying medicine, public health, and social services. The HHS consists of the Office of the Secretary, which provides leadership; the Program Support Center, which provides centralized administrative support; and 12 operating divisions, which manage more than 300 health-related programs. These operating divisions are:

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Administration for Community Living (ACL)

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) [formerly the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA)]

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Indian Health Service (IHS)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Program Support Center (PSC)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

The ACF is responsible for temporary assistance to needy families; children's welfare, care and support; disabilities programs; and other services. The ACL serves the elderly and people with disabilities. The CMS manages health insurance programs, while the PSC provides products and services to the

HHS and other Federal agencies. The NIH, AHRQ, ATSDR, CDC, FDA, HRSA, IHS, and SAMHSA are all devoted to public health and compose the Public Health Service (PHS) (see [Exhibit I](#)).

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Mission, Organization, and History

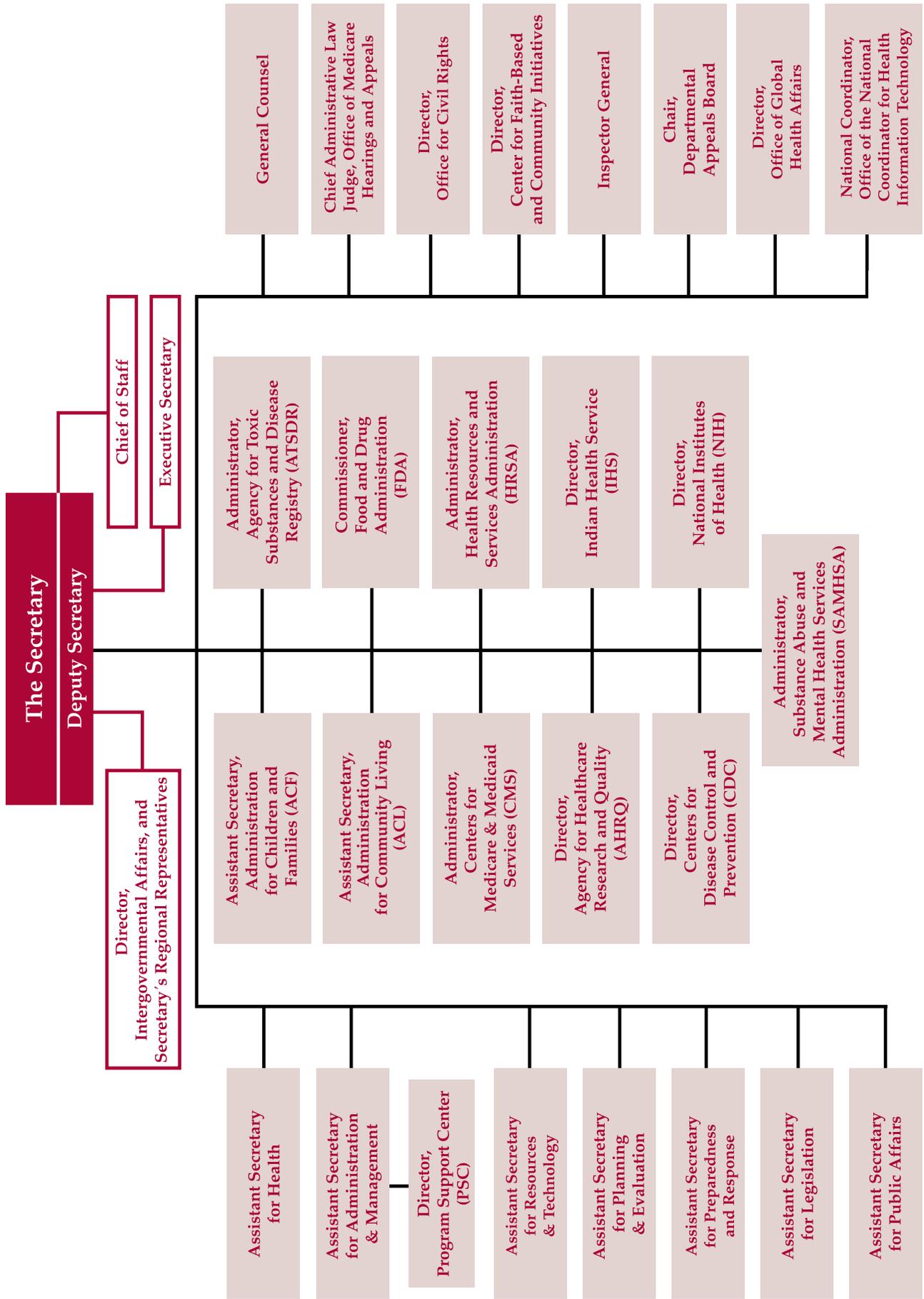
NIH's mission is to uncover new knowledge that will lead to better health for everyone. The NIH works toward that mission by conducting research in its own laboratories; supporting the research of non-Federal scientists in universities, medical schools, hospitals, and research institutions throughout the country and abroad; helping to train research investigators; and fostering communication of medical information. NIH's budget has grown from \$300 in 1887, when the NIH was a one-room Laboratory of Hygiene, to \$42.9 billion in 2021 (see [Exhibit II](#)). The NIH is composed of the Office of the Director, 20 Institutes, 6 Centers (four of which have funding authority), and the National Library of Medicine; it has more than 75 buildings located on more than 300 acres in Bethesda, Maryland. An organizational chart for the NIH is presented in [Exhibit III](#). [Exhibit IV](#) is a guide to the Bethesda campus.

Overview of NIH History

NIH is a component of the Public Health Service (PHS) of HHS. The PHS traces its origin to "An Act for the Relief of Sick and Disabled Seamen" of 1798 (Stat. L. 604), which authorized the establishment of marine hospitals for the care of American merchant seamen. In 1912, the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service became the Public Health Service.

The actual forerunner of the National Institutes of Health was established in 1887 as the Laboratory of Hygiene, located at the Marine Hospital of Staten Island, New York. In 1930, this laboratory was renamed the National Institute of Health. The first of the present Institutes, the National Cancer Institute (NCI), was established in 1937 by an act of Congress. In 1938, the National Advisory Cancer

Exhibit I. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Council approved the first awards for research training fellowships in cancer research. In 1948, the National Heart Institute was established, and the National Institute of Health became the National Institutes of Health (NIH). During the years 1949-2001, the NIH expanded to include 27 Institutes and Centers. The current NIH Institutes, in order of their establishment, are:

- 1798** President John Adams signed “an Act for the relief of sick and disabled Seamen,” which led to the establishment of the Marine Hospital Service.
- 1803** The first permanent Marine Hospital was authorized to be built in Boston, Massachusetts.
- 1836** The Library of the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army was established.
- 1870** President Grant signed a law establishing a “Bureau of the U.S. Marine Hospital Service” within the Treasury Department. This Bureau, headed by a Supervising Surgeon (later Surgeon General), was given central control over the hospitals.
- 1887** The Laboratory of Hygiene at the Marine Hospital in Staten Island, New York, was established for research on cholera and other infectious diseases.
- 1891** The Laboratory of Hygiene was redesignated the Hygienic Laboratory and moved from Staten Island to the Marine Hospital Service headquarters in Washington, DC.
- 1902** The Advisory Board for the Hygienic Laboratory was established; later became the National Advisory Health Council. Act of Congress changed name of Marine Hospital Service to the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service. Hygienic Laboratory was authorized by Congress to regulate laboratories that produced “biologicals.” The Hygienic Laboratory was expanded to four divisions: Bacteriology and Pathology, Chemistry, Pharmacology, and Zoology.
- 1912** The Public Health and Marine Hospital Service was renamed Public Health Service (PHS).
- 1922** The Library of the Office of the Surgeon General was renamed Army Medical Library.
- 1930** The Hygienic Laboratory was renamed the National Institute of Health (NIH). Congress authorized construction of two buildings for the NIH and a system of fellowships.
- 1937** Congress authorized the establishment of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the awarding of research grants. Rocky Mountain Laboratory became part of the NIH. The National Advisory Cancer Council held its first meeting.
- 1938** The NIH was moved to land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Luke I. Wilson, located in Bethesda, Maryland. Cornerstone for Shannon Building was laid.
- 1939** The Public Health Service (PHS) became part of a newly created Federal Security Agency; until that time, it was part of the Treasury Department.
- 1946** The Division of Research Grants was established to process NIH grants and fellowships to non-Federal institutions and scientists. (Originally established as the Research Grants Office, it was renamed the Research Grants Division and, finally, the Division of Research Grants.)
- 1948** The National Heart Institute was authorized. Several laboratories (including Rocky Mountain Laboratory) were regrouped to form the National Microbiological Institute. The Experimental Biology and Medicine Institute and the National Institute of Dental Research were established. The National Institute of Health became the National Institutes of Health.
- 1949** The Mental Hygiene Program of the PHS was transferred to the NIH and expanded to become the National Institute of Mental Health.

Exhibit II. NIH FY2019–2021 Funding*

INSTITUTE/ CENTER	FUNDING (Dollars in Millions)		
	2019	2020	2021
NCI	6,144	6,440	6,560
NHLBI	3,488	3,624	3,665
NIDCR	462	477	485
NIDDK	2,180	2,211	2,281
NINDS	2,274	2,445	2,513
NIAID	5,523	5,885	6,070
NIGMS	2,872	2,937	2,991
NICHHD	1,506	1,557	1,590
NEI	797	824	836
NIEHS	857	884	896
NIA	3,083	3,544	3,899
NIAMS	605	625	634
NIDCD	474	491	498
NIMH	1,870	2,038	2,104
NIDA	1,420	1,462	1,480
NIAAA	526	545	555
NINR	163	169	175
NHGRI	575	606	616
NIBIB	389	404	411
NIMHD	315	335	391
NCCIH	146	152	154
NCATS	806	833	855
FIC	78	81	84
NLM	442	457	464
OD	2,118	2,410	2,533
B&F	200	200	200
TOTAL	39,313	41,636	42,940

*Source: NIH Office of Budget, 2021.

- 1950** The “Omnibus Medical Research Act” authorized the establishment of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, as well as the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases. The latter absorbed the Experimental Biology and Medicine Institute.
- 1953** The PHS became part of the newly created Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The Clinical Center opened.
- 1955** The National Microbiological Institute was renamed National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The Laboratory of Biologics Control was renamed the Division of Biologics Standards. The Division of Research Services was created.
- 1956** The Armed Forces Medical Library was renamed the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and placed in the PHS.
- 1957** The Center for Aging Research was established.
- 1958** The Division of General Medical Sciences was created. The Center for Aging Research was transferred from the National Heart Institute to the Division of General Medical Sciences.
- 1961** The Center for Research in Child Health was established within the Division of General Medical Sciences.
- 1962** The NLM was moved to the NIH campus.
- 1963** The Division of General Medical Sciences was renamed the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) was created.
- 1966** The Division of Environmental Health Sciences was created.
- 1967** The National Institute of Mental Health was separated from the NIH and became a separate bureau of the PHS.

Exhibit III. National Institutes of Health

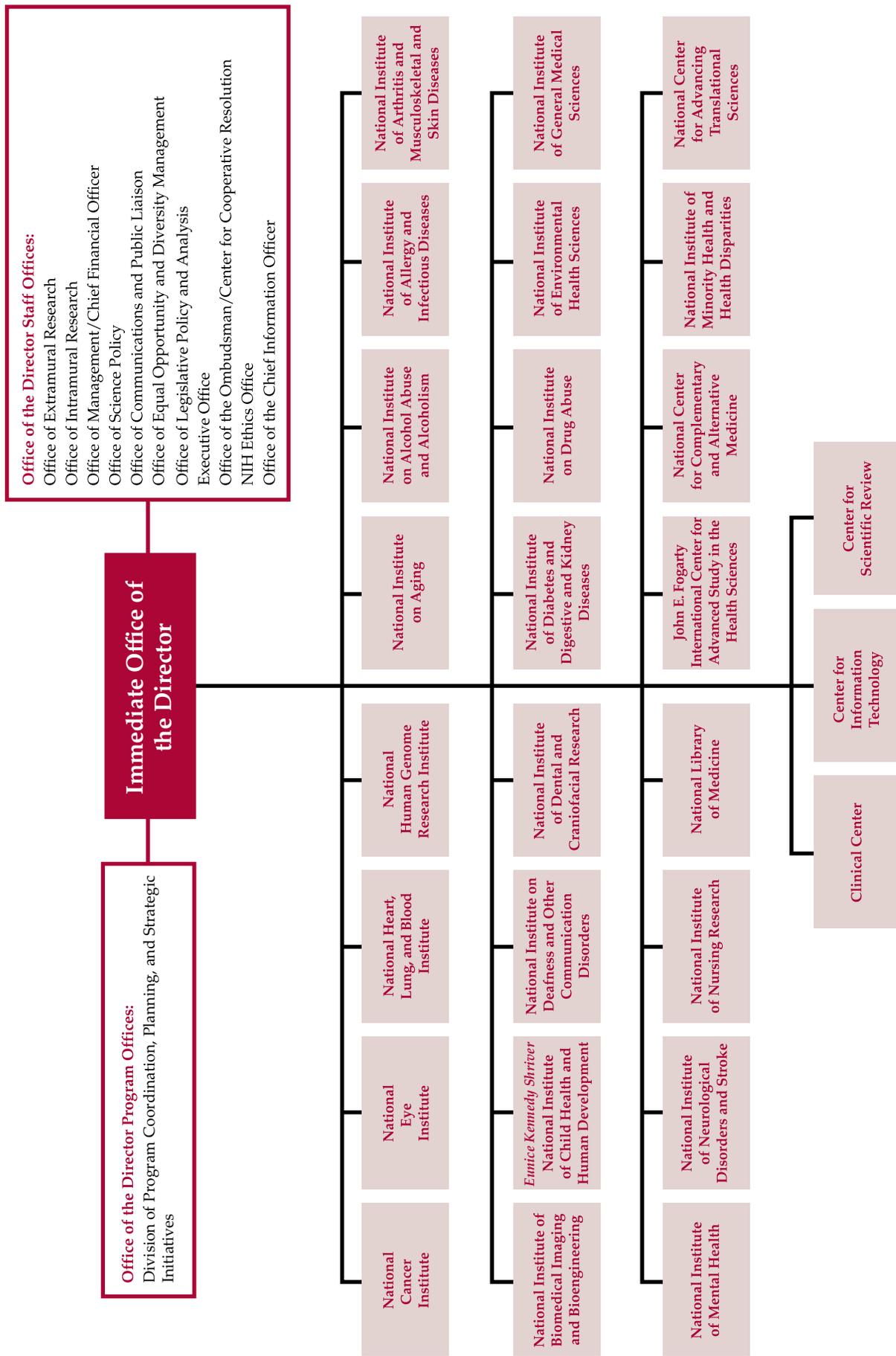
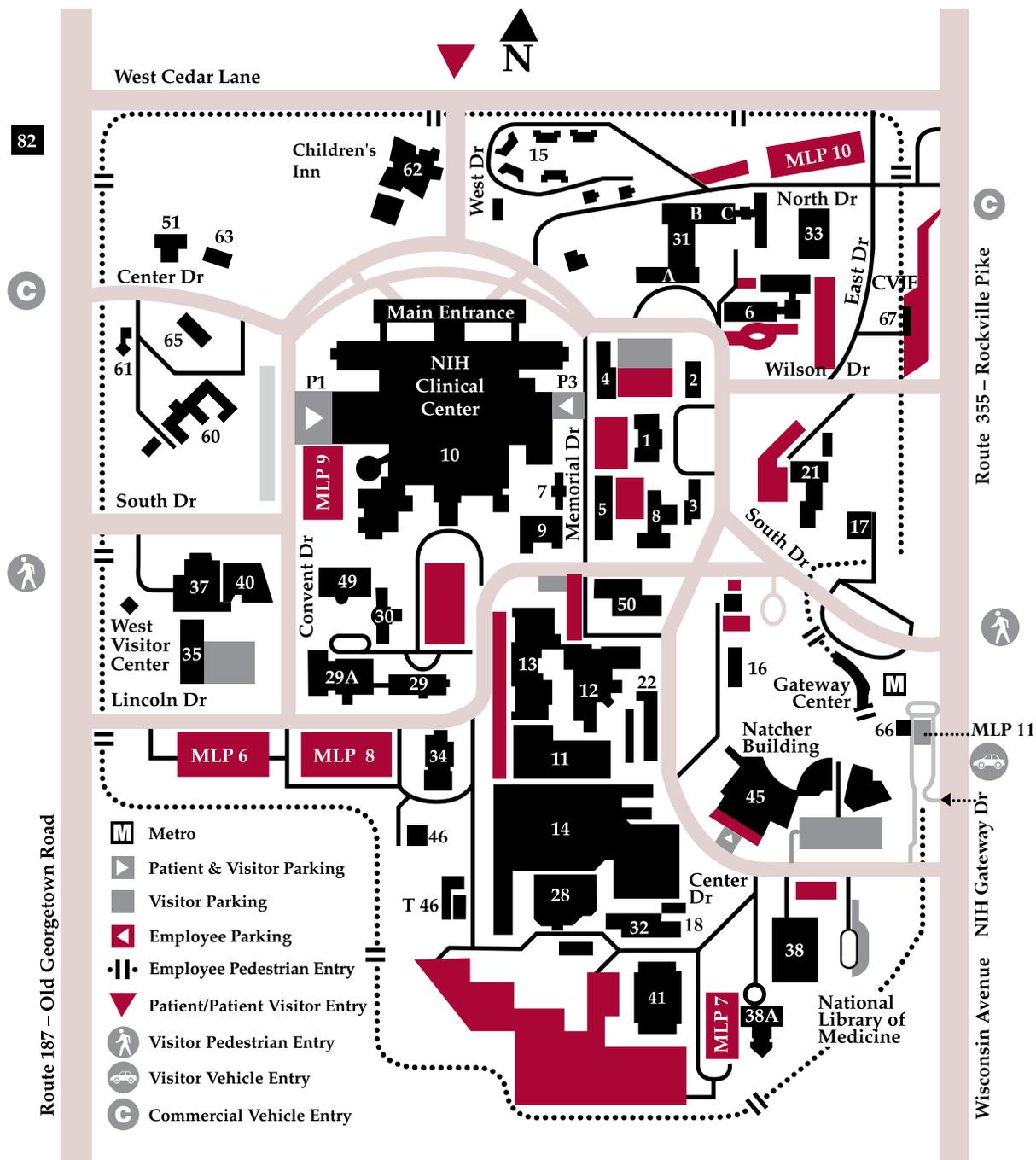


Exhibit IV. NIH Facilities Map



Building Key

Building 1	James Shannon Building (NIH Administration)	Building 38	National Library of Medicine
Building 10	Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center; Mark Hatfield Clinical Research Center	Building 38A	Lister Hill
Building 11	Central Utility Plant	Building 40	Vaccine Research Center
Building 13	Engineering Services	Building 45	Natcher Building and Conference Center
Building 14	Office of Research Facilities	Building 49	Sylvio Conte Building
Building 16	Stone House	Building 50	Stokes Laboratories
Building 31	Claude D. Pepper Building (General Office Building)	Building 60	Mary Woodard Lasker Center
Building 36	Lowell P. Weicker Building	Building 62	The Children's Inn at NIH

- 1968** The John E. Fogarty International Center (FIC) for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences was created. The Bureau of Health Manpower and the NLM became part of the NIH. The National Eye Institute (NEI) was created. The National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness was renamed the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke.
- 1969** The Division of Environmental Health Sciences was renamed the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). The National Heart Institute was renamed the National Heart and Lung Institute.
- 1972** The National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases was renamed the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases.
- 1974** The National Institute on Aging (NIA) was created.
- 1975** The National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke was renamed the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke (NINDS).
- 1976** The National Heart and Lung Institute was renamed the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI).
- 1981** The National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases was renamed the National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIADDK).
- 1986** The National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases was renamed the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) was created. The Center for Nursing Research was transferred from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and renamed the National Center for Nursing Research.
- 1989** The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) was established. The National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke was renamed the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). The National Center for Human Genome Research was established. The National Center for Biotechnology Information was established within the NLM.
- 1990** The National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) was created by consolidating the Division of Research Services and the Division of Research Resources.
- 1992** The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) were transferred to the NIH from the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration.
- 1993** The National Center for Nursing Research was renamed the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR).
- 1995** The NIH was established as an HHS Operating Division, thereby elevating it to report directly to the Secretary of HHS.
- 1997** The National Center for Human Genome Research was renamed the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI).
- 1998** The Division of Research Grants was renamed the Center for Scientific Review. The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) was established. The National Institute of Dental Research was renamed the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR).
- 2001** The National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities was established. The National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) was established.

- 2011** The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) was established.
- 2012** NCI-Frederick was renamed the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research (FNLCR).
- 2014** The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine became the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health.

THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

NCI Mission

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), one of 11 operating divisions that compose the Public Health Service (PHS) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The NCI, established under the National Cancer Act of 1937, is the Federal Government's principal agency for cancer research and training. The National Cancer Act of 1971 broadened the scope and responsibilities of the NCI and created the National Cancer Program. Over the years, legislative amendments have maintained the NCI authorities and responsibilities and added new information dissemination mandates as well as a requirement to assess the incorporation of state-of-the-art cancer treatments into clinical practice.

The NCI is committed to dramatically lessening the impact of cancer. The NCI is the primary means of support for America's cancer research enterprise, whether in its own laboratories or in our Nation's research universities. The NCI is dedicated to the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cancer for all people. The NCI works toward this goal by providing vision to the Nation and leadership for both domestic and international NCI-funded researchers. The NCI also works to ensure that research results are applied in clinical practice and public health related programs to reduce the burden of cancer for all populations.

Within this framework, NCI researchers work to more fully integrate discovery activities through interdisciplinary collaborations; accelerate development of interventions and new technology through translational research; and ensure the delivery of these interventions for application in the clinic and public health programs as state-of-the-art care for all those in need.

NCI and the National Cancer Program

As the leader of the National Cancer Program (NCP), the NCI provides vision and leadership to the global cancer community. The NCI conducts and supports research, training, health information dissemination, and other programs with respect to the cause, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cancer, rehabilitation, and the continuing care of cancer patients. Critical to the success of its programs are collaborations and partnerships that further NCI's progress in serving cancer patients and those who care for them. **The NCI supports a broad range of research to expand scientific discovery at the molecular and cellular level, within a cell's microenvironment, and in relation to human and environmental factors that influence cancer development and progression.** Each year, almost 5,000 principal investigators lead research projects that result in better ways to combat cancer. Intramural research serves as a hub for new development through cutting-edge basic, clinical, and epidemiological research. Extramural program experts provide guidance and oversight for research conducted at universities, teaching hospitals, and other organizations. Proposals are selected for funding by peer review, a rigorous process by which scientific experts evaluate new proposals and recommend the most scientifically meritorious for funding. In addition to direct research funding, the NCI offers the Nation's cancer scientists a variety of useful research tools and services: tissue samples, statistics on cancer incidence and mortality, bioinformatic tools for analyzing data, databases of genetic information, and resources through NCI-supported Cancer Centers, Centers of Research Excellence, and the Mouse Models of Human Cancer Consortium.

The NCI also uses collaborative platforms and an interdisciplinary environment to promote *translational research and intervention development.* Discovery of a new tool that first helps to understand the underlying mechanism of cancer may eventually be used to help diagnose it, and then may be further developed to help treat it. For example, recent advances in bioinformatics and the related explosion of technology for genomics and proteomics research are dramatically accelerating the rate for processing large amounts of information for cancer screening and diagnosis. The largest collaborative research activity is the Clinical Trials Program for testing interventions for preventing cancer, diagnostic tools, and cancer treatments as well as providing access as early as possible to all who can benefit. The NCI supports more than 2,900 clinical trials each year, assisting more than 142,000 patients.

The NCI research impacts the *delivery of improved cancer interventions to cancer patients and those who care for them*. Timely communication of NCI scientific findings helps people make better health choices and advises physicians about treatment options that are more targeted and less invasive, resulting in fewer adverse side effects. NCI researchers also are seeking the causes of disparities among underserved groups and gaps in quality cancer care, helping to translate research results into better health for groups at high risk for cancer, including cancer survivors and the aging population. In addition, the NCI is fostering partnerships with other agencies and organizations to accelerate the pace for moving targeted drugs through the pipeline of discovery, development, and delivery.

Information about NCI's research and activities is available through its public website, <https://www.cancer.gov/>.

NCI Legislative Authority

The NCI, established under the National Cancer Act of 1937, is the Federal Government's principal agency for cancer research and training. The National Cancer Act of 1971 broadened the scope and responsibilities of the NCI and created the National Cancer Program (NCP). Under the National Cancer Act of 1971, the Director of the NCI is authorized to submit, directly to the President, a professional judgment budget reflecting the full funding needs of the NCP. This budget is referred to as the Bypass Budget, or Professional Judgment Budget.

Bypass Budget

The mandate to produce a Professional Judgment Budget, more commonly known as a "Bypass Budget," is a special authority given to the NCI Director. The Bypass Budget builds on research successes and ensures that research discoveries are applied to improve human health, and allows the NCI Director to express to the President the plans and priorities of the NCI and the NCP, along with an indication of the associated costs.

Each year, the NCI produces this document to reflect the professional judgment of the Nation's top cancer experts about the realities of cancer research and control, and how much money could be spent wisely in the conduct of the entire program.

The authority to produce the Bypass Budget has many benefits. The extensive strategic planning process that is used to develop the Bypass Budget

builds on research successes, supporting the cancer research workforce with the technologies and resources it needs. In addition to being submitted to the President, this comprehensive research plan also is provided to Congress, and is used by the greater cancer research community, professional organizations, advisory groups, advocacy organizations, and public and private policymakers. As a result, the Bypass Budget and its development serve as a planning process for the entire NCP, outlining clearly the areas of highest priority.

In addition to informing the President, the Bypass Budget document also serves as the Institute's strategic plan and has become a powerful communication and priority setting tool used by constituents across the NCP. Updated each year, the plan provides a guide for building on research successes, supporting the cancer research workforce with the technologies and resources it needs, and ensuring that research discoveries are applied to improve human health. This strategic plan is based on the authority and the responsibilities entrusted to the Presidentially appointed NCI Director to coordinate the research activities of the NCI with the other parts/members of the NCP.

In so doing, the Director is aided by the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB), a Presidentially appointed group of scientists, medical personnel, and consumers from all sectors, public and private, of the cancer enterprise who have the needed expertise and experience to help formulate a national agenda in cancer research. The NCAB meets with the President's Cancer Panel (PCP) members to facilitate transfer of PCP observations on the barriers to progress in the NCP and the development of possible solutions. Their deliberations are directly coordinated with other government agencies through the participation of *ex officio* federal members representing key agencies involved in executing the NCP. For example, discussions at the NCAB meetings with *ex officio* members representing Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs health care systems directly led to the availability of NCI clinical trials through their health care systems. Close coordination across agencies is critical in the formulation of a strategic plan that takes advantage of the capabilities of each agency and the constituencies it serves.

The ability of the NCI and its partners to address the initiatives in the Bypass Budget is a measure of the success of the NCP. In this way, the Bypass Budget enables efficient strategic coordination of the NCP. As part of the evaluation process, the Presidentially appointed PCP is charged to review the implementation of such plans and identify directly for the President and the Nation the extent of their success.

NCI Organizational Structure

The NCI's current organizational structure can be seen in [Exhibit V](#). NCI's Office of the Director serves as the focal point for the NCP, with advice from the President's Cancer Panel, the NCAB, the Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC), and the Board of Scientific Advisors (BSA). The BSA gives final concept approval for extramural Requests for Applications (RFAs) and Requests for Proposals (RFPs), while the BSC conducts intramural Laboratory and Branch reviews. The Acting Director of the Institute, Dr. Douglas R. Lowy, is assisted by Dr. James Doroshow, Deputy Director, NCI; Dr. Dinah Singer, Deputy Director, NCI; and Ms. Donna Siegle, Executive Officer and Deputy Director for Office of Management, NCI. The Scientific Program Leadership (SPL) Committee of the Institute (see [Appendix A](#)) includes the NCI Director, Deputy Directors, Division Directors, and other senior scientific staff. The SPL meets on a regular basis to discuss various matters of NCI policy, including but not limited to review and approval of RFA and research and development contract concepts before review by the BSA; review of program announcements; development of funding plans; and grant funding by exceptions. NCI's cancer research activities are monitored and administrated through several extramural and intramural Divisions, Centers, and Offices.

Office of the Director

Examples of some Offices and Centers within the Office of the Director include:

NCI Center for Biomedical Informatics and Information Technology (CBIIT)

The CBIIT helps speed scientific discovery and facilitates translational research by building many types of tools and resources that enable information to be shared along the continuum from the scientific bench to the clinical bedside and back. The CBIIT (1) coordinates and deploys informatics in support of NCI research initiatives; (2) provides all manner of informatics support, including platforms, services, tools, and data to NCI-supported research initiatives; (3) participates in the evaluation and prioritization of NCI's bioinformatics research portfolio; (4) conducts or facilitates research that is required to fulfill NCI's bioinformatics requirements; (5) serves as the focus for strategic planning to address NCI's expanding research initiative's informatics needs; (6) establishes bioinformatics technology standards (both within and outside of the NCI); (7) communicates, coordinates, and establishes bioinformatics exchange standards; (8) provides direct support to four NCI research

programs: the Cancer Genome Anatomy Project (CGAP), the Mouse Models of Human Cancer Consortium (MMHCC), the Director's Challenge: Toward a Molecular Classification of Cancer, and Clinical Trials and develops core infrastructure to support the integration of these efforts.

Office of Communications and Public Liaison (OCPL)

The OCPL advances the mission of the NCI by disseminating research results to the public to improve the lives of those affected by cancer. Working closely with scientists and partners, the OCPL uses effective methods to reach diverse audiences and meet their needs for the latest, evidence-based cancer information.

Office of Cancer Content Management (OCCM)

The OCCM in OCE oversees the development, publication, maintenance, and updating of the majority of cancer information products disseminated by the NCI OCE. The OCCM also manages the clearance process for all OC cancer information products.

Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD)

The CRCHD is the keystone of NCI's efforts to reduce the unequal burden of cancer in our society. As the organizational focus for these efforts, the Center directs and supports initiatives that advance the understanding of what causes health disparities. It also supports programs that develop and integrate effective interventions to reduce or eliminate these disparities. The CRCHD, through its Diversity Training Branch (DTB), leads NCI's efforts in the training of students and investigators from diverse populations who will be part of the next generation of competitive researchers in cancer and cancer health disparities research.

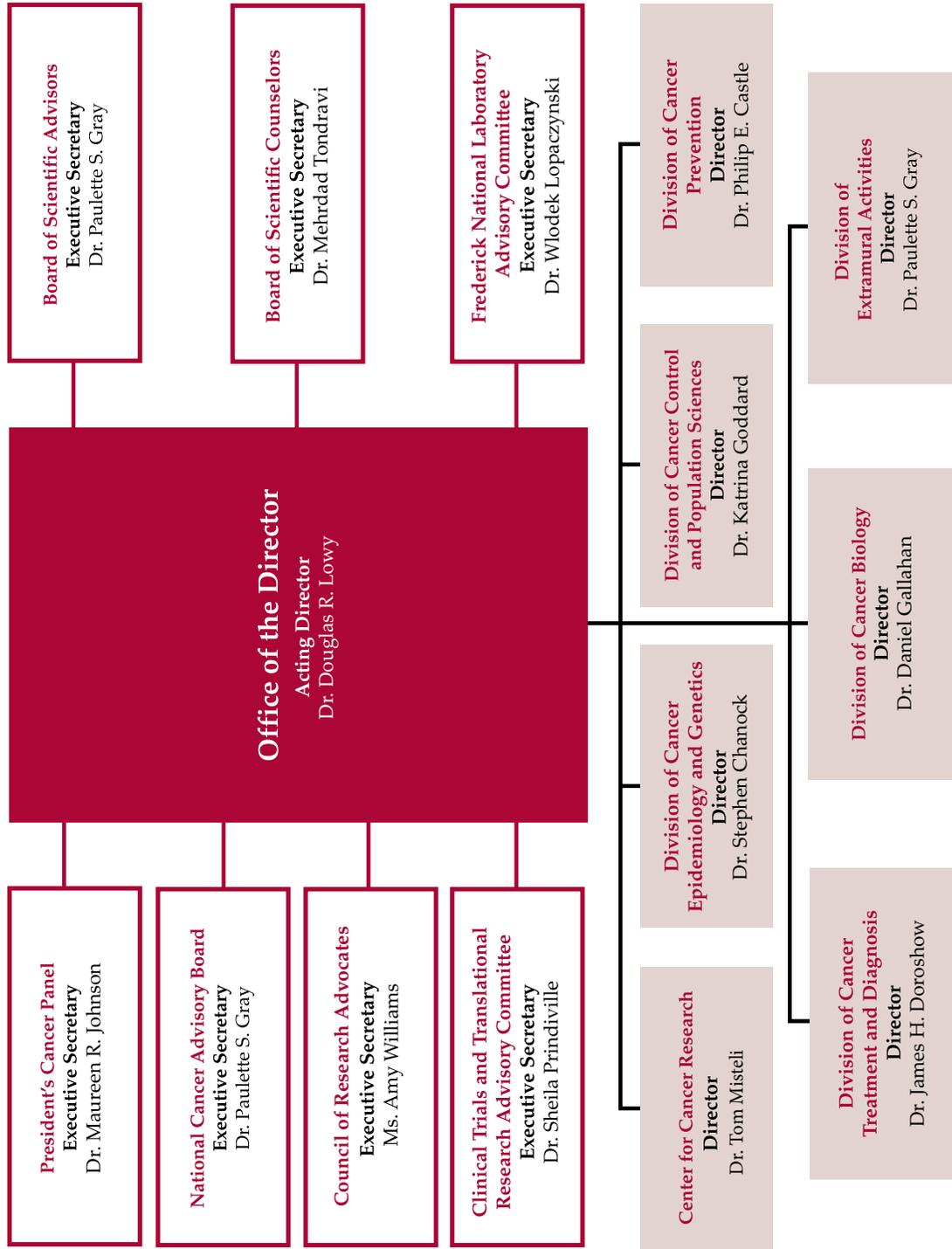
Office of Advocacy Relations (OAR)

The OAR engages the advocacy and NCI communities in dialogue about cancer research opportunities and priorities to advance progress and improve outcomes. The OAR (1) serves as the Institute's expert and central resource for advocacy matters; (2) facilitates dynamic relationships and collaborations to promote mutual goals; and (3) disseminates information and fosters understanding of key cancer issues and priorities.

Center for Strategic Scientific Initiatives (CSSI)

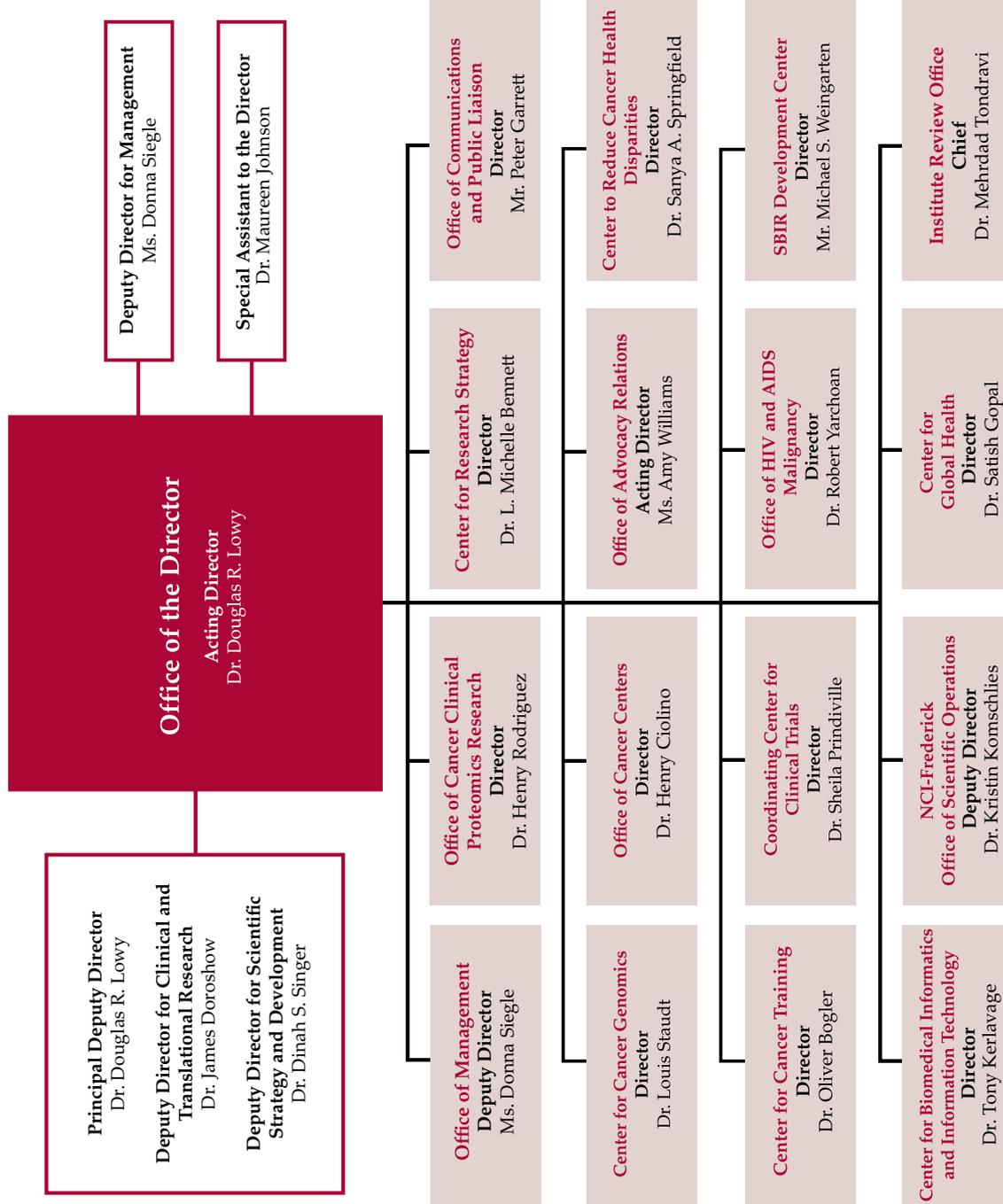
The CSSI directs the planning, development, and implementation of a number of strategic scientific and technology initiatives and partnerships that emphasize innovation, transdisciplinary teams, and convergence of scientific disciplines to enable

Exhibit V. The National Cancer Institute



continued

Exhibit V. The National Cancer Institute (Continued)



progress against cancer. These programs also stress the development and application of advanced technologies, the synergy of large-scale and individual initiated research, novel partnerships, and translation of discoveries into new interventions to detect, prevent, and treat cancer more effectively.

Several offices in CSSI are committed to accelerating the progress of cancer research through its technology-driven initiatives, collaboration with other government programs, and engagement with the private sector in the areas of nanotechnology, proteomics, cancer genomics, and biospecimen resources. By placing a heavy emphasis on advanced technology development, the NCI is accelerating the creation and use of tools that are already facilitating the translation of basic knowledge into clinical advances to benefit patients with a new generation of molecularly based diagnostics and therapeutics. Programs include: Information Technology for Cancer Research, Cancer Grand Challenges, Serological Sciences Network, Clinical Proteomic Technologies Initiative, Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies, and Provocative Questions Initiative.

Office of Cancer Centers (OCC)

Currently, the Office supports 71 NCI-designated Cancer Centers nationwide that are actively engaged in transdisciplinary research to reduce cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality. The NCI-designated Cancer Centers are appointed as either Comprehensive Cancer Centers (51), Cancer Centers (13), or Basic Laboratory Cancer Centers (7) and are a major source of discovery on the nature of cancer and of the development of more effective approaches to cancer prevention, diagnosis, and therapy. Comprehensive Cancer Centers also deliver medical advances to patients and their families, educate health care professionals and the public, and reach out to underserved populations. Cancer Centers are characterized by strong organizational capabilities, institutional commitment, and transdisciplinary, cancer-focused science; experienced scientific and administrative leadership; and state-of-the-art cancer research and patient care facilities.

Center for Cancer Training (CCT)

The CCT is responsible for: (1) coordinating and providing research training and career development activities for fellows and trainees in NCI's laboratories, clinics, and other research groups; (2) developing, coordinating, and implementing opportunities in support of cancer research training, career development, and education at institutions nationwide; and (3) identifying

workforce needs in cancer research and adapting NCI's training and career development programs and funding opportunities to address these needs.

Coordinating Center for Clinical Trials (CCCT)

The CCCT is central to NCI's efforts to accelerate the delivery of new tools into the clinic through its translational science and clinical trial enterprises. The CCCT facilitates collaborations that expedite translational and clinical cancer research by:

- Supporting the implementation of the Clinical Trials Working Group and Translational Research Working Group recommendations;
- Facilitating prioritization of the NCI's most important clinical trials by Scientific Steering Committees working with NCI clinical programs; and
- Partnering with the NCI's Center for Biomedical Informatics and Information Technology (CBIIT) to establish the Clinical Trials Reporting Program (CTRP), a comprehensive database with up-to-date information on all NCI-funded clinical trials.

Center for Cancer Genomics (CCG)

The CCG is focused on understanding the molecular mechanisms of cancer, with the ultimate goal of improving the prevention, early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. To meet this goal, the CCG:

- Provides information, technology, methods, informatics tools, and reagents to serve the needs of the cancer research community.
- Manages the following research programs: Cancer Genome Characterization Initiative (CGCI), Cancer Target Discovery and Development (CTD²) Network, Human Cancer Models Initiative (HCMI), Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA), and Therapeutically Applicable Research to Generate Effective Treatment (TARGET).

Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research (OBRR)

The OBRR in CSSI is responsible for coordinating and developing the Institute's biospecimen resources and capabilities and ensuring that human biospecimens available for cancer research are of the highest quality. This is being accomplished through the development of a common biorepository infrastructure that promotes resource sharing

and team science to facilitate multi-institutional, high throughput genomic and proteomic studies.

Center for Global Cancer Research (CGCR)

The CGCR coordinates NCI's worldwide activities in a number of arenas, including: liaison with foreign and international agencies; and other U.S. government agencies involved in global health; coordination of cancer research activities under agreements between the United States and other countries; planning and implementation of international scientist exchange programs; sponsorship of international workshops; and dissemination of cancer information.

Office of Government and Congressional Relations (OGCR)

The OGCR advises the NCI Director, staff, and advisory boards on legislative and Congressional activities as they relate to the NCI mission. The OGCR coordinates, monitors, and analyzes Congressional activities; reviews, processes, and responds to all requests for information from the NCI that fall under the jurisdiction of the Freedom of Information (FOIA) and Privacy Act; and serves as NCI's liaison for all U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) and DHHS Office of the Inspector General. The OGCR aims to ensure that the NCI community is kept abreast of the Congressional issues and interests that affect the Institute and, in turn, NIH. The OGCR also works closely with other offices at both the Institute and agency level.

Office of HIV and AIDS Malignancy (OHAM)

The Office of HIV and AIDS Malignancy (1) coordinates and works with the Divisions and other Offices to manage the portfolio of HIV/AIDS and AIDS malignancy research within the NCI; (2) advises the NCI Director and other NCI managers on issues related to research in HIV/AIDS and AIDS malignancies; (3) coordinates, helps prioritize, and facilitates the NCI research effort in HIV/AIDS and AIDS malignancies and works with NCI management to redirect the HIV/AIDS and AIDS malignancy research effort, as appropriate, into the highest priority areas; (4) interfaces with the NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR) and other ICs with regard to research in HIV/AIDS and AIDS malignancies in the NCI; and (5) directly manages certain AIDS and AIDS malignancy research programs, such as the AIDS and Cancer Specimen Resource, the AIDS-Associated Malignancies Clinical Trial Consortium (AMC), the NCI Component of the Centers for AIDS Research (CFARS), and the NCI component of the Women's Inter-agency HIV Study (WIHS).

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Development Center

The SBIR Development Center serves as the NCI focal point for the management of all Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program activities, and implementation of pertinent legislation, rules and regulations and associated matters related to the SBIR/STTR Program consisting of grant and contractor awards and providing expertise, advice and services to applicants and NCI programs.

NCI-Frederick Office of Scientific Operations

The NCI-Frederick Office of Scientific Operations (1) oversees and manages scientific operations at NCI-Frederick and serves as the Project Office for the three main operation and support contracts at NCI-Frederick; (2) directs and develops advanced technologies that are made available to customers of NCI-Frederick; (3) implements programmatic decisions approved by the NCI Director and the Associate Director for NCI-Frederick to transition new efforts to NCI-Frederick by developing contractual requirements and budgets, arranging for needed space, and providing technical and project management advice to the Contracting Officer; (4) works closely with customers (including other NCI and NIH components, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Defense, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Homeland Security) and contractors to ensure that contractors understand customers' needs and that the customers receive planned outcomes; (5) assists the NCI Associate Director for Frederick with the administrative and business operations of NCI-Frederick; (6) assists the NCI Associate Director for Frederick with planning and prioritizing of space and the maintenance of all buildings and grounds; (7) monitors contractor performance, obtains customer satisfaction feedback, and provides this information to the Management Operations and Support Branch for the Award Fee processes; (8) tracks and reports funds received and costs associated with all work performed at NCI-Frederick; (9) develops and manages educational, employee outreach, and public outreach programs, including programs for students K-12 and internship opportunities for high school and undergraduate students; (10) coordinates the expansion of student/fellowship mentoring programs at the NCI-Frederick; and (11) coordinates NCI-Frederick facility "activities" such as the Spring Research Festival; Take Your Child to Work Day; the Summer Student Seminar Series; Summer Student Poster Day; the Housing Resources List; speaker requests; and visits for students, teachers, and other interested groups.

Extramural Divisions

The extramural research and research-related activities of the NCI are conducted by five divisions under the supervision of the Office of the Director. The functions of the divisions and the major areas of research and research support activities for which each is responsible are:

Division of Cancer Biology (DCB)

The mission of the DCB is to ensure continuity and stability in basic cancer research, while encouraging and facilitating the emergence of new ideas, concepts, technologies, and possibilities. The DCB strives to achieve this goal by promoting a balance between the continued support of existing research areas and selective support of emerging research areas. The DCB provides guidance, advice, funding information, and financial support to grantees and applicants. The DCB encourages the expansion of new research areas through a range of initiatives and funding mechanisms. The scientific discoveries from this research base are critical to the goal of the NCI, because they form the intellectual and scientific foundation upon which strategies for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer are developed. (<https://dcb.nci.nih.gov/>)

Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS)

The DCCPS aims to reduce the risk, incidence, and number of deaths from cancer, as well as to enhance the quality of life for cancer survivors. This division conducts and supports an integrated program of the highest quality genetic, epidemiologic, behavioral, social, applied, and surveillance cancer research. DCCPS funded research aims to: (1) understand the causes and distribution of cancer in various populations, (2) support the development and implementation of effective interventions, and (3) monitor and explain cancer trends in all segments of the population. Central to these activities is a process of synthesis and decision making, which aids in evaluating what has been learned, identifying new priorities and strategies, and effectively applying research discoveries to reduce the cancer burden at the population level. (<https://dccps.nci.nih.gov>)

Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis (DCTD)

The DCTD attempts to identify and exploit the most promising areas of science and technology and to initiate, enable, and conduct research that will yield important new knowledge that is likely to lead to better diagnostic or therapeutic interventions in the various childhood and adult

cancers. The division administers grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements, and offers strategically planned workshops and conferences with scientists, clinicians, and public and private partners. It also sponsors a vigorous program of in-house applied research linked to investigators and goals in the extramural community. (<https://dctd.cancer.gov/>)

Division of Cancer Prevention (DCP)

The DCP plans and conducts programs in basic and applied research and development, technology transfer, demonstration, education, and information dissemination. DCP's programs are designed to: expedite the use of new information relevant to the prevention, detection, and diagnosis of cancer; expedite the use of new information about pretreatment evaluation, treatment, rehabilitation, and continuing care; plan, direct, and coordinate the support of research on cancer prevention at Cancer Centers and community hospitals, and through organ systems programs; support cancer research training, clinical education, continuing education, and career development in cancer prevention; coordinate program activities with other divisions, Institutes, and Federal and state agencies; and establish liaison with professional and voluntary health agencies, Cancer Centers, labor organizations, cancer organizations, and trade associations. (<https://prevention.cancer.gov/>)

Division of Extramural Activities (DEA)

The mission and responsibilities of the DEA in some way affect all extramural scientists receiving research or training support from the NCI. The DEA coordinates the review of special initiatives, large grants, and contracts. It is involved in all aspects of grant development and tracking, from the original conception of extramural research and training programs to follow up after funds are dispersed. In brief, the DEA was established to provide advice and guidance to potential applicants; receive and refer incoming grant applications to appropriate programs within the NCI; provide the highest quality and most effective scientific peer review and oversight of extramural research; coordinate and administer Federal advisory committee activities related to the various aspects of the NCI mission, such as the NCAB and BSA; establish and disseminate extramural policies and procedures, such as requirements for inclusion of certain populations in research, actions for ensuring research integrity, or budgetary limitations for grant applications; and track the NCI research portfolio (more than 7,500 research and training awards) using consistent, budget-linked scientific information to:

(1) provide a basis for budget projections and (2) serve as a resource for the dissemination of information about cancer. (<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/>)

Intramural Center and Division

Center for Cancer Research (CCR)

As the intramural component of the NCI, the CCR conducts basic, preclinical, and clinical investigations on the Bethesda campus. The mission of the CCR is to reduce the burden of cancer through exploration, discovery, and translation. It provides a new forum for cancer research without scientific, institutional, or administrative barriers. The Center is achieving this by conducting outstanding, cutting-edge, basic, preclinical, and clinical research on cancer and translating these discoveries into treatment and prevention. The overall goal is to form a highly interactive, interdisciplinary group of researchers who have access to technology and are able to participate in clinical investigations. The CCR also maintains a foundation of investigator-initiated, independent research. CCR scientists conduct innovative basic, preclinical, and clinical research aimed at discovering the causes and mechanisms of cancer to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cancer and other diseases. (<https://ccr.cancer.gov/>)

Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG)

The DCEG is an intramural research program in which scientists conduct an international program of population-based studies to identify environmental and genetic determinants of cancer. In carrying out its mission, the DCEG is at the cutting edge of approaches to untangle complex gene-environment and gene-gene interactions in cancer etiology. To conduct these studies, investigators at all levels of their careers work collaboratively to bring together a variety of scientific disciplines. (<https://dceg.cancer.gov/>)

NCI Programs and Activities

Research Programs

The Institute conducts and leads intensive work to advance knowledge of cancer's biology and processes; to discover and develop new interventions; and to employ a bench-to-bedside approach that strives to rapidly make new treatments—our latest science—available to patients in the communities where they live. Across these complex endeavors, the NCI works to foster the collaborations of government, the private sector, and academia. In addition to the broad range of both basic and

applied laboratory and clinical programs that it supports, the NCI provides various research support services, including the development and distribution of critical materials such as viruses, animals, equipment, tissues, and standardized reference bibliographies. These activities are conducted within the divisions and centers of the NCI, under the supervision of the Office of the Director.

Cancer Causation

Cancer causation research concentrates on the events involved in the initiation and promotion of cancer. It encompasses chemical and physical carcinogenesis, biological carcinogenesis, epidemiology, chemoprevention, and nutrition research. Studies in this area focus on external agents such as chemicals, radiation, fibers, and other particles, as well as viruses, parasitic infections, and host factors such as hormone levels, nutritional and immunologic status, and the genetic endowment of the individual. FY2020 cancer causation research expenditures totaled about \$1.30 billion, accounting for 20.5 percent of the total NCI budget.

Detection and Diagnosis

Detection and diagnosis research includes studies designed to improve diagnostic accuracy; provide better prognostic information to guide therapeutic decisions; monitor the response to therapy more effectively; detect cancer at its earliest presentation; and identify populations and individuals at increased risk for the development of cancer.

Areas of emphasis include: improvements in the detection and diagnosis of breast, cervical, uterine, and prostate cancer; the transfer of molecular technologies from the laboratory to clinical practice; the identification of better prognostic markers; increased availability of human tumor samples with associated clinical information; and research to identify genetic alterations involved in tumor pathogenesis and behavior. FY2020 detection and diagnosis research expenditures totaled about \$595 million, accounting for 9.3 percent of the total NCI budget.

Treatment

Treatment research is composed of preclinical and clinical research. Preclinical research focuses on the discovery of new antitumor agents and their development in preparation for testing in clinical trials. These agents include both synthetic compounds and natural products. Clinical research (see [Appendix I](#)) involves demonstrating the effectiveness of new anticancer treatments through systematic testing in clinical trials. Phase I trials establish the maximum tolerated dose of a new agent; Phase II trials examine its efficacy against a variety of cancers; and Phase III trials compare the

new treatment with the best standard therapy, in terms of improved survival and decreased toxicity. FY2020 treatment research expenditures totaled about \$1.53 billion, accounting for 24.0 percent of the total NCI budget.

Cancer Biology

Cancer biology supports a broad spectrum of basic research on cancer and the body's response to cancer. Studies include investigations of cellular and molecular characteristics of tumor cells, interactions among cells within a tumor, and the components of the host immune defense mechanisms. Cancer is the result of genetic damage that accumulates in stages. It is the goal of cancer biology to identify and explain the stepwise progression between the initiating event in the cell and final tumor development. FY2020 cancer biology expenditures totaled approximately \$1.02 billion, accounting for 16.1 percent of the total NCI budget.

Cancer Prevention and Control

The NCI conducts Cancer Prevention and Control basic and applied research through both intramural and extramural mechanisms in all phases of cancer prevention and control, as well as cancer surveillance. A key priority of this program is to develop strategies for the effective translation of knowledge gained from prevention and control research into health promotion and disease prevention activities for the benefit of the public. An integrated system of basic research, clinical trials, and applications research is in place and seeks to promote cancer prevention and control activities across the country.

The Cancer Prevention and Control Program includes four components and several subprograms, many of which relate to other program activities of the NCI, including information dissemination, epidemiology, and cancer treatment. The four components are Cancer Prevention Research, Cancer Control Science, Early Detection and Community Oncology, and Cancer Surveillance. FY2020 Cancer Prevention and Control Program expenditures totaled approximately \$380 million, accounting for 6.0 percent of the total NCI budget.

Resource Development

Cancer Centers

The Cancer Centers Program consists of a group of nationally recognized, geographically dispersed, individual institutions with outstanding scientific reputations. Each institution reflects particular research talents and special technological capabilities. In FY2020, there were 71 NCI designated Cancer Centers (51 Comprehensive, 13 Clinical, and 7 Basic), which received a total of \$382 million in

support, accounting for 6.0 percent of the total NCI budget.

Cancer Centers have developed in a number of different organizational settings. Some are independent institutional entities entirely dedicated to cancer research (free-standing centers); some have been formed as clearly identifiable entities within academic institutions and promote interactive cancer research programs across departmental and/or college structures (matrix centers); and others involve multiple institutions (consortium centers).

The NCI uses the Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) (P30) mechanism to support the Cancer Centers. The CCSG is intended to provide support to the peer-reviewed research base of the Cancer Center within the larger institution. The CCSG supports the operational framework (infrastructure) of the center and partially pays for shared laboratory resources and facilities. Research projects themselves are supported through the individual grants and contracts from the NIH and from a variety of other grant funding agencies and organizations.

Specialized Programs of Research Excellence

The Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs) are designed to stimulate translational research from the laboratory to clinical practice. SPOREs, which are funded under the P50 grant mechanism, focus on research in prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment for a single cancer site. These are awarded to institutions that demonstrate the ability to perform significant translational research. In FY2020, the SPORE Program expenditures totaled approximately \$113 million, accounting for 1.8 percent of the total NCI budget.

Comprehensive Minority Institution/Cancer Center Partnership

NCI's Comprehensive Minority Institution/Cancer Center Partnership (U54) awards are cooperative agreements designed to establish comprehensive partnerships between the Minority Serving Institution (MSI) and the NCI-designated Cancer Centers. The partnership focuses on cancer research and one or more target areas in cancer research, training and career development, education, or outreach activities designed to benefit racial and/or ethnic minority populations in the region the Cancer Center serves. The partnership also creates a stable, long-term, collaborative relationship between the MSI and NCI-designated Cancer Centers and raises awareness about problems and issues relevant to the disproportionate rates of cancer incidence and mortality in minority populations.

Research Manpower Development

The Cancer Training Branch (CTB) in the Center for Cancer Training (CCT) manages the Institute’s extramural research training, career development, and education programs, and provides guidance to the extramural biomedical research community and administration of awards. This assures continued development of well-trained investigators in the basic, clinical, population, and behavioral sciences, who are prepared to address problems in cancer biology, causation, prevention and control, detection and diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation. Operationally, the CTB has three functions. The first is the management of NCI-funded grants in research training, career development, and cancer education. The second function is the administration of the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) components (F32 and T32) of the CTB grant portfolio. The NRSA program is the major mechanism for providing long-term, stable support to a wide range of promising scientists and clinicians. Individual awards are made directly to postdoctoral fellows (F32), and institutional awards (T32) are made to scientists who, together with a group of faculty-preceptors, administer a comprehensive training program for pre- and post-doctoral trainees. CTB administers a research career development program that supports the training of both scientists and research physicians during the first 3 to 5 years between receipt of a Ph.D., M.D., or other professional degree and receipt of an individual, investigator-initiated award. Among the career

mechanisms are three additional non-NRSA institutional mechanisms (K12, R25T, and R25E) and six individual career development awards (K-series). The third function is the oversight and coordination of the NIH Loan Repayment Program. Research Manpower Development expenditures in FY2020 totaled approximately \$210 million, accounting for 3.3 percent of the total NCI budget.

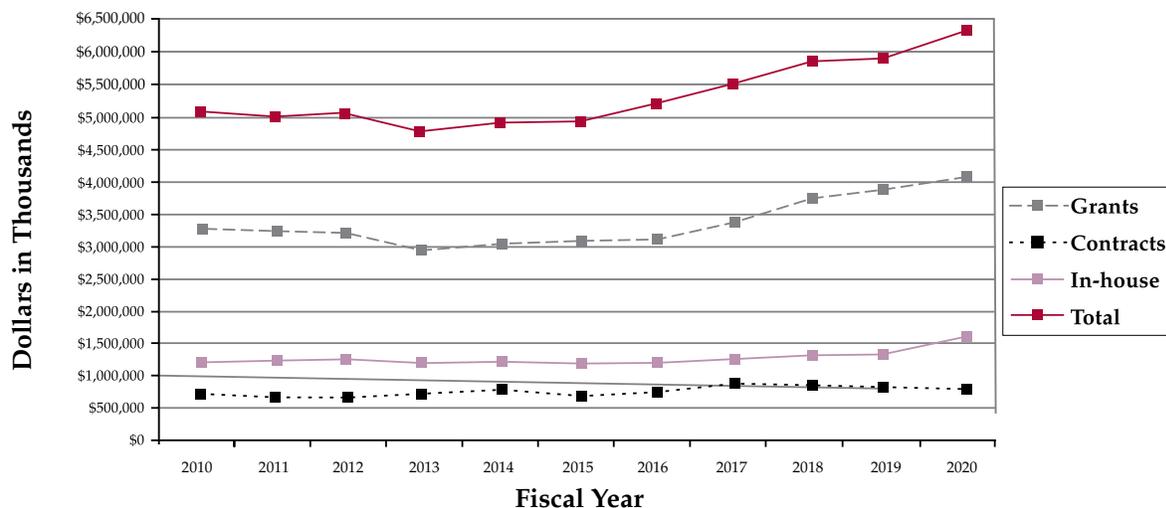
NCI Funding Mechanisms

The NCI supports cancer research, cancer control, and cancer support activities through an extramural program of grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts, and through an intramural program of in-house research. In accordance with NIH tradition, the Institute’s extramural programs emphasize grant-supported, investigator-initiated research projects, which are conducted at both nonprofit and for-profit institutions in the United States and abroad. Research contracts are awarded to both nonprofit and for-profit institutions. Intramural funds support continuing investigations by NCI research scientists. The cooperative agreement mechanism, which is a cross between a grant and a contract, became available in 1979 as an additional procurement mechanism. Annual appropriations from Congress provide the funds for all research supported by the NCI.

[Exhibit VI](#) illustrates the relationship between total NCI obligations and the grant, contract, and intramural/other components of the NCI budget from 2010 to 2020. [Exhibit VII](#) shows the 2014–2019

Exhibit VI. NCI Funding History, FY2010–2020*†

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Grants	\$3,289,368	\$3,255,003	\$3,236,947	\$2,987,438	\$3,055,661	\$3,082,008	\$3,163,531	\$3,399,282	\$3,696,412	\$3,791,407	\$4,007,698
Contracts	621,682	594,955	597,635	623,950	660,283	596,951	748,344	910,377	843,406	786,095	853,012
In-house	1,187,097	1,208,147	1,232,760	1,177,626	1,216,424	1,273,633	1,294,293	1,326,732	1,387,911	1,414,788	1,522,638
Total	\$5,098,147	\$5,058,105	\$5,067,342	\$4,789,014	\$4,932,368	\$4,952,592	\$5,206,168	\$5,636,391	\$5,927,729	\$5,992,290	\$6,383,348



* Source: NCI Fact Book, FY2020.

† Includes FY2018–2020 Cancer Cures – Moonshot Funding.

budget for various research areas. [Exhibit VIII](#) summarizes the FY2020 budget obligations by mechanisms. [Exhibit IX](#) shows the RPG awards by activity code and presents the number of grants awarded, the total dollars awarded, and the average cost of a grant for the period 2011–2020.

Grants

I. Research Project Grants

Research Project Grants (RPGs) are awards for investigator-initiated research applications. Several types of awards are made in this category; they vary in type of mechanism, type of applicant, total amount of support, and length of time. FY2020 research project grant expenditures totaled approximately \$2.75 billion, accounting for 43.1 percent of the total NCI budget ([Exhibit VIII](#)).

P01 Research Program Project Grant

Research Program Project Grants (P01s) support an integrated, multiproject research approach involving

a number of independent investigators who share knowledge and common resources. A P01 has a defined, central research focus involving several disciplines or several aspects of one discipline. Each individual project should contribute or be directly related to the common theme of the total research effort, thus forming a system of research activities and projects directed toward a well-defined research program goal.

R01 Research Project Grant

Research Project Grants (R01s) support a discrete, specified research project to be performed by the named investigator(s) in an area representing his/her specific interest and competencies. This is generally referred to as a “traditional research project grant.”

R03 Small Research Grant

Small Research Grants (R03s) provide research support that is limited in time (2 years) and amount (direct costs up to \$50,000 per year), for studies in categorical program areas. Small research grants

Exhibit VII. Research Funding for Various Research Areas (Dollars in Millions)*

Disease Area	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual [†]	2018 Actual [†]	2019 Actual [†]
Total NCI Budget	\$4,932.4	\$4,952.6	\$5,206.2	\$5,636.4	\$5,927.7	\$6,440.4
AIDS	269.2	269.7	266.4	249.0	241.2	242.0
Brain & CNS	180.4	204.8	196.3	219.8	220.9	231.7
Breast Cancer	528.5	543.6	519.9	544.9	574.9	545.4
Cervical Cancer	71.1	57.1	65.6	68.8	71.5	86.0
Clinical Trials	749.8	748.0	801.0	806.6	895.7	794.3
Colorectal Cancer	223.0	209.3	212.2	208.4	256.0	238.8
Head and Neck Cancers	57.1	60.2	58.9	46.4	62.4	117.1
Hodgkin Disease	15.4	13.6	12.8	13.0	13.3	12.2
Leukemia	236.7	246.9	241.0	250.5	258.3	256.6
Liver Cancer	60.0	70.3	75.7	72.7	95.9	107.8
Lung Cancer	254.1	255.8	283.8	320.6	350.1	418.8
Melanoma	126.2	132.8	142.9	153.2	158.4	191.9
Multiple Myeloma	46.6	48.9	52.1	60.7	61.5	58.2
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	118.0	122.4	116.7	119.5	121.0	120.4
Ovarian Cancer	91.5	92.8	95.6	110.1	120.8	121.5
Pancreatic Cancer	122.4	125.3	152.6	178.3	182.1	187.0
Prostate Cancer	217.8	228.9	241.0	233.0	239.3	244.8
Stomach Cancer	11.3	13.5	13.3	13.4	14.2	14.8
Uterine Cancer	15.5	13.0	16.8	17.5	17.5	18.0

*Source: Office of Budget and Finance, NCI, FY2020.

[†]FY2017–2019 data include Cures Act – Moonshot funding.

Exhibit VIII. Summary of NCI Obligations by Mechanism, FY2020 (Whole Dollars)**

		Number	Amount	% of Total
RPGs	Non-Competing	3,631	1,905,787,328	29.9%
	Administrative Supplements	219	30,211,732	0.5%
	Competing	1,204	662,228,214	10.4%
	Subtotal, without SBIR/STTR Grants	4,835	2,598,227,274	40.7%
	SBIR/STTR Grants	217	151,140,629	2.4%
	Subtotal, RPGs	5,052	2,749,367,903	43.1%
Centers and SPOREs	Cancer Centers Grants-P20/P30	93	381,955,514	6.0%
	SPOREs	50	113,177,200	1.8%
	Other P50s/P20s	9	7,942,623	0.1%
	Other Specialized Centers	94	110,696,114	1.7%
	Subtotal, Centers	246	613,771,451	9.6%
Other Research	Career Program			
	Postdoctoral Fellow Awards-K00	68	6,019,542	0.1%
	Temin & Minority Mentored Awards-K01/K43	31	5,450,807	0.1%
	Estab. Inv. Award-K05	0	0	0.0%
	Preventive Oncology-K07	46	7,296,818	0.1%
	Clinical Investigator-K08	192	41,376,183	0.6%
	Clinical Oncology-K12	21	15,968,136	0.3%
	Transitional Career Development-K22	51	9,340,487	0.1%
	Mentored Patient Oriented RCDA-K23	7	1,179,584	0.0%
	Mid-Career Invest. and Patient Orient. Res-K24	5	822,239	0.0%
	Mentored Quant. Res Career-K25	3	425,733	0.0%
	Mentored Career Devel/Tem Intl Career-K43	0	290,482	0.0%
	Pathway to Independence Awards-K99	63	8,408,294	0.1%
	Subtotal, Career Program	487	96,578,305	1.5%
	Cancer Education Program-R25 (including BD2K)	59	14,877,672	0.2%
	Clinical Cooperative Groups-U10/UG1	106	295,621,973	4.6%
	PreDoc PostDoc Transition Awards-F99	48	1,959,966	0.0%
	UE5 Education Projects	5	1,998,370	0.0%
	Minority Biomedical Support-S06	0	97,866	0.0%
	Research Pathway in Residency (R38)	2	713,828	0.0%
	Pilot Research Project-OT2	0	77,139	0.0%
	Resource Grants-R24/U24/U2C	93	134,541,158	2.1%
	Cooperative Conference Agreements-U13/R13	46	663,753	0.0%
	Int'l Research Training Grants-D43/U2R	0	1,003,655	0.0%
	Subtotal, Career and Other Research Grants	846	548,133,685	8.6%
Subtotal, Research Grants	6,144	3,911,273,039	61.3%	
NRSA Fellowships	<i>Trainees</i>	1,693	96,424,956	1.5%
R&D Contracts	R&D Contracts	348	684,898,306	10.7%
	SBIR Contracts	47	23,955,859	0.4%
	NIH Management Fund/SSF Assessment		114,157,901	1.8%
	Subtotal, Contracts	395	823,012,066	12.9%
Intramural Research	Program		823,065,394	12.9%
	NIH Management Fund/SSF Assessment		249,537,006	3.9%
	Subtotal, Intramural Research (FTEs)	1,755	1,072,602,400	16.8%
RMS	Research Management and Support (RMS)		342,523,328	5.4%
	SBIR RMS		2,892,985	0.0%
	NIH Management Fund/SSF Assessment		104,620,137	1.6%
	Subtotal, RMS (FTEs)	1,238	450,036,450	7.1%
Buildings and Facilities			30,000,000	0.5%
Total NCI	FTEs†	2,993	\$6,383,348,911	100.0%

* Source: NCI Fact Book, FY2020.

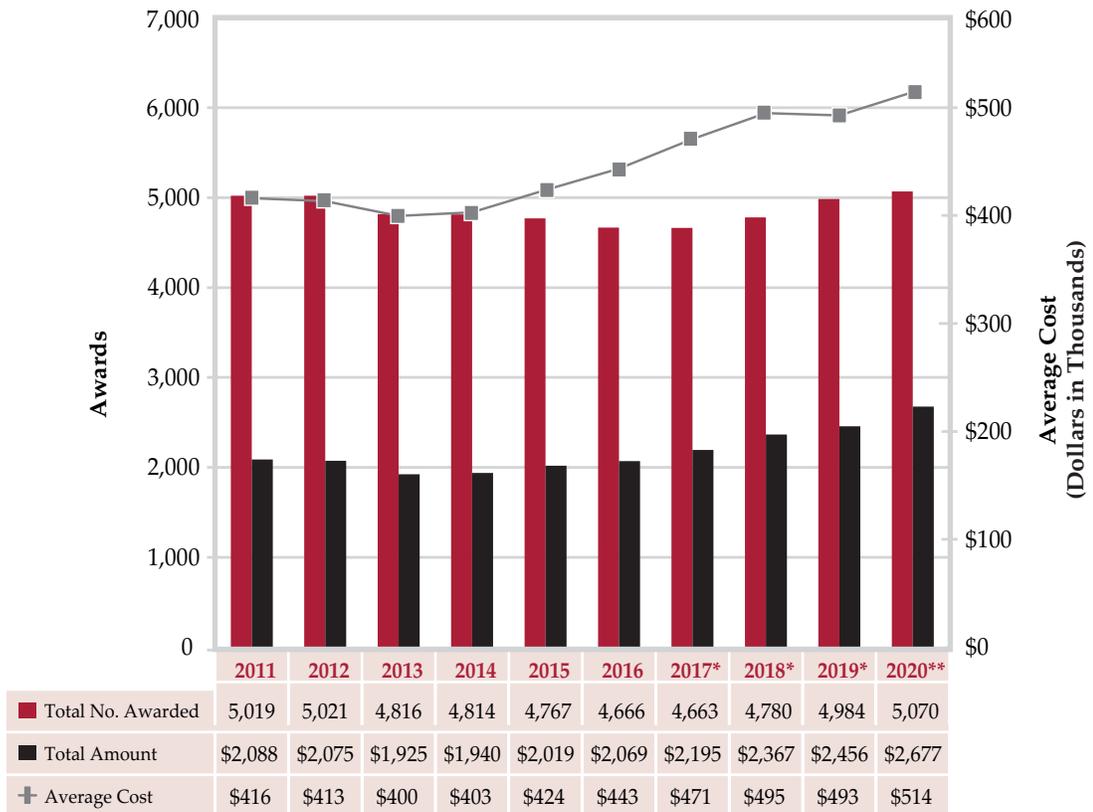
† Includes FY2020 Cures Act – Moonshot funding.

‡ Full-Time Equivalents

Exhibit IX. RPG Awards by Grant Activity Code, FY2011–2020* (Dollars in Thousands)**

	R01	DP1	DP2	DP5	P01	R00	R37	RFA*	U01	U19	UH2	R35	R50	UH3	UA5	UM1	UG3	R03	R21	R33	R15	R55	R56	RG2	SBIR/STTR	Total Amount	
2011	No.	3,648	8	0	0	129	71	59	290	65	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	127	442	9	23	0	0	0	144	5,019
	\$	1,331,635	7,639	0	0	259,230	17,239	30,327	194,142	47,100	5,874	255	0	0	0	381	0	0	9,646	88,481	3,166	9,183	0	0	0	84,054	\$2,088,352
2012	No.	3,526	7	2	0	122	76	48	326	84	1	1	0	0	0	5	0	172	439	3	19	0	0	0	190	5,021	
	\$	1,318,483	7,289	4,584	0	243,599	18,531	23,972	204,957	53,457	1,031	100	0	0	0	13,467	0	13,132	86,384	1,182	7,772	0	0	1,870	77,355	\$2,075,295	
2013	No.	3,306	5	2	5	124	72	38	324	98	1	1	0	0	0	11	0	199	441	2	28	0	0	0	159	4,816	
	\$	1,182,491	2,528	4,755	1,846	231,618	16,639	16,900	204,023	57,050	1,147	306	0	0	0	23,554	0	15,286	82,799	662	11,939	0	0	0	71,260	\$1,924,803	
2014	No.	3,085	4	3	6	109	84	25	364	131	2	1	0	0	0	15	0	194	551	0	23	0	0	0	217	4,814	
	\$	1,166,410	4,024	7,489	2,318	211,171	19,652	11,391	201,101	72,618	3,421	194	0	0	433	0	29,649	0	15,078	102,958	0	9,875	0	0	0	81,841	\$1,939,623
2015	No.	2,949	2	0	8	100	93	12	363	165	2	1	43	0	0	15	0	162	639	0	18	0	1	0	194	4,767	
	\$	1,174,944	2,413	402	3,501	193,818	22,841	5,695	203,518	106,463	3,606	2,283	34,740	0	0	28,572	0	12,868	123,378	86	7,317	0	263	0	92,598	\$2,019,308	
2016	No.	2,883	2	0	11	94	93	6	371	148	2	6	77	34	0	14	0	114	585	0	22	0	2	0	202	4,666	
	\$	1,194,861	3,021	220	4,818	173,358	22,620	2,649	225,044	100,206	3,027	1,678	71,418	5,674	432	0	26,106	0	9,057	113,327	0	9,315	0	560	0	101,478	\$2,068,869
2017*	No.	3,074	3	0	7	90	109	2	0	237	3	19	105	49	6	0	23	8	138	472	57	20	0	3	0	238	4,663
	\$	1,328,242	3,620	174	2,882	169,753	26,551	955	0	201,670	6,577	4,953	96,338	8,430	5,723	0	65,150	3,268	10,796	91,406	33,586	8,559	0	917	0	125,636	\$2,195,184
2018*	No.	3,092	2	1	6	85	103	66	0	285	2	7	125	63	21	0	33	11	149	382	45	20	0	2	0	280	4,780
	\$	1,375,890	2,388	2,711	2,494	165,529	24,704	30,163	0	243,522	5,087	1,408	118,267	10,559	11,275	0	110,404	5,574	12,227	74,013	17,863	8,951	0	602	0	142,899	\$2,366,530
2019*	No.	3,195	1	0	3	95	109	99	0	306	2	7	142	81	33	0	27	8	121	447	38	23	0	2	0	245	4,984
	\$	1,425,516	1,161	466	1,312	179,123	26,260	43,535	0	276,369	7,593	1,413	129,232	13,319	18,797	0	69,816	4,500	9,735	85,575	14,993	10,082	0	689	0	136,670	\$2,456,156
2020**	No.	3,316	1	0	0	93	95	156	0	300	2	7	154	96	36	0	23	8	119	387	37	22	0	1	0	217	5,070
	\$	1,555,105	1,197	0	0	187,766	23,566	71,569	0	257,018	6,335	1,573	145,771	15,799	20,106	0	102,669	4,387	11,689	92,517	19,351	9,299	0	345	0	151,141	\$2,677,206

Research Project Grants and Dollars Awarded FY2011–2020***



* FY2017–2020 data include Cures Act - Moonshot funding.

† Source: NCI Fact Book, FY2020.

** Excludes FY2017, FY2018, FY2019 Cures Act Moonshot carryover obligations.

provide flexibility and are generally used to initiate studies for preliminary, short-term projects. These grants are nonrenewable.

R21 Exploratory/Developmental Grant

Exploratory/Development Grants (R21s) support the development of new research activities in categorical program areas. Support generally is restricted, in terms of the level of support (2 years) and time (not to exceed \$275,000).

R33 Exploratory/Developmental Grant—Phase II

Phase II Exploratory/Developmental Grants (R33s) provide additional support to innovative, exploratory, and developmental research activities that were initiated under the R21 mechanism.

R35 Outstanding Investigator Award (OIA)

The OIA provides long-term support to experienced investigators with outstanding records of cancer research productivity who propose to conduct exceptional research. The OIA is intended to allow investigators the opportunity to take greater risks, be more adventurous in their lines of inquiry, or take the time to develop new techniques. The OIA would allow an Institution to submit an application nominating an establishment Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) for a 7-year grant.

R37 NCI Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award for Early Stage Investigators (ESIs)

The MERIT provides eligible investigators the opportunity to obtain up to 7 years of support in two segments, with the first being an initial 5-year award and the second being based on an opportunity for an extension of up to 2 additional years, based on an expedited NCI review of the accomplishments during the initial funding segment. By providing such an opportunity for longer term support to ESIs, the NCI intends to give them flexibility and opportunity for creativity and innovation, and additional time to successfully launch their careers and to become more established before having to submit renewal applications.

R41 Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Grant—Phase I

Phase I STTR Grants (R41s) support cooperative research and development projects between research institutions and small, domestic, for-profit organizations. R41s are limited in time and amount and are used to establish the technical merit and feasibility of ideas that have a potential for commercialization. Generally, support for Phase I STTR awards may not exceed \$100,000 for direct and indirect costs and a fixed fee for a period normally

not to exceed 1 year. *Note:* Phase I award levels and project periods are statutory guidelines. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to propose a budget and project period that are appropriate for completion of their research project. Deviations from the guidelines must be well justified.

R42 Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Grant—Phase II

Phase II STTR Grants (R42s) support in-depth development of cooperative research and development projects between research institutions and small, domestic, for-profit organizations. They are limited in time and amount, and applicants must have established during Phase I their project's feasibility and potential for commercialization. Generally, support for Phase II awards may not exceed \$500,000 for direct and indirect costs and a fixed fee for a period normally not to exceed 2 years. *Note:* Phase II award levels and project periods are statutory guidelines. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to propose a budget and project period that are appropriate for completion of the research project. Deviations from the guidelines must be well justified.

R43 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant—Phase I

Phase I SBIR Grants (R43s) support research efforts by for-profit, domestic, small businesses. The objectives of this phase are to: (1) establish the technical merit and feasibility of proposed research or research and development (R&D) efforts, and (2) evaluate the performance of the small business awardee organization prior to providing further Federal support in Phase II (R44). Generally, support for Phase I awards may not exceed \$100,000 for direct and indirect costs and a fixed fee for a period normally not to exceed 6 months. *Note:* Phase I award levels and project periods are statutory guidelines. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to propose a budget and project period that are appropriate for completion of the research project. Deviations from the guidelines must be well justified.

R44 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant—Phase II

Phase II SBIR Grants (R44s) continue those R&D efforts that were started in Phase I (R43). Awards are based on the results of Phase I and the scientific and technical merit and commercial potential of the Phase II application. Only Phase I awardees are eligible for Phase II. Generally, support for Phase II may not exceed \$750,000 for direct and indirect costs and a fixed fee for a period normally not to exceed 2 years. *Note:* Phase II award levels and project periods are statutory guidelines. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to propose a budget and project period that are appropriate

for completion of the research project. Deviations from the guidelines must be well justified.

R50 Research Specialist Award

The Research Specialist Award supports the development of stable research career opportunities for exceptional scientists who want to pursue research within the context of an existing cancer research program, but not serve as independent investigators.

R55 James A. Shannon Director's Award

Applicants do not submit requests for Shannon Awards (R55). Instead, NCI program staff nominate previously reviewed R01 and R03 applications that are beyond the current NCI payline but, because of their merit, are eligible for funding. After each of the three review cycles per year, Shannon Award nominees are administratively reviewed by the NCI according to standard review criteria, then submitted to the Office of Extramural Research, NIH, for expedited review and concurrence prior to funding.

Shannon Awards (R55s) provide a limited award to investigators to further develop, test, and refine research techniques; perform secondary analysis of available data sets; test the feasibility of innovative and creative approaches; and conduct other discrete projects that can demonstrate the investigator's research capabilities and lend additional weight to his or her already meritorious application.

R56 High Priority, Short-Term Project Award

Applicants do not submit requests for a High Priority Award (R56). Instead, NCI program staff nominate previously reviewed R01 applications that are beyond the current NCI payline but, because of their merit, are eligible for funding. After each of the three review cycles per year, High Priority nominees are administratively reviewed by the NCI according to standard review criteria. The NCI then determines whether any awards are made from NCI funds.

High Priority Awards (R56s) provide limited, interim support to enable an applicant to gather additional data for revision of a new or competing renewal application. The R56 will assist early career stage scientists trying to establish research careers as well as more experienced scientists who just missed receiving funds.

II. Cancer Centers and Specialized Programs of Research Excellence

The Cancer Centers, SPORE Program, and other specialized centers contain a great diversity of research approaches. In FY2020, expenditures totaled about \$614 million, accounting for 9.6 percent of the total NCI budget.

P20 Planning Grant

Planning Grants (P20s) support planning for new programs, expansion or modification of existing resources, and feasibility studies for new approaches. Such awards had been particularly useful in the development of Cancer Centers, and SPOREs, but are no longer available for Cancer Centers.

P30 Cancer Center Support Grant

Cancer Center Support Grants (P30s) provide support primarily for the research infrastructure of an active and unified Cancer Center, for the purpose of: consolidating and focusing cancer-related activities; increasing research productivity; promoting shared use of research resources and improved quality control; stimulating and promoting interdisciplinary and collaborative research; and increasing the rate at which research discoveries are translated into medical developments.

P50 Specialized Center Grant

Specialized Center Grants (P50s) support any part of the full range of R&D, from very basic to clinical activities. They also may support ancillary activities, such as the protracted patient care that may be necessary while conducting primary research or R&D. The spectrum of activities comprises a multidisciplinary attack on cancer. These grants differ from Program Project Grants in that they usually are developed in response to an announcement of the programmatic needs of the NCI and receive continuous attention from its staff. Centers also may serve as regional or national resources for special research purposes.

The Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) grant is one type of Specialized Center. The NCI SPORE is focused on a specific organ site, a group of highly related cancers, or a common pathway or theme that ties together the cancers under study, which includes basic and clinical investigation, thus having a significant translational component.

III. Other Research Grants

Other research includes the Research Career Program and all other research grants not included in Research Project Grants, Research Centers, and/or Cancer Prevention and Control, except for National Research Service Awards. The NCI Research Career Program includes all "K" awards. Other research also includes the Clinical Cooperative Groups, Cancer Education Program (R25), resource grants (R24/U24), conference grants, and Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellowship Transition Awards (F99/K00). In FY2020, other research expenditures totaled approximately \$548 million, accounting for 8.6 percent of the total NCI budget.

IV. Career Awards and Cancer Education

K01 Mentored Research Scientist Development Award

Mentored Research Scientist Development Awards (K01s) provide support and “protected time” for an intensive, supervised career development experience in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences leading to research independence. Some Institutes/Centers use the K01 to support individuals who propose to train in a new field; for individuals who have had a hiatus in their research career; or to increase research workforce diversity. The NCI supports the Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Support Diversity.

K05 Senior Scientist Award

Senior Scientist Awards (K05s) support outstanding established scientists who have demonstrated a sustained high level of productivity, research accomplishments, and contributions to research in the fields of cancer prevention, control, and population sciences. These awards provide protected time to devote to research and to act as mentors for young investigators. The NCI supports the Established Investigator Award in Cancer Prevention, Control, Behavioral, and Population Sciences Research.

K07 Academic Career Award

Academic Career Awards (K07s) support more junior candidates who are interested in developing academic and research expertise in a specific area. They also support more senior individuals with acknowledged scientific expertise and leadership skills who are interested in improving the curricula and enhancing the research capability within an academic institution. The NCI supports the Cancer Prevention, Control, Behavioral and Population Sciences Career Development Award.

K08 Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award

Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Awards (K08s) support the development of outstanding clinical research scientists. These awards provide specialized study for clinically trained professionals who are committed to a career in research and have the potential to develop into independent investigators. The NCI supports two K08 awards: the Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award and the Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity.

K12 Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Award

Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Awards (K12s) help newly trained, appointed clinicians gain independent research skills and experience in a fundamental science within the framework of an

interdisciplinary R&D program. The NCI supports the Paul Calabresi Award for Clinical Oncology.

K18 Career Enhancement Award for Stem Cell Research

This program encourages investigators to obtain the training and career development they need to appropriately use stem cells in their research. It is intended to enable investigators to change the direction of their research careers or to take time from their regular professional responsibilities to broaden their scientific background by acquiring new research capabilities, specifically in the use of human or animal embryonic, adult, or cord blood stem cells. The award includes salary and support for career development costs.

K22 Career Transition Award

Career Transition Awards (K22s) help newly trained, basic or clinical investigators to develop their independent research skills through a two-phase program: an initial period involving an intramural appointment at the NIH, and a final period of support at an extramural institution. The award is intended to enable the investigator to establish a record of independent research to sustain or promote a successful research career. The NCI supports two K22 awards: the Scholars Program and the Transition Career Development Award. The NCI Scholars Program provides an opportunity for outstanding new investigators to begin independent research careers, intramurally, within the special environment of the NCI. It then enables awardees to continue their careers extramurally at an institution of their choice, where they are appointed to junior faculty positions or the equivalent. The NCI Transition Career Development Award is a fully portable mechanism that facilitates the professional advancement of talented clinician cancer scientists, clinicians in patient-oriented cancer research, and researchers in cancer prevention, control, and the population sciences.

K23 Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award

Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Awards (K23s) provide support for the career development of investigators who focus their research endeavors on patient-oriented research. The mechanism provides support for a period of supervised study and research to clinically trained professionals who have the potential to develop into productive clinical investigators in patient-oriented research.

K24 Mid-Career Investigator in Patient-Oriented Research Award

Mid-Career Investigator in Patient-Oriented Research Awards (K24s) provide clinicians the opportunity to dedicate time to patient-oriented

research and to mentor other clinical investigators in patient-oriented research.

K25 Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award

Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Awards (K25s) support the career development of investigators with quantitative scientific and engineering backgrounds outside of biology or medicine, who have made a commitment to focus their research endeavors on behavioral and biomedical research (basic or clinical).

K30 Institutional Curriculum Award

Institutional Curriculum Awards (K30s) support the development, conduct, and evaluation of curricula that are designed to improve the quality of training for aspiring clinical investigators.

K99/R00 Howard Temin Pathway to Independence Awards in Cancer Research

Howard Temin Pathway to Independence Awards in Cancer Research (K99/R00) support highly promising, postdoctoral research scientists. The initial phase is followed by independent support contingent on securing an independent research position. The goal of this award is to facilitate an investigator receiving an R01 award earlier in his/her research career.

V. Training (NRSA)

The National Research Service Award (NRSA) is the major mechanism providing long-term, stable support to a wide range of promising scientists and research clinicians. FY2020 NRSA expenditures totaled approximately \$96 million, accounting for 2.0 percent of the NCI budget.

F31 Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award

Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Awards (F31s) provide predoctoral individuals with supervised research training in specified health and health-related areas leading toward a research degree (e.g., Ph.D.).

F32 Postdoctoral Individual National Research Service Award

Postdoctoral Individual National Research Service Awards (F32s) provide postdoctoral research training to individuals to broaden their scientific background and extend their potential for research in specified, health-related areas.

F33 National Research Service Award for Senior Fellows

National Research Service Awards for Senior Fellows (F33s) enable experienced scientists to take time

away from their regular professional responsibilities to: make major changes in the direction of research careers; broaden scientific background; acquire new research capabilities; enlarge command of an allied research field; or increase capabilities to engage in health-related research.

F99/K00 Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award

The F99/K00 award is intended for individuals who require 1-2 years to complete their Ph.D. dissertation research training (F99 phase) before transitioning to mentored postdoctoral research training (K00 phase). Consequently, applicants are expected to propose an individualized research training plan for the next 1-2 years of dissertation research training and a plan for 3-4 years of mentored postdoctoral research and career development activities that will prepare them for independent cancer-focused research careers.

T32 Institutional National Research Service Award

Institutional National Research Service Awards (T32s) support training opportunities at the predoctoral or postdoctoral level at qualified institutions. Applicants must have the staff and facilities for the proposed program. After the award is made, the institution's training Program Director is responsible for selecting the trainees and for administering the program. This program does not support residencies.

D43 International Training Grants in Epidemiology

The D43 International Training Grants in Epidemiology provide support to improve and expand epidemiologic research and the utilization of epidemiology in clinical trials and prevention research in foreign countries through support of training programs for foreign health professionals, technicians, and other health care workers.

DP1 NIH Director's Pioneer Award (NDPA)

The DP1 NIH Director's Pioneer Awards provide support to individuals who have the potential to make extraordinary contributions to medical research. The NIH Director's Pioneer Award is not renewable.

DP2 NIH Director's New Innovator Awards

The DP2 NIH Director's New Innovator Awards provide support to highly innovative research projects by new investigators in all areas of biomedical and behavioral research.

DP5 NIH Director's Early Independence Awards

The DP5 NIH Director's Early Independence Awards provide an opportunity for exceptional junior scientists to accelerate their entry into an independent research career by forgoing the traditional postdoctoral training period.

Other Grant Mechanisms

R13 Conference Grant

Conference Grants (R13s) support national or international meetings, conferences, and workshops that are of value in promoting the goals of the National Cancer Program.

R15 Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA)

Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) Grants (R15s) support small-scale research projects conducted by faculty in primarily baccalaureate degree-granting domestic institutions. Awards are for up to \$75,000 in direct costs (plus applicable indirect costs) for periods not to exceed 36 months.

R24 Resource-Related Research Project

Resource-Related Research Project Grants (R24s) support research projects that will enhance the capability of resources to serve biomedical research.

R25 Cancer Education Grant

Cancer Education Grants (R25s) support the development and implementation of programs related to education, information provision, training, technical assistance, coordination, or evaluation. The NCI supports two distinct Cancer Education programs: the Cancer Education and Career Development Program, and the Cancer Education Grant Program (CEGP). The NCI Cancer Education and Career Development Program (R25T) is an institutional grant program that supports the development and implementation of curriculum-dependent programs to train predoctoral and postdoctoral candidates in cancer research settings that are highly interdisciplinary and collaborative. The NCI CEGP is a flexible, curriculum-driven program aimed at developing and sustaining innovative educational approaches that ultimately will reduce cancer incidence, mortality, and morbidity. The program also focuses on improving the quality of life for cancer patients. The CEGP awards (R25Es) address a need that is not fulfilled adequately by any other grant mechanism available at the NIH. These awards are dedicated to areas of particular concern by the NCI.

S06 Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS)

Minority Biomedical Research Support Grants (S06s) provide funds to strengthen the biomedical research and research training capability of ethnic minority institutions, thus creating a more favorable milieu for increasing the involvement of minority faculty and students in biomedical research.

S21 Research and Institutional Resources Health Disparities Endowment Grants—Capacity Building

The S21 Research and Institutional Resources Health Disparities Endowment Grants provide support to strengthen the research and training

infrastructure of the institution, while addressing current and emerging needs in minority health and other health disparities research.

SC1 Research Enhancement Award

The SC1 Research Enhancement Awards provide support for individual investigator-initiated research projects aimed at developing researchers at minority-serving institutions (MSIs) to a stage where they can transition successfully to other extramural support (R01 or equivalent).

SC2 Pilot Research Project

The SC2 Pilot Research Project grants provide support for individual investigator-initiated pilot research projects for faculty at MSIs to generate preliminary data for a more ambitious research project.

Cooperative Agreements

The cooperative agreement is a mechanism to provide funding assistance for a variety of activities. The Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977 authorized use of the cooperative agreement and formally defined the circumstances under which this mechanism is to be employed by Federal agencies. These instruments are used for situations in which an assistance relationship will exist between the NCI and a recipient and substantial programmatic involvement is anticipated.

U01 Research Project Cooperative Agreement

Research Project Cooperative Agreements (U01s) support discrete, specified, circumscribed projects to be performed by the named investigator(s) in an area representing his/her specific interest and competencies. This mechanism is utilized when substantial programmatic involvement is anticipated between the NCI and the recipient.

U10 Clinical Research Cooperative Agreement (Clinical Cooperative Groups)

Clinical Research Cooperative Agreements (U10s) support clinical evaluations of various methods of therapy and/or prevention in specific disease areas. These represent cooperative programs between sponsoring institutions and participating principal investigators, and usually are conducted under established protocols.

U13 Conference Cooperative Agreement

Conference Cooperative Agreements (U13s) support international, national, or regional meetings, conferences, and workshops for which substantial programmatic NCI staff involvement is planned to assist the recipients.

U19 Research Program Cooperative Agreement

Research Program Cooperative Agreements (U19s) support research programs that have multiple projects directed toward a specific major objective, basic theme, or program goal, requiring a broadly based,

multidisciplinary, and often long-term approach. Substantial Federal programmatic staff involvement is intended to assist investigators during performance of research activities, as defined in the terms and conditions of the award. This mechanism can provide support for certain basic, shared resources, which facilitate the total research effort, including clinical components.

U24 Resource-Related Research Project Cooperative Agreement

Resource-Related Research Project Cooperative Agreements (U24s) support projects that help improve the capability of resources to serve biomedical research.

U43 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Cooperative Agreement—Phase I (see R43)

Phase I SBIR Cooperative Agreements (U43s) support finite projects to establish the technical merit and feasibility of R&D ideas that ultimately may lead to the development of commercial products or services. This mechanism is utilized when an assistance relationship will exist between the NCI and a recipient and in which substantial programmatic involvement is anticipated. Cooperative agreement applications are considered only for the topics specifically listed in the current SBIR Omnibus Solicitation. *Note:* Phase I award levels and project periods are statutory guidelines. Applicants are encouraged to propose a budget and project period that are appropriate for completion of the research project. Deviations from the guidelines must be well justified.

U44 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Cooperative Agreement—Phase II (see U43 and R44)

Phase II SBIR Cooperative Agreements (U44s) support in-depth development of R&D ideas for which feasibility has been established in Phase I (U43) and that are likely to result in commercial products or services. *Note:* Phase II award levels and project periods are statutory guidelines. Applicants are encouraged to propose a budget and project period that are appropriate for completion of the research project. Deviations from the guidelines must be well justified.

U54 Specialized Center—Cooperative Agreement

Specialized Center Cooperative Agreements (U54s) support any part of the full range of R&D, from basic concepts to clinical applications. The U54 may involve ancillary supportive activities, such as the provision of protracted patient care during the primary research or R&D effort. The spectrum of activities comprises a multidisciplinary attack on a specific disease entity or biomedical problem area. The U54s differ from program projects in that they usually are developed in response to an announcement of the programmatic needs of an Institute or division and

subsequently receive continuous attention from its staff. Centers also may serve as regional or national resources for special research purposes, with funding staff helping to identify appropriate priority needs. At the NCI, U54s support comprehensive partnerships between Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) and the NCI-designated Cancer Centers, for the benefit of both. These partnerships focus on cancer research career development at the MSI or cancer research plus one or more target areas in cancer research training. These partnerships also may focus on cancer research and target areas in cancer education for, or cancer outreach to, minority communities.

U56 Exploratory Grant—Cooperative Agreement

Exploratory Grant Cooperative Agreements (U56s) support planning for new programs, expansion or modification of existing resources, and development of feasibility studies to explore the development of interdisciplinary programs that offer potential solutions to problems of special significance to the mission of the NIH. These exploratory studies may lead to specialized or comprehensive centers. Substantial Federal programmatic staff involvement is intended to assist investigators during the performance of the research activities, as defined in the terms and conditions of award.

UE5 Educational Projects Cooperative Agreement

Educational Projects Cooperative Agreements (UE5s) provide support for the development and/or implementation of a program as it relates to a category of education, information, training, technical assistance, coordination, or evaluation.

UG1 Clinical Research Cooperative Agreement (Single Project)

Clinical Research Cooperative Agreements (UG1s) support single project applications conducting clinical evaluation of various methods of therapy and/or prevention (in specific disease areas). The UG1 is the single-component companion to the U10, which is used for multi-project applications only.

UG3 Exploratory/Development Cooperative Agreement—Phase I

Exploratory/Developmental Cooperative Agreements Phase I (UG3s) provide support for the first phase of the development of new research activities in categorical program areas. This activity code is used in lieu of the UH2 activity code when larger budgets and/or project periods are required to establish feasibility for the project.

UH2 Exploratory/Developmental Cooperative Agreement—Phase I

Exploratory/Developmental Cooperative Agreement Phase I (UH2) provides support for the development of new research activities in categorical

program areas. (Support generally is restricted in level of support and in time.)

UH3 Exploratory/Developmental Cooperative Agreement—Phase II

The UH3 provides a second phase for the support for innovative exploratory and development research activities initiated under the UH2 mechanism. Although only UH2 awardees are generally eligible to apply for UH3 support, specific program initiatives may establish eligibility criteria under which applications could be accepted from applicants demonstrating progress equivalent to that expected under UH2.

UM1 Research Project With Complex Structure Cooperative Agreement

Research Project With Complex Structure Cooperative Agreements provide support for large-scale research activities with complicated structures that cannot be appropriately categorized into an available single component activity code (e.g., clinical networks, research programs, or consortia). The components represent a variety of supporting functions and are not independent of each component. Substantial Federal programmatic staff involvement is intended to assist investigators during performance of the research activities, as defined in the terms and conditions of the award. The performance period may extend up to 7 years but only through the established deviation request process. ICs desiring to use this activity code for programs greater than 5 years must receive OPERA prior approval through the deviation request process.

UM2 Program Project or Center With Complex Structure Cooperative Agreement

These cooperative agreements involve program projects or centers with complicated structures that cannot be appropriately categorized into an available multicomponent activity code (e.g., clinical networks, research programs, or consortia). At least one component must be UM1-like, supporting a variety of functions that are dependent on each other and cannot be separated into distinct components. Substantial Federal programmatic staff involvement is intended to assist investigators during performance of the research activities, as defined in the terms and conditions of the award. The performance period may extend up to 7 years but only through the established deviation request process.

Solicitation of Grant Applications

Electronic grant applications must be submitted in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) published on (<https://www.grants.gov> or the *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts*. “Investigator Initiated” or “unsolicited” applications are submitted to Parent Announcements that are mechanism (e.g., R01, R21, R44, etc.) specific. In addition, the

NCI may encourage the submission of grant applications through the publication of additional FOAs using the following types of solicitations:

Program Announcements (PAs)

PAs describe continuing, new, or expanded program interests for which grant or cooperative agreement applications are invited. Applications in response to PAs are reviewed in the same manner as unsolicited grant applications (i.e., by chartered Center for Scientific Review [CSR] peer review committees or Special Emphasis Panels [SEPs] or by NCI SEPs).

Program Announcements With Special Receipt/Review (PARs)

PARs are program announcements that have special receipt dates, referral guidelines, and review considerations and are reviewed either by CSR or by a specific IC IRG, or SEP.

Requests for Applications (RFAs)

RFAs are issued to invite grant or cooperative agreement applications in a well-defined scientific area, to stimulate activity in NCI programmatic priority areas. Usually a single application receipt date is specified, and the announcement identifies the amount of funds earmarked for the initiative and the number of awards likely to be funded. Applications are evaluated before review for responsiveness to the RFA.

All PAs and RFAs are published in the *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts* (<https://www.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>) and, when appropriate, in scientific journals and periodicals.

Contracts

Research and Development Contracts

To stimulate scientific inquiry, direct it toward promising areas of current research, and solve specific research problems, the NCI awards research, development, demonstration, and support contracts to both nonprofit and commercial organizations. The idea for a contract may be generated by the NCI program staff (usually the Project Officer), or it may originate from members of the scientific community. The negotiated contract used by the NCI is awarded through a competitive process, in which bidders are judged on the basis of technical (scientific merit), business, and cost factors. The responsibility for reviewing the technical merit of proposals for R&D contracts is lodged in the Research Technology and Contract Review Branch (RTCRB), DEA, NCI. Review responsibility is separated from those responsibilities of the Project and Contracting Officers. After award, the NCI is substantially involved in monitoring the project; this may range from tight control to general surveillance and support. Contracts may be used in support of either research or resource

projects. In a research contract, the NCI defines the specific area of research and may identify general approaches. Such a contract usually is used to stimulate work in an area that has been neglected by the private sector.

Loan Repayment Program (LRP)

The LRP was started in 1989 to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical and biobehavioral research careers. Using the contract mechanism, the LRP provides repayment of up to \$50,000 (principal and interest) annually for educational loans in return for a commitment to engage in NIH mission-relevant research. To be eligible, the awardee must agree to engage in research for a minimum of 2 years. Originally confined to intramural researchers, the LRP was expanded in 2002 to include extramural investigators. To participate in the program, individuals must hold an appropriate terminal degree from an accredited institution, must conduct research for 20 hours per week (based on a 40-hour week), and must perform research that is supported by a domestic, nonprofit institution or by a U.S. Government entity.

L30 Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program

The Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program is for qualified health professionals involved in human patient-oriented clinical research.

L40 Pediatric Research Loan Repayment Program

The Pediatric Research Loan Repayment Program is for qualified health care professionals involved in research directly related to disease, disorders, and other medical conditions in children.

L60 Health Disparities Research Loan Repayment Program

The Health Disparities Loan Repayment Program is for qualified health professionals to engage and promote the development of research programs that focus on basic, clinical, social, or behavioral research on health disparity populations, including research to prevent, diagnose, and treat such conditions in minority populations.

NCI Advisory Committees

President's Cancer Panel (PCP)

The President's Cancer Panel (see [Appendix B](#)) is an NCI Federal advisory committee that reports directly to the President of the United States on the activities of the National Cancer Program. The panel was established by the Public Health Service Act, as amended by the National Cancer Act (P.L. 92-218), and was chartered in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463). The Panel consists of three members

who are appointed by the President for terms of 3 years. One of the members is appointed by the President as Chairperson of the Panel for a 1-year term. At least two members must be distinguished scientists or physicians, and the third may be a lay person. The panel, which meets at least four times a year, is responsible for monitoring the development and execution of the National Cancer Program, evaluating its efficacy, making suggestions for its improvement, and submitting periodic progress reports to the President.

National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB)

The NCAB (see [Appendix C](#)) advises, assists, consults with, and makes recommendations to the Secretary of HHS and the Director of NCI regarding the activities carried out by and through the Institute as well as policies respecting these activities. The NCAB may make recommendations regarding support grants and cooperative agreements, technical and scientific peer review, and functions pertaining to the NCI as described under sections 405, 406, 413, and 414 of the PHS Act, as amended.

The NCAB may implement procedures for expediting *en bloc* concurrence of Scientific Review Group recommendations. Several members may be selected by the Chair and/or Executive Secretary to provide *en bloc* concurrence on behalf of the Board. Only those applications that do not require individual consideration are included in this expedited process. A report of the *en bloc* recommendations is presented at each Board meeting.

Board of Scientific Advisors (BSA)

The BSA (see [Appendix D](#)) advises NCI's Director, Deputy Directors, and the Director of each NCI division, office, and center on a wide variety of matters. Topics include scientific program policy and the progress and future direction of each division's extramural research programs. The BSA's responsibilities include the evaluation of NCI awarded grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts, as well as concept review of those activities that it considers to be meritorious and consistent with the Institute's programs. The advisory role of the Board is scientific and does not include deliberation on matters of public policy. As necessary, the Board and its subcommittees may call upon special consultants, assemble *ad hoc* working groups, and convene conferences, workshops, or other activities.

Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC)

The BSC (see [Appendix E](#)) advises the Directors of NCI's Intramural Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG) and Center for Cancer

Research (CCR), and the Director of the NCI, on a wide variety of matters concerning scientific program policy and the progress and future direction of each of the intramural research programs. The BSC evaluates performance and productivity of each division, including the staff scientists, through periodic site visits to intramural laboratories. It also offers advice on the course of programs comprising DCEG and CCR.

NCI Council of Research Advocates (NCRA)

The NCRA (see [Appendix F](#)) provides advice to the Director, NCI, with respect to promoting research outcomes that are in the best interest of cancer patients. To this end, the NCRA will conduct these activities with the intent to identify new approaches, promote innovation, recognize unforeseen risks or barriers, and identify unintended consequences that could result from NCI decisions or actions. Additionally, the NCRA will provide insight into enhancing input, optimizing outreach, and promoting strong collaborations, all with respect to non-scientist stakeholders.

Clinical Trials and Translational Research Advisory Committee (CTAC)

The Committee (see [Appendix G](#)) advises, assists, consults with, and makes recommendations to the Director, NCI, NCI Deputy Directors, and the Director of each NCI Division on the NCI-supported national human clinical trials enterprise to build a strong scientific infrastructure by bringing together a broadly developed and engaged coalition of stakeholders involved in the clinical trials process. This encompasses oversight of all extramural and intramural trials. The Committee provides broad scientific and programmatic advice on the investment of taxpayer dollars in clinical trials and supportive science; makes recommendations regarding the effectiveness of NCI's translational research management and administration program; advises on the appropriate magnitude for dedicated translational research priorities and recommend allocation of translational research operations across organizational units, programs, disease sites, populations, developmental pathways, and molecular mechanisms; and ensures that appropriate emphasis is placed on rare cancers, medically underserved populations, and historically lower resourced pathways to clinical goals.

Frederick National Laboratory Advisory Committee (FNLAC)

The FNLAC (see [Appendix H](#)) provides advice and makes recommendations to the Director, NCI, and

the Associate Director, NCI-Frederick, on the optimal use of the NCI-Frederick facility to rapidly meet the most urgent needs of the Institute. The NCI facility in Frederick, Maryland, was established in 1972 as a Government-Owned Contractor-Operated (GOCO) facility. In 1975, the facility was designated as a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) to provide a unique national resource for the development of new technologies and the translation of basic science discoveries into novel agents for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). The FFRDC has been renamed as the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research (FNLAC).

As such, the FNLAC reviews the state of research at the FNLAC and makes recommendations to the Director, NCI, and the Associate Director, NCI-Frederick, for the best use of its capabilities and infrastructure. In addition, the FNLAC will periodically review the existing portfolio of projects at the FNLAC, evaluate productivity, help determine which of these projects should be conducted at FNLAC or transitioned to more conventional mechanisms of support (i.e., grants, contracts, cooperative agreements), and which should be considered for termination. The FNLAC will help to ensure that the operations at FNLAC are open, transparent, and in the best interests of the NCI and the entire cancer research community.

Initial Review Group (IRG)

The IRG advises the Director of the NCI, and the Director, Division of Extramural Activities, NCI, on the scientific and technical merit of applications for grants for research, research training, research-related grants and cooperative agreements, or contract proposals relating to scientific areas relevant to carcinogenesis, cancer biology and diagnosis, Cancer Center administration, medicine, radiological and surgical oncology, cancer chemotherapy, cancer epidemiology, cancer prevention and control, cancer education, cancer information services, community outreach, cancer detection and diagnosis, cancer treatment and restorative care, dentistry, nursing, public health, nutrition, education of health professionals, medical oncology, surgery, radiotherapy, gynecologic oncology, pediatric oncology, pathology, and biostatistics. The IRG is composed of four chartered subcommittees. Subcommittee A reviews Cancer Center Support grant (CCSG) applications. Subcommittee F reviews Institutional Training and Education applications. Subcommittee I reviews Transition to Independence applications, and Subcommittee J reviews Career Development applications.

PEER REVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Because of the magnitude, diversity, and complexity of its research mission, as well as its pursuit of excellence, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) draws on a national pool of scientists actively engaged in research. These scientists advise the NIH about how to select research projects based on scientific merit.

As discussed in the previous section, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) supports research through three major mechanisms: grants for investigator-initiated projects, cooperative agreements for projects in which programmatic involvement between the NCI and a recipient is anticipated, and research and development contracts for projects that are undertaken in response to NCI Requests for Proposals. All undergo peer review before funding decisions are made.

The dual peer review system of the NIH consists of two sequential levels of review, mandated by statute. Although the system already had been in effect for many years, the first or initial level of peer review of research grant applications was formally mandated in 1974 by Section 475 of the Public Health Service Act. The review of grant applications by national boards/councils was mandated by the National Cancer Act in 1937, and incorporated into the Public Health Service Act in 1944. In 1978, P.L. 95-224 authorized and directed the use of cooperative agreements, which also are subject to peer review.

The NCAB performs the second level of review for NCI grants and cooperative agreements, as mandated by the National Cancer Act of 1937 and incorporated into the Public Health Service Act in 1944. NCAB members bring to the grant review process their knowledge in each of the relevant programmatic areas. They also are familiar with NCI priorities and procedures and are aware of the missions of the diverse Institutes in biomedical research as well as the health needs of the American people.

The NCAB is composed of both scientific and lay public representatives who are selected for their expertise, interest, or activity in matters related to the mission of the NCI. Board recommendations are

based not only on consideration of scientific merit as judged by the CSR Integrated Review Groups (IRGs) or the NCI Initial Review Group (IRG) or Special Emphasis Panel (SEP), but also on the relevance of the proposed study to an Institute's programs and priorities. By statute, Congress established the National Advisory Cancer Council as the NCAB.

The dual review system—which separates the scientific assessment of proposed projects from policy decisions about scientific areas to be supported and the level of resources to be allocated—permits a more objective evaluation than would a single level of peer review. It guarantees that the NCI program staff will assess only the programmatic aspects of an application, while the members of the scientific research community evaluate the project's technical merit. This dual system provides the responsible NIH official with the best advice available regarding both scientific and societal values and needs.

LEGAL BASIS FOR PEER REVIEW

The Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-463), as well as various sections of the Public Health Service Act and its amendments, set forth the legal basis for rules and regulations that govern the creation, operation, and duration of Advisory committees in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government. The PHS Peer Review Regulations (42 CFR 52.12 and 52h) provide for implementation of peer review procedures for grant applications and contract proposals as required by the 1974 amendments to the National Cancer Act (P.L. 93-352). The PHS Grants Policy Statement sets forth PHS guidelines based upon these regulations for the nomination, appointment, and participation of peer review group members and the operation of review committees. The NIH peer review policy is presented in a series of memoranda issued by the NIH Office of the Director.

The following describes the review of grant applications in detail. Review of contract proposals is described on [pp. 47–48](#).

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

NIH Transitions From Paper PHS398 Grant Application Submissions to Electronic Submission Using the SF424 (R&R) Application

The National Institutes of Health transitioned from paper submission of grant applications to electronic submission via the Web portal of <https://www.grants.gov>, while simultaneously phasing out the PHS398 grant application form and replacing it with the SF424 [Research and Research-related (R&R)] application.

Applications must be submitted electronically through <https://www.grants.gov>. For additional information, please go to <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/submitapplication.htm>.

PROCESSING OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

Receipt and Assignment of Grant Applications

The referral section of the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) serves as the central receipt point for all competing applications, including applications submitted in response to specifically targeted, pre-announced RFAs or program announcements in areas of Institute interest. [Exhibit X](#) provides a typical timeframe, from the date of receipt of applications through assignment of applications. Within CSR's Division of Receipt and Referral, Referral Officers, who are Health Scientist Administrators, determine the relevance of the applications to NIH's overall mission and assign each acceptable application to an appropriate CSR IRG and to an Institute. The choice of an IRG is based upon the relevance of a proposed research project to the review responsibilities of the IRG members, but assignment to an Institute is based upon that Institute's legislatively mandated program responsibility. If the subject matter of an application is pertinent to the mission of two Institutes, a dual assignment may be made. When an application clearly is not appropriate to any of the established IRGs, it usually is assigned to a Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) consisting of experts in that particular field. Applicants are notified by mail of these assignments, usually within 6 to 8 weeks of submission.

To avoid a conflict of interest, an application from a currently active IRG member is not reviewed by the committee on which that member serves. It is assigned to another appropriate IRG or to an SEP, usually consisting of at least five members. CSR also assigns each application to an IC based on that Institute's legislatively mandated program responsibility using negotiated criteria (referral guidelines). If the subject matter of an application is pertinent to the missions of two Institutes, a dual assignment may be made.

Grant Application Identification Number

As each new application is received, it is assigned an identification number and checked for completeness. The following is an example of a grant application identification number:

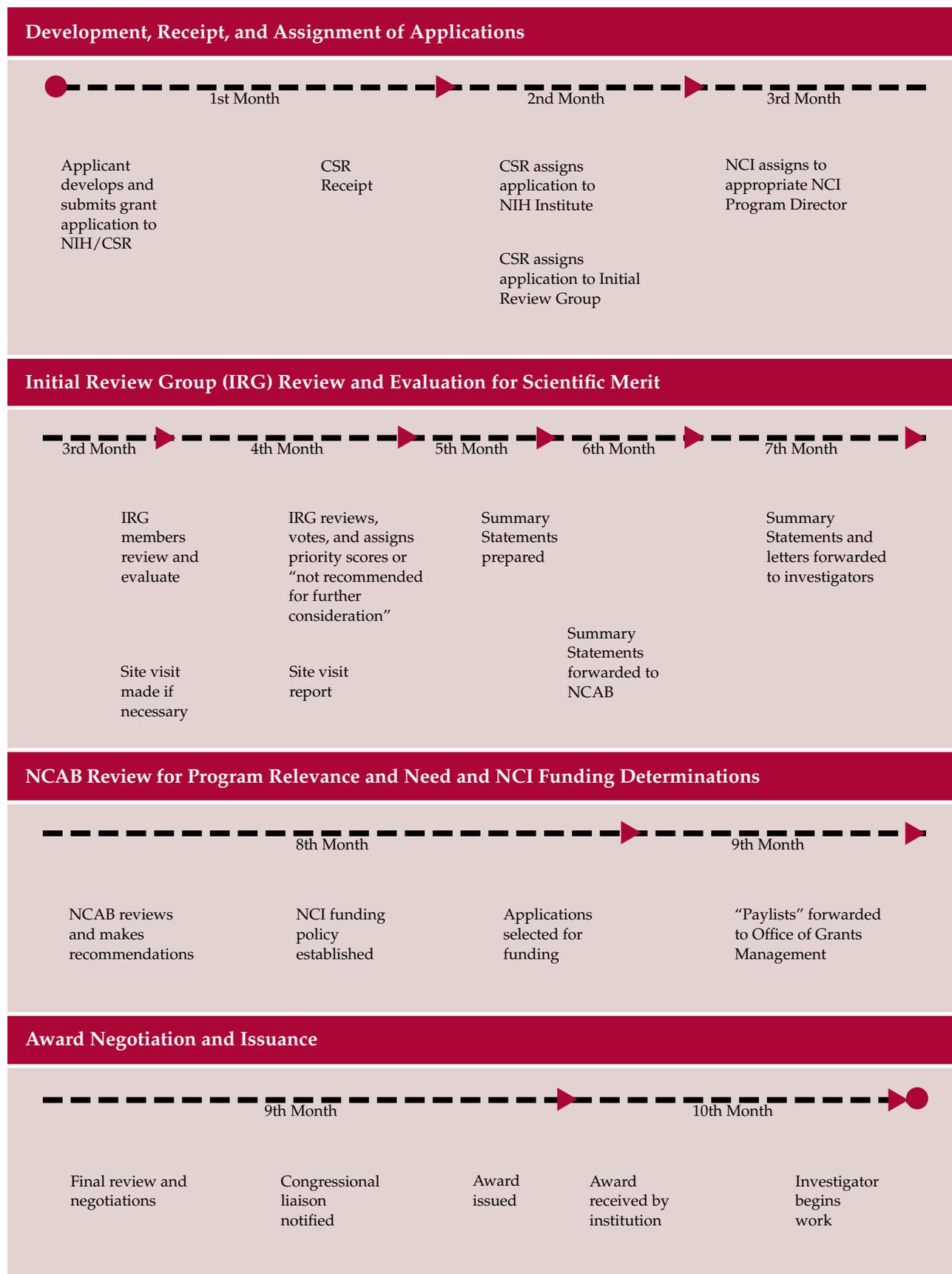
Application Type	Activity Code	Administering Organization Serial Number	Suffix Grant Year	Suffix Other
1	R01	CA 100228	01	A1 or S1

The identification number shows a new (Type 1) application for a traditional research project (R01) assigned to the NCI (CA). The serial number indicates that it is the 100,228th application assigned to the NCI. The suffix (01) shows that this is the first year of support for this project. When the grant year is followed by an A1, it is the first revised or amended application; if followed by an S1, it is for the first supplement or revision. Applicants are allowed to submit only one amended application, for which the serial number of the application remains the same. If an application is submitted for a third time, it must be substantially different and is given a new grant number.

There are nine application types that may be used to identify a specific grant application. A description of these nine application types is shown on [p. 34](#). Copies of the application then are forwarded to the appropriate Institute and IRG.

The following types of grant applications are designated by the CSR:

Exhibit X. The Grants Process From Receipt to Award: Timeline



Code	Application Type
1	New
2	Competing Continuation (Renewal)
3	Competing Revision (Supplement)
4	Extension
5	Non-competing Grant Progress Report
6	Change of Institute or Center
7	Change of Grantee or Training Institution
8	Change of Institute or Center (non-competing continuation Type 5)
9	Change of Institute or Center (competing continuation Type 2)

Initial Peer Review

CSR Integrated Review Groups (IRG)

There are approximately 25 chartered IRGs distributed among the five review divisions within the CSR. Each IRG is administered by a Scientific Review Officer (SRO) and has 5 to 10 Scientific Review Groups (SRGs), or “study sections,” that review applications on specific topics (e.g., cell biology, clinical oncology, pathology, biochemistry, virology), regardless of the awarding NIH Institute assignment. There are approximately 180 regular study sections in the 25 IRGs (see [Exhibit XI](#)), plus 29 fellowship and 37 small business and technology transfer Special Emphasis Panels (SEPs). A listing of IRGs and their study sections may be found at the following website: <https://public.csr.nih.gov/StudySections/Pages/default.aspx>.

Generally, a study section is composed of 12 to 18 mostly non-Federal scientists who are selected on the basis of recognized competence in their respective research fields. In each of the three review cycles per year, a CSR study section may review between 50 and 100 grant applications.

Each study section is organized and managed by an SRO—an NIH staff scientist who is the designated Federal official responsible for ensuring that the grant applications are reviewed in an impartial environment. SROs are responsible for overseeing the scientific peer review of applications. Their major responsibilities include managing study section meetings, nominating study section members, selecting *ad hoc* reviewers and site visitors, providing orientation for members of review groups, explaining and interpreting the NIH review policies and procedures, managing project site visits and study section meetings, and preparing Summary Statements. They also are responsible for attending

Exhibit XI. IRGs Within CSR

AIDC	Applied Immunology and Disease Control
BBBP	Biobehavioral and Behavioral Processes
BCMB	Biological Chemistry and Macromolecular Biophysics
BDA	Biology of Development and Aging
BDCN	Brain Disorders and Clinical Neuroscience
BST	Bioengineering Sciences and Technologies
CB	Cell Biology
CVRS	Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences
DKUS	Digestive, Kidney, and Urological Systems
EMNR	Endocrinology, Metabolism, Nutrition, and Reproductive Sciences
ETTN	Emerging Technologies and Training in Neurosciences
GCG	Genes, Genomes, and Genetics
HDM	Healthcare Delivery and Methodologies
IDIA	Infectious Diseases and Immunology A
IDIB	Infectious Diseases and Immunology B
IFCN	Integrative, Functional, and Cognitive Neuroscience
IMST	Interdisciplinary Molecular Sciences and Training
MDCN	Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Neuroscience
MOSS	Musculoskeletal, Oral, and Skin Sciences
OBT	Oncology 1 - Basic Translational
OTC	Oncology 2 - Translational Clinical
PSE	Population Sciences and Epidemiology
RPHB	Risk, Prevention, and Health Behavior
SBIB	Surgical Sciences, Biomedical Imaging, and Bioengineering
VH	Vascular and Hematology

advisory board or council meetings to provide requested information in support of the peer review committee recommendations; communicating with program staff on review issues; and discussing review issues and policies with applicants. SROs do not have continuing programmatic, scientific, or fiscal responsibilities for the applications after the scientific peer review is completed.

The IRGs described above are chartered committees the members of which usually serve terms of 4 to 6 years. It often is required to recruit *ad hoc* committees to review single or groups of related applications (e.g., Institute review for an RFA). These *ad hoc* committees are referred to as Special Emphasis Panels or SEPs.

Selection of IRG Members

The primary requirement for serving on an IRG or SEP is competence as an independent investigator in a scientific or clinical discipline or research specialty. Assessment of a candidate's competence is based upon the quality of his or her research; publications in refereed scientific journals; and other significant scientific activities, achievements, and honors. Usually, an individual with a doctoral degree or its equivalent is sought. Service on IRGs requires mature judgment, balanced perspective and objectivity, the ability to work effectively in a group context, and commitment to completing work assignments. Personal integrity also is important to assure confidentiality of applications and discussions and to avoid actual or potential conflicts of interest. Other factors also must be considered, such as geographic distribution and adequate representation of ethnic/racial, minority and female scientists. Also, in human clinical trial reviews where it is appropriate, patient advocates are recruited and asked to provide personal insights that are relevant to patients' issues.

IRG members are appointed by the Director of the NIH for 4 to 6 year terms, which usually begin in July, end on June 30 of the fourth year (regardless of the date of appointment), and normally are not extended. There must be a break in service before a retired reviewer may be appointed to the same NIH committee. However, an individual may serve on another Institute or Center (I/C) IRG, or any other type of advisory committee immediately after his or her term on an advisory committee. In some cases, a person may serve on two committees at the same time if they are in separate I/Cs. IRG appointments are staggered, so that approximately one-fourth of the membership of a group is

replaced each year. Two members from a single institution may be appointed to the same IRG at the same time in the same city if they are in different departments and there is no supervisory relationship. Separate branches of state university systems are considered to be separate institutions. A member may serve on two chartered PHS review committees simultaneously if they are in different I/Cs, and he or she may serve on an SEP *ad hoc* committee.

The Review Session

IRGs (CSR study sections and NCI, Initial Review Group committees) and SEPs meet from 1 to 3 months before each meeting of the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB). Before the meeting, the SRO of the IRG studies all of the applications assigned to his or her committee and obtains any additional information necessary for the review. Six to 8 weeks before the meeting date, the SRO assigns each application to three or more members of the IRG, who prepare detailed critiques and lead the discussion of the application at the review meeting. Each member reviews approximately 10 applications in detail. In addition, every member is expected to read and comment on as many applications as possible to be reviewed at the meeting. During the three annual meetings, each of which lasts 1 to 2 days, each IRG reviews approximately 85 applications.

The SRO is responsible for providing any information or materials necessary for the review and providing the appropriate I/C advisory board/council with an accurate record of the proceedings in the form of a detailed Summary Statement (see [pp. 42–44](#)). At the review meeting, each assigned reviewer makes an initial recommendation to the review group about the merit of each application. (For applicants that have been site visited, two or more members of the site visit team, usually IRG members, will summarize their findings and recommendations, including a budget and project period, for the full parent committee.) A discussion ensues, following which each member of the committee votes on the application's technical merit and assigns an overall impact score. Scores are summed and averaged for each application. The CSR meeting is presided over by the chairperson, who is a member of the IRG, nominated by the SRO and appointed by the Director of the NIH. The NCI Director has the authority to appoint NCI IRG members and chairpersons.

The IRG meetings also are attended by staff members of I/Cs to which applications have been assigned,

liaison members for certain other Federal agencies, and appropriate NIH staff. The review of applications is conducted in closed sessions, which are attended only by review committee members and appropriate Institute staff. [Exhibit XII](#) shows the yearly NIH grants review schedule.

Criteria for Evaluation

Overall Impact

Reviewers will provide an overall impact score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved, in consideration of the following five core review criteria, and additional review criteria (as applicable for the project proposed).

Core Review Criteria

Reviewers will consider each of the five review criteria that have been recently modified to assess the reproducibility of research findings through increased scientific rigor and transparency in the determination of the scientific and technical merit, and give a separate score for each. An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact. For example, a project that by its nature may not be highly innovative but may be essential to advance a field.

1. **Significance:** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? Is there a strong scientific premise for the project? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?
2. **Investigators:** Are the PD/PIs, collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? Do Early Stage Investigators or New Investigators have the appropriate experience and training? If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? If the project is collaborative or multi-PD/PI, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance, and organizational structure appropriate for the project?

3. **Innovation:** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?
4. **Approach:** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Have the investigators presented strategies to ensure a robust and unbiased approach, as appropriate for the work proposed? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? Have the investigators presented adequate plans to address relevant biological variables, such as sex, for studies in vertebrate animals or human subjects? If the project involves clinical research, are the plans for (1) protection of human subjects from research risks, and (2) inclusion of minorities and members of both sexes/genders, as well as the inclusion of children, justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed?
5. **Environment:** Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment, and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

Additional Review Criteria

In addition to the above criteria, in accordance with NIH policy, reviewers will consider the following additional items in the determination of scientific and technical merit, but will not give separate scores for these items:

- **Protections for Human Subjects:** For research that involves human subjects but does not involve one of the six categories of research that are exempt under 45 CFR Part 46, the committee will evaluate the justification for involvement

Exhibit XII. Receipt, Review, and Award Cycles

Application Due Dates					
Mechanism(s)	Program Description	Application Form	Cycle I Due Date	Cycle II Due Date	Cycle III Due Date
P Series All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Program Project Grants and Center Grants NOTE: Applicants should check with the relevant Institute or Center (IC), since some do not accept P series applications for all three receipt/ review/award cycles.	SF424 (R&R)	January 25	May 25	September 25
R18/U18 R25 All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Research Demonstration Education Projects	SF424 (R&R)	January 25	May 25	September 25
T Series D Series All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Institutional National Research Service Awards Other Training Grants NOTE: Applicants should check with the relevant Institute or Center (IC), since some do not accept T series applications for all three receipt/ review/award cycles. Applicants should refer to the IC Table of Contacts for information for each IC's scientific/research contact for the NRSA T32 program.	SF424 (R&R)	January 25	May 25	September 25
C06/UC6 All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Construction Grants	SF424 (R&R)	January 25	May 25	September 25
G07, G08, G11, G12, G13, G20, R10, R24, S06, S11, S21, S22, SC1, SC2, SC3, UG1, U10, U19, U2C, U41, U42, U45, U54, U56 All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Other Activity Codes	SF424 (R&R)	January 25	May 25	September 25
R01 new	Research Grants	SF424 (R&R)	February 5	June 5	October 5
U01 new	Research Grants - Cooperative Agreements	SF424 (R&R)	February 5	June 5	October 5
K series new	Research Career Development	SF424 (R&R)	February 12	June 12	October 12
R03, R21, R33, R21/ R33, R34, R35, R36, R50, UH2, UH3,UH2/ UH3 new	Other Research Grants and Cooperative Agreements	SF424 (R&R)	February 16	June 16	October 16
R15 All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA)	SF424 (R&R)	February 25	June 25	October 25
R01 renewal, resubmission, revision	Research Grants	SF424 (R&R)	March 5	July 5	November 5
U01 renewal, resubmission, revision	Research Grants - Cooperative Agreements	SF424(R&R)	March 5	July 5	November 5

continued

Exhibit XII. Receipt, Review, and Award Cycles (continued)

Application Due Dates					
Mechanism(s)	Program Description	Application Form	Cycle I Due Date	Cycle II Due Date	Cycle III Due Date
K series renewal, resubmission, revision	Research Career Development	SF424 (R&R)	March 12	July 12	November 12
R03, R21, R33, R21/R33, R34, R36, UE5, UG3, UH2, UH3, UH2/UH3 renewal, resubmission, revision	Other Research Grants and Cooperative Agreements	SF424 (R&R)	March 16	July 16	November 16
R41, R42 R43, R44 All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)	SF424 (R&R)	September 5	January 5	April 5
F Series Fellowships new, renewal, resubmission	Individual National Research Service Awards (Standard) (see NRSA Training Page)	SF424 (R&R)	April 8	August 8	December 8
R13, U13 All - new, renewal, resubmission, revision	Conference Grants and Conference Cooperative Agreements	SF424 (R&R)	April 12	August 12	December 12
F31 Diversity Fellowships new, renewal, resubmission	Individual Predoctoral Fellowships (F31) to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (see NRSA Training Page)	SF424 (R&R)	April 13	August 13	December 13
All Mechanisms Cited Above new, renewal, resubmission, revision	AIDS and AIDS-Related Applications	Based on Mechanism	May 7	September 7	January 7

Review and Award Cycles				
	Cycle I	Cycle I	Cycle II	Cycle III
Scientific Merit Review	June–July	June–July	October–November	February–March
Advisory Council Review*	August	October	January	May
Earliest Project Start Date†	September	December	April	July

* Advisory Council Review: month listed is as recorded in NIH's grants database and reported in eRA Commons. The actual date of the Council may be in the month before or after. For example, some ICs may actually hold the January Council meeting in February or the October Council in September.

† Awarding components may not always be able to honor the requested start date of an application; therefore, applicants should make no commitments or obligations until confirmation of the start date by the awarding component.

of human subjects and the proposed protections from research risk relating to their participation according to the following five review criteria: (1) risk to subjects, (2) adequacy of protection against risks, (3) potential benefits to the subjects and others, (4) importance of the knowledge to be gained, and (5) data and safety monitoring for clinical trials. For research that involves human subjects and meets the criteria for one or more of the six categories of research that are exempt under 45 CFR Part 46, the committee will evaluate: (1) the justification for the exemption, (2) human subjects involvement and characteristics, and (3) sources of materials.

- **Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children:** When the proposed project involves clinical research, the committee will evaluate the proposed plans for inclusion of minorities and members of both genders, as well as the inclusion of children.
- **Human Clinical Trials Timeline:** For applications involving human clinical trials, the committee will determine whether the study timeline is described in sufficient detail, taking into account start-up activities, the anticipated rate of enrollment, and planned follow-up assessment. The reviewers will evaluate whether the projected timeline is (1) feasible and well justified; (2) incorporates efficiencies and utilizes existing resources (e.g., CTSA, practice-based research networks, electronic medical records, administrative database, or patient registries) to increase the efficiency of participant enrollment and data collection; and (3) whether potential challenges and solutions are adequately discussed (e.g., strategies that can be implemented in the event of enrollment shortfalls)
- **Vertebrate Animals:** The committee will evaluate the involvement of live vertebrate animals as part of the scientific assessment according to the following five points: (1) proposed use of the animals, and species, strains, ages, sex, and numbers to be used; (2) justifications for the use of animals and for the appropriateness of the species and numbers proposed; (3) adequacy of veterinary care; (4) procedures for limiting discomfort, distress, pain, and injury to that which is unavoidable in the conduct of scientifically sound research, including the use of analgesic, anesthetic, and tranquilizing drugs and/or comfortable restraining devices; and (5) methods of euthanasia and reason for selection if not consistent with the AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia.

- **Resubmission Applications:** When reviewing a Resubmission application (formerly called an amended application), the committee will evaluate the application as now presented, taking into consideration the responses to comments from the previous scientific review group and changes made to the project. One resubmission is allowed per application.
- **Renewal Applications:** When reviewing a Renewal application (formerly called a competing continuation application), the committee will consider the progress made in the last funding period.
- **Revision Applications:** When reviewing a Revision application (formerly called a competing supplement application), the committee will consider the appropriateness of the proposed expansion of the scope of the project. If the Revision application relates to a specific line of investigation presented in the original application that was not recommended for approval by the committee, then the committee will consider whether the responses to comments from the previous scientific review group are adequate and whether substantial changes are clearly evident.
- **Biohazards:** Reviewers will assess whether the materials or procedures proposed are potentially hazardous to research personnel and/or the environment, and if needed, determine whether adequate protection is proposed.
- **RFAs:** Responsiveness to any specific criteria set forth in announcements or requests (e.g., Requests for Applications [RFAs]).

Additional Review Considerations

As applicable for the project proposed, reviewers will address each of the following items, but will not give scores for these items and should not consider them in providing an overall impact score.

- **Budget and Period Support:** Reviewers will consider whether the budget and the requested period of support are fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed research.
- **Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources:** For applications involving key biological and/or chemical resources (may include cell lines, specialty chemicals, antibodies, or other biologics), the reviewers will assess the information provided in this

section of the application on whether the applications described plans/methods to ensure the identity and validity of key biological and/or chemical resources.

- **Select Agent Research:** Reviewers will assess the information provided in this section of the application, including (1) the Select Agent(s) to be used in the proposed research, (2) the registration status of all entities where Select Agent(s) will be used, (3) the procedures that will be used to monitor possession, use, and transfer of Select Agent(s), and (4) plans for appropriate biosafety, biocontainment, and security of the Select Agent(s).
- **Applications From Foreign Organizations:** Reviewers will assess whether the project presents special opportunities for furthering research programs through the use of unusual talent, resources, populations, or environmental conditions that exist in other countries and either are not readily available in the United States or augment existing U.S. resources.
- **Resource Sharing Plans:** Reviewers will comment on whether the Resource Sharing Plans, or the rationale for not sharing the types of resources, are reasonable.

IRG Recommendations

At present, the possible recommendations by the review committee are: scoring, not discussed (ND), not recommended for further consideration (NR), or deferral (DF). All actions require a majority vote. In the event of a split vote (i.e., when two or more IRG members disagree with the majority), the recommendation is based on the majority vote, but the minority opinion is recorded in the Summary Statement. An application may be deferred if additional information is needed to make a definitive recommendation. If an application has significant and substantial scientific merit, it is given an impact score and, in the case of CSR-reviewed applications, a percentile ranking is calculated for the application. In the streamlined review process implemented at the NIH (particularly for single-project applications), the reviewers identify but do not discuss or score applications that are not in the upper half of the applications being reviewed by that committee for that round. For reviews of applications received in response to an RFA, the reviewers may be asked to identify the applications that are not in the upper half of the group of applications under review. Reviewers' critiques of ND applications are provided as feedback to grant applicants. An

application may be designated Not Recommended for Further Consideration (NR) if it lacks significant and substantial merit; presents serious ethical problems in the protection of human subjects from research risks; or presents serious ethical problems in the use of vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents. Applications designated as NR or ND do not proceed to the second level of peer review (National Advisory Council/Board), although an ND application can be considered for funding with appropriate justification. An action for scoring is equivalent to a recommendation that a grant be awarded, provided that sufficient funds are available.

Impact Scores

Starting in Fiscal Year 2010, a 9-point scoring system was adopted (1 = exceptional; 9 = poor). Before the review meeting, each reviewer and discussant assigned to an application will give a separate score from 1 to 9 for each of five core review criteria (Significance, Investigator(s), Innovation, Approach, and Environment). For all applications, even those not discussed by the full committee, the scores of the assigned reviewers and discussant(s) for these criteria will be reported individually on the summary statement.

Prior to the meeting, each reviewer and discussant assigned to an application will give a preliminary impact score for that application. The preliminary impact scores will be used to determine which applications will not be discussed. For each application that is discussed, a final impact score from 1 to 9 will be given by each eligible committee member (without conflicts of interest). Each member's impact score will reflect his/her evaluation of the overall impact that the project is likely to have on the research field(s) involved, rather than a weighted average applied to the reviewer's scores given to each criterion.

Applications that are not discussed will not receive a final impact score but will receive a Summary Statement that lacks a resume and summary of discussion section.

After the review meeting, the SRO will determine the overall impact score by calculating the mean score from all the eligible members' impact scores, and multiplying the average by 10; the overall impact score will be reported on the summary statement. At this point in the grant application review process, 4 to 5 months have elapsed since the principal investigator submitted the application (see [Exhibit XII](#)).

Percentile Rank

In addition to an impact score, most applications reviewed by the CSR receive a percentile rank. The percentile rank represents the relative position of each impact score (along a 100.0 percentile band) among the scores assigned by the IRG during the current round of the study section plus the previous two rounds. Applications reviewed by NCI review groups receive impact scores only, and percentile ranks are not calculated for these applications.

The overall intent of percentile ranking (or “percentiling”) is to improve the comparability of scored applications across study sections and IRGs, and to minimize the impact of round-to-round quality variation. When applications are being considered for funding within an Institute, the percentile/impact score is the primary indicator of relative scientific merit.

Summary Statements

Immediately after the IRG meeting, the SRO prepares individual reports summarizing the recommendation for each application, called Summary Statements. The Summary Statement consists of:

- Contact information for the Program Officer handling the application
- Overall impact score and percentile (if applicable)
- Resume and summary of the discussion (only for applications that are discussed)
- Reviewer critiques and individual criterion scores
- Committee recommendations concerning the budget
- Official meeting roster

Special notations also may be included, such as a split vote, a potentially hazardous experimental procedure, or a concern about the welfare of laboratory animals or human subjects.

Before the three annual grant review meetings, copies of Summary Statements are posted on a restricted-access website as part of the Electronic Council Book. Before the NCAB meets, applicants routinely are provided with copies of their own Summary Statements by accessing the document using the NIH Electronic Research Administration (eRA) Commons. Upon completion of advisory board action, the principal investigator and

applicant institution are notified of the Board’s concurrence or nonconcurrence with the study section recommendation. [Exhibit XIII](#) is an example of a Summary Statement.

Post NCAB Meetings and Funding Decisions

After each NCAB meeting, NCI staff members meet to discuss and review the NCAB’s recommendations. The NCI SPL determines the paylines for the different grant mechanisms and approves the funding plans for all RFAs and other special initiatives. Applicants who will be funded are subsequently notified at the time of the award negotiation. Ideally, approximately 8 to 9 months will have elapsed since the principal investigator submitted the application.

Appeal of an IRG Recommendation

If the principal investigator believes that the review was affected by bias, conflict of interest, insufficient or inappropriate expertise, or factual errors, he/she may appeal the recommendations of the committee. Applicants who disagree with the assessment of the review group may contact the Program Director to discuss the Summary Statement and the situation relative to the application. Most often, the applicant revises and resubmits the application.

Resubmission

When an application is revised and resubmitted, it should have been structured in the following way. The introductory section of the amended application should contain: (1) a documented response to the criticisms raised by the IRG (new information, corrections, or other changes to remedy the deficiencies pointed out in the Summary Statement); (2) an indication of the modifications to the application that reflect the areas of criticism with which the principal investigator agrees. Although the principal investigator may request a change in IRG assignment, CSR retains the authority to determine whether or not an amended (or revised) application should be reviewed by a different IRG.

Project Site Visits

The purpose of a project site visit is to give the reviewers an opportunity to gather information not available in the written application to make a final evaluation regarding the merit of the application. Site visits enable the reviewers to meet with the principal investigator and other researchers, view the facilities, and raise questions or discuss

Exhibit XIII. Example of a Summary Statement

Rebecca Sanders
301-496-XXXX
progofficial@nih.gov

SUMMARY STATEMENT
(Privileged Communication)

Release Date: 06/24/2020

Application Number: 1R01CA999999-01

MARTIN, ANDREW, PHD
MASSACHUSETTS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
500 ASPEN LANE
CONCORD, MA 02134

Review Group: Behavioral Medicine Study Section - BEM

Meeting Date: 06/09/2020
Council: SEPT/OCT 2020
Requested Start: 02/01/2021

PCC: 8MPC

Project Title: Community Intervention to Reduce Adolescent Tobacco Use

SRG Action: Impact Score: 13 Percentile: 5.3
Human Subjects: 30-Human subjects involved - Certified, no SRG concerns
Animal Subjects: 10-No live vertebrate animals involved for competing appl.
Gender: 1A-Both genders, scientifically acceptable
Minority: 1A-Minorities and non-minorities, scientifically acceptable
Children: 3A-No children included, scientifically acceptable
Clinical Research – not NIH-defined Phase III Trial

Project Year	Direct Costs Requested	Estimated Total Cost
1	225,000	337,500
2	225,000	337,500
3	225,000	337,500
4	225,000	337,500
TOTAL	900,000	1,350,000

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET NOTE: The budget shown is the requested budget and has not been adjusted to reflect any recommendations made by reviewers. If an award is planned, the costs will be calculated by Institute grants management staff based on the recommendations outlined below in the COMMITTEE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS section.

continued

Exhibit XIII. Example of a Summary Statement (Continued)

Behavioral Medicine Study Section - BEM

2

1R01CA999999-01
MARTIN, A

RESUME AND SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: This is an application to compare the impact of school-based with community-based intervention on adolescent tobacco use. This is an excellent application that should provide insights into a most difficult problem.

DESCRIPTION (provided by applicant):

The project is designed to evaluate the effects of a community intervention aimed at reducing the prevalence of adolescent tobacco use. Fourteen small communities will be randomly assigned to receive a community intervention plus a school-based prevention program or to receive a school-based program alone. The community intervention is designed to mobilize community leaders and organizations to modify environmental influences on adolescent tobacco use so that experimentation is reduced, experimenters are prevented from becoming regular users, and regular users are encouraged to quit. Task forces will be created to (a) conduct media campaigns that promote nonuse of tobacco by adolescents, (b) increase parental skill and efforts to promote adolescent nonuse of tobacco, (c) increase screening and counseling of adolescents to encourage quitting or remaining tobacco free, (d) reduce access to tobacco products and situations in which to consume them, and (e) increase incentives for adolescent nonuse of tobacco. The study will also examine the effects of the community intervention on efforts of community organizations and leaders to affect adolescent tobacco use.

Finally, the study will examine the relationship between adolescents' exposure to social influences not to use tobacco and their attitudes, intentions, and actual use. Data from panels of seventh and ninth grade students who are followed over 2- and 3- intervals will be used to achieve this aim.

CRITIQUES

The written critiques of individual reviewers are provided in essentially unedited form in the "Critique" section below. Please note that these critiques were prepared prior to the meeting and may not have been revised subsequent to any discussions at the review meeting. The "Resume and Summary of Discussion" section above summarizes the final opinions of the committee.

CRITIQUE 1

Significance: 3
Investigators(s): 1
Innovation: 5
Approach: 4
Environment: 1

Overall Impact:

Strengths:

- This is a well designed application with significant potential impact on reducing adolescent tobacco use.

Weaknesses:

- None identified

continued

Exhibit XIII. Example of a Summary Statement (Continued)

Behavioral Medicine Study Section - BEM

3

1R01CA999999-01
MARTIN, A

1. Significance:

- Evaluating the effects of community intervention aimed at reducing the prevalence of adolescent tobacco use is extremely important in developing and refining these health-related efforts.

2. Investigator:

- Dr. Martin, Principal Investigator, is a 1973 Ph.D. from the Ohio State University in Social Psychology. He is currently a Research Scientist at the Massachusetts Research Institute, Concord, Massachusetts, and lists 7 published book chapters, 5 manuscripts in submission, and 38 publications in refereed journals in areas relevant to the grant application.

3. Innovation:

- This project has several innovative aspects.

4. Approach:

- The project is well designed and is expected to provide important information about the effects of community intervention aimed at reducing the prevalence of adolescent tobacco use.

5. Environment:

- The environment at Massachusetts Research Institute is highly supportive of the proposed project.

THE FOLLOWING RESUME SECTIONS WERE PREPARED BY THE SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OFFICER TO SUMMARIZE THE OUTCOME OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS: ACCEPTABLE

INCLUSION OF WOMEN: ACCEPTABLE

INCLUSION OF MINORITY: ACCEPTABLE

INCLUSION OF CHILDREN: ACCEPTABLE

VERTEBRATE ANIMALS: NOT APPLICABLE

COMMITTEE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS: The budget is excessive for the tasks planned. Therefore, the budget is reduced by one module.

NOTICE: The NIH has modified its policy regarding the receipt of amended applications. Detailed information can be found by accessing the following URL address:
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/amendedapps.htm>

NIH announced implementation of Modular Research Grants in the December 18, 1998 issue of the NIH Guide to Grants and Contracts. The main feature of this concept is that grant applications (R01, R03, R21, R15) will request direct costs in \$25,000 modules, without budget detail for individual categories. Further information can be obtained from the Modular Grants Website at

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/develop-your-budget/modular.htm>

[A list of reviewers (not included here) is a part of the summary statement.]

continued

research objectives. The NCI Program Director generally attends the site visits to provide program information, if needed, and to gain a better understanding of the project and the reviewers' recommendations. In some cases, at the request of the SRO a Grants Management Officer, a grants management specialist or an administrative consultant will attend the site visit to provide business and administrative expertise. Following the site visit, reports based on the site visit team's observations and findings are prepared for presentation at the IRG meeting.

Very few research grant applications reviewed by CSR require a project site visit. In contrast to those applications reviewed by CSR, some of the applications reviewed by NCI review committees require site visits because of the specialized and complex nature of their applications. Large, complex applications (such as those for Cancer Center support) routinely require a project site visit by a team of 10 to 30 expert consultants or a teleconference, depending on the number of individual program components and disciplines involved. Several members from the appropriate NCI chartered "parent" committee, as well as ad hoc consultants, form the site visit team.

NCI INITIAL REVIEW

NCI Referral of Grant Applications: Program Assignment

As the central receipt and distribution (referral) point, the CSR assigns applications to the NCI based on negotiated criteria (referral guidelines). Then, the NCI Referral Office refers all applications assigned to the NCI by CSR to one of the 50 NCI extramural research program areas. The NCI Referral Office staff assigns all incoming applications, tracks their review status, and distributes them to the appropriate NCI Program Director. In FY2020, more than 15,000 grant applications were received for referral.

NCI Review of Grant Applications

In addition to CSR review, the NCI conducts its own initial review of certain specialized or complex cancer-oriented applications, including Research Program Projects, Cancer Center Support Grants, Cooperative Clinical Research Grants, Conference Activities, Research Demonstration and Dissemination Projects, SPOREs, SBIRs, training and career development, and others. These reviews are conducted by either an NCI chartered or *ad hoc* SEP peer review committees. In FY2020,

the DEA reviewed 3,412 grant and cooperative agreement applications, 376 Loan Repayment, and 158 SBIR R&D contract proposals.

NCI SROs take advantage of several electronic approaches to assist in the peer review process, including the Internet Assisted Review (IAR) that is a Web-based system that allows peer reviewers to submit applications, post their preliminary impact scores, and submit their critiques to a central NIH site. This utility facilitates and expedites the premeeting review process and the postmeeting production of Summary Statements.

Within the Division of Extramural Activities (DEA), five branches are responsible for organizing, managing, and reporting the scientific peer review of applications for a wide variety of grant mechanisms: the Research Programs Review Branch (RPRB), the Special Review Branch (SRB), the Research Technology and Contract Review Branch (RTCRB), the Resources and Training Review Branch (RTRB), and the Program Coordination and Referral Branch (PCRB).

The RTRB has primary responsibility for reviewing applications for Cancer Centers, cancer training and career development, and cancer clinical trials, as well as for managing the corresponding four standing subcommittees of the NCI IRG*:

Subcommittee A	Cancer Centers
Subcommittee F	Institute Training and Education
Subcommittee I	Transition to Independence
Subcommittee J	Career Development

*Subcommittee C – Basic and Preclinical; Subcommittee D – Clinical Studies; Subcommittee E – Cancer Epidemiology, Prevention, and Control; Subcommittee G – Education; and Subcommittee H – Clinical Groups are inactive. Subcommittee B – Comprehensiveness was terminated in June 1996.

The RPRB has primary responsibility for reviewing unsolicited P01s and applications for SPOREs in various disease sites. It also manages the three IRG subcommittees (C,D,E) that are responsible for review of Program Project Grant applications, although these subcommittees have not been convened during the single-tier P01 review process.

The SRB organizes and manages the review of applications submitted in response to NCI-issued RFAs, PAs, and PARs.

The RTCRB is responsible for the review of technology-related applications, SBIR/STTR applications and Special Topics, and R&D contracts submitted in response to RFPs. All of these reviews are conducted by SEPs or Technical Evaluation Panels (TEPs) for contracts and include the following

types of mechanisms: P50, R03, U19, U54, U56, SBIRs (R43 and R44s), and STTRs (R41s and R42s).

The PCRB provides review support for several grant applications, including conference grants (R13) and the Loan Repayment (L30, L40, and L60) program.

The various NCI IRG and SEP committees are responsible for advising the NCI Director and the NCAB concerning the scientific and technical merit of grant applications assigned to the NCI for the initial review, which addresses each application's scientific merit in terms of its discipline and the clinical implications of its research protocol. This review is conducted according to the established NIH procedures described in the CSR Initial Review section (p. 34). With the exception of Subcommittee A used to review Cancer Centers, Summary Statements are prepared in the same general format that is used by the CSR.

Once a grant application receives an NCI program assignment, an NCI Program Officer follows its progress through the review process and, if an award is made, through the post-award period. For the duration of that project period, the Program Officer is the contact point, negotiator, advisor, and advocate for the principal investigator. This individual evaluates the relevance of the research, considers the appropriateness of the appraisal by the study section, and makes recommendations to the NCAB regarding any need for special action in a particular case.

Selection of NCI Review Committee Members

The NCI policy for selecting review committee members specifies that, within a given IRG, representation of scientific disciplines, clinical specialties, or technical areas must reflect a proper balance of subspecialties to cover the range of applications being reviewed. The SRO of each NCI review committee determines which specialties are needed within that group. In the case of the standing subcommittees identified above, the final decision on nominations for NCI review subcommittee members is made by the Director of the DEA. Appointments to the committees also are made by the Director of the DEA. Members of the NCI review subcommittees serve overlapping terms of up to 4 to 6 years.

Since 1996, DEA SROs have worked with the NCI Office of Advocacy Relations to identify non-scientist advocates who are able and willing to participate in the peer review process. These

advocates, individuals who are either cancer patients or relatives of cancer patients, assist in the peer review of applications in which human clinical trials are involved. They assess issues related to:

- factors that may affect study design;
- feasibility of plans for recruitment/retention and follow-up of subjects;
- feasibility of protocols with specific populations (e.g., complexity, compliance);
- clarity and patient acceptability of protocols;
- feasibility of protocols in the context of total patient care;
- cultural and socioeconomic aspects of protocol implementation;
- outreach and special challenges (e.g., need for multicultural staff);
- Community Advisory Board (e.g., composition and role);
- ethical issues, human subjects protection, adequacy of consent forms; and
- inclusion of women/minorities/children in the trial.

CSR/NCI Interface

Because of the structure and mechanics of the assignment process, the relationship between the NCI and CSR is continuous, dynamic, and interactive. During the assignment process, there is interaction between Referral Officers and the SRO of the IRG to which the application is assigned. After the assignments are made and the IRGs and the NCI have received electronic copies of the applications, SROs and NCI staff examine the appropriateness of the assignments to the IRGs. In cases of questionable assignments, the Referral Officers and SROs discuss the application. If no agreement is reached, the final decision is made by the Office of the Director in the Division of Receipt and Referral (DRR) of CSR. Questions regarding assignments usually are handled by the Office of the Deputy Director (DRR), which makes the final determination, after conferring with the NCI staff and the Referral Officer.

CSR staffers also review questions from applicants who have been notified about the assignment of

their applications. Following discussions involving the Referral Officer and the appropriate SROs, a final decision is made by the Director, DRR, CSR.

Review of Contract Proposals

The NCAB has no direct involvement with the Research and Development (R&D) contract program of the NCI. R&D contract concepts are reviewed by the BSA.

The contract solicitation process begins when an NCI program staff member (usually the individual who will become the Project Officer) develops a concept for a contract project through personal initiative, discussion with advisory groups, consultation with others in the program, and/or interactions with members of the scientific community. The relevance, priority, and need for the anticipated project are assessed by NCI program staff, and the concept is subjected to a series of internal clearances, including review by the Scientific Program Leadership (SPL) of the NCI. Federal regulations (the 1974 Amendments to the National Cancer Act and Section 75 of the Public Health Service Act) require presolicitation peer review of the project concept before a Request for Proposal (RFP) may be issued. NCI policy requires concept review of all intra- and interagency agreements, and all renewals and recompetitions of existing contracts and extensions of \$100,000 or more for a 6-month or longer period. This review is performed by the SPL Committee and BSA (new concepts and recompetitions with a change in scope).

In reviewing a project concept, the BSA evaluates a proposed concept according to the following criteria:

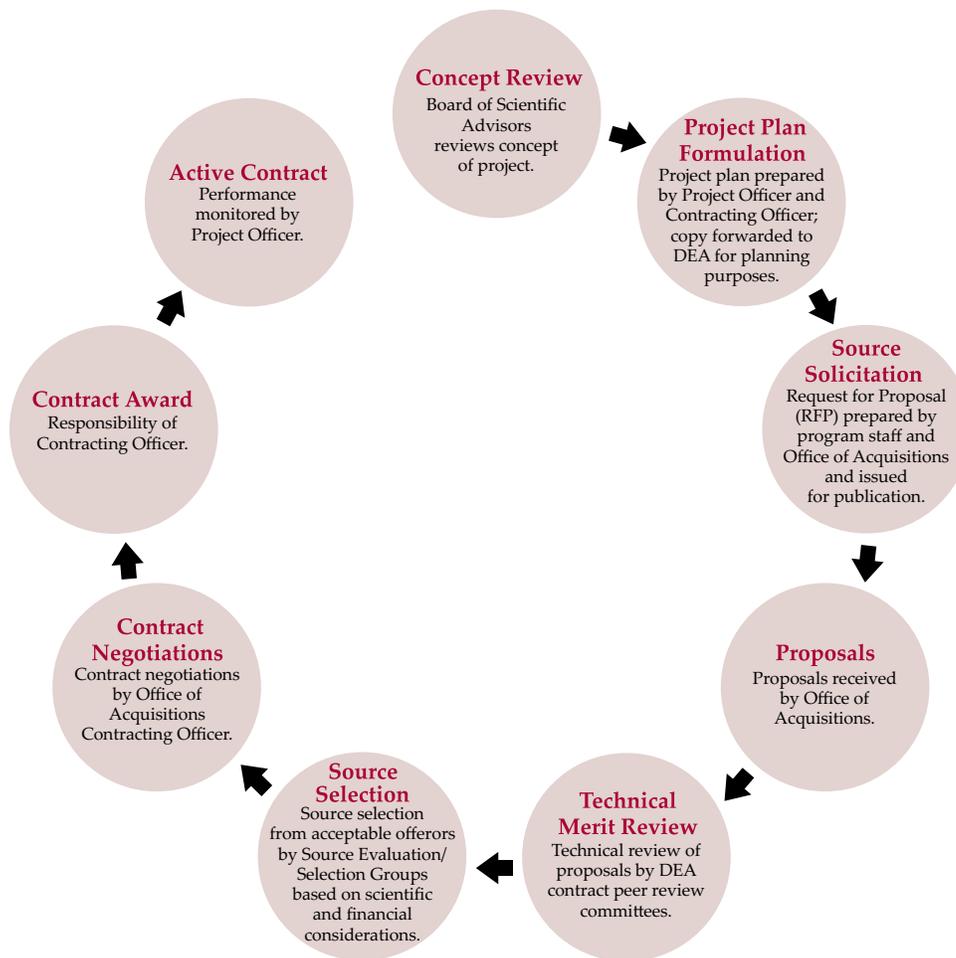
- congruence of the proposed project with the missions and objectives of the Institute;
- scientific merit of its purpose, scope, and objectives;
- appropriateness of the period of performance for accomplishing project objectives;
- proper classification of the proposed project as a resource or research contract and competitive or noncompetitive contract; and
- consideration of whether the proposed project should be supported using the grant mechanism or cooperative agreement instead of a contract.

Once a concept is approved and recommended to the Division Director, the Project Officer, consulting with the Contracting Specialist in the NCI Office of Acquisitions (OA), prepares a statement of work and evaluation criteria. The documents are incorporated into a Request for Contract Project Plan, which is the basis for the official RFP. This document then is presented to the division's senior scientific and management staff for review, comment, and approval. A copy of the plan also is forwarded to the DEA to help verify the evaluation criteria and establish a timetable for the procurement process. The final version of the project plan is incorporated into the RFP by the Contracting Officer, in conjunction with the Project Officer. RFPs must be published in the *Commerce Business Daily* and/or the *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts*. Occasionally, an RFP may receive wider distribution through publication in scientific journals. Proposals are received by the OA and are checked to be sure they fulfill the RFP requirements and conform to Federal regulations.

R&D proposals that are submitted by the private sector in response to an RFP are evaluated for technical merit by *ad hoc* TEP review groups in a manner similar to that used for the peer review of grant applications. The purpose of the technical merit review is to obtain expert advice on the qualifications of the offeror's staff, the merit of the scientific/technical approaches, the sufficiency of staff and institutional experience, and the availability of equipment and facilities. A DEA RTCRB staff member serves as the SRO for each contract review committee. The SROs schedule review sessions, send proposals to committee members in advance of the sessions, and supervise the preparation of the contract review summary reports—brief synopses of the review sessions that contain the numerical scores (as required) and reflect the deliberations and considerations of the reviewers.

In arriving at its recommendations, the peer review committee reviews each proposal. The results of its deliberations are documented by the NCI SRO, who makes the committee findings available to the Contracting Officer. At least three reviewers are assigned to report in depth on each contract proposal during the review meeting. Proposals are reviewed for technical merit and rated for conformance to the evaluation criteria published in the RFP. If competitive, they are scored independently by each committee member, based upon the weighted review criteria in the RFP. The individual scores are totaled and averaged to produce a technical merit score for

Exhibit XIV. NCI Contract Review Process



each proposal. Concurrently but independently, the OA evaluates proposals for business considerations.

Project Officers are the NCI program staff members who are responsible for developing and supervising the contract projects. They attend review meetings to provide factual information, but are not permitted to make judgmental or evaluative comments. Representatives of the OA must attend the review sessions to provide guidance on policy and regulations. Review is conducted in accordance with Federal conflict-of-interest regulations, summarized on [pp. 53, 55, and 60](#).

Following the review session, the SRO forwards the minutes containing the scores, ranking, and individual rating sheets to the Contracting Officer of the OA, who then convenes a Source Evaluation Group (SEG). This group usually consists of the Project Officer and other program staff members, who advise the Contracting Officer on the establishment of a competitive range, based upon technical merit

scores, cost, and other considerations. Occasionally, site visits are determined to be necessary subsequent to completion of the technical review.

The Contracting Officer informs each offeror in the competitive range of the proposal's deficiencies, ambiguities, or other considerations, as identified by the reviewers or members of the SEG. Offerors are given an opportunity to make minor adjustments in their proposals, which then are reviewed by the contracting and program staff, who serve as a Source Selection Group (SSG). The final decision regarding award of a contract rests with the Contracting Officer, who arranges for negotiations with the prospective contractor with advice from the SSG. The total contracting cycle requires 9 to 10 months from receipt of proposals to issuance of an award. [Exhibit XIV](#) portrays the NCI contract review process.

Following award, the NCI Project Officer performs project surveillance, assisted by the OA. The OA is responsible for debriefing competitors.

Exhibit XV. Grant Review Responsibilities of the NCAB

Receive and Review Materials (Prior to a Board Meeting)

- Summary Statements
- List of all applications identified by IRG as having ethical problems, such as biohazard risk, gender, etc.
- List of applications determined to have biohazard risks or animal welfare problems (no action required).
- List of merit award nominations and extensions.
- List of foreign grants meeting criteria for funding.
- Staff recommendations for special actions.

Actions To Be Taken

- Present subcommittee recommendations to the full Board.
- Review staff recommendations for special actions.
- Act on IRG recommendations.
- Review and approve guidelines delineating the NCI staff administrative responsibility.

NATIONAL CANCER ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW

NCAB Responsibilities

The NCAB is responsible for the final review of all grant applications referred to the NCI. The Board recommends to the Director of the NCI approval of meritorious grant applications. The NCAB appraises all grant applications with reference to the needs of the Institute and the priorities of the National

Cancer Program. The NCAB also performs the second-level review of all FDA grants and cooperative agreements. The review responsibilities of the NCAB are shown in [Exhibit XV](#).

The Health Research Extension Act of 1985 changed the reporting requirements of the NCAB. Rather than submit a separate, annual report on the progress of the National Cancer Program to the Secretary of HHS, the NCAB may prepare comments on the Board's activities and the NCI's progress in meeting its objectives, then make recommendations regarding future directions of the NCI. These comments then would be included in the NCI's biennial report, which in turn is included in the NIH Director's biennial report to the President and to Congress. In addition, the Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that the President report annually to the Congress on advisory committees. This report is prepared by each IC Committee Management Officer; the General Services Administration compiles the information from each agency and submits the report to the President. The President forwards the report to Congress.

NCAB Legislative Authority

In 1937, P.L. 75-244 established the National Advisory Cancer Council to advise the newly created NCI. In 1971, the National Advisory Cancer Council was renamed and restructured as the 23-member NCAB by P.L. 92-218, the National Cancer Act. In accordance with P.L. 92-453, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the NCAB was chartered by the Secretary of HHS. The Board's mandate is continuous, although the NCAB is rechartered every 2 years.

The Biomedical Research and Training Amendments of 1978 (P.L. 95-6221) further expanded the membership and responsibilities of the Board, with particular emphasis on the areas of environmental and occupational carcinogenesis. The Board now consists of 30 members, 12 of whom are *ex officio*, nonvoting members and 18 of whom are voting members. The Director of the DEA serves as the Executive Secretary of the Board. The Health Research Extension Act of 1985 did not significantly change the authority or responsibility of the NCAB.

NCAB Composition

NCAB Voting Members

The NCAB is composed of 18 voting members, who are appointed by the President based upon their training, experience, background, and

qualifications to evaluate the programs of the NCI. Members serve overlapping terms of 6 years, and they may serve 180 days after the expiration of their terms until successors have been appointed. The President designates one of the appointed members to serve as Chair for a term of 2 years.

The National Cancer Act of 1971 (P.L. 92-218) and the Health Research Extension Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-158) specify that two-thirds of the appointed members should be leading representatives of the health and scientific disciplines relevant to cancer, and one-third of the members should be from the general public, including leaders in the fields of public policy, law, health policy, economics, and management. P.L. 99-158 continues the requirement that five or more of the appointed members be knowledgeable in environmental carcinogenesis, including occupational and dietary factors.

NCAB *Ex Officio* Members

Ex officio members of the Board include the following officials or their designees:

- Secretary of HHS;
- Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy;
- Director of NIH;
- Chief Medical Director of Veterans Affairs;
- Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health;
- Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences;
- Secretary of Labor;
- Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration;
- Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;
- Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission;
- Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs; and
- Director of the Office of Energy Research of the Department of Energy.

NCAB Meetings

The Board meets at the call of the Director of the NCI or the Chairperson, not less than four times a year. Meetings usually last for 1 to 2 days. Summary Statements are reviewed three times per year at regularly scheduled meetings. The December NCAB meeting is reserved for the NCI intramural laboratory and extramural program review. A joint NCAB/BSA meeting is held twice annually during the scheduled June and November/December meeting dates. Meetings may be face-to-face or virtual.

NCAB meetings are open to the public when Summary Statements are not being discussed. Scheduled NCAB meeting dates are published in the *Federal Register* (<https://www.federalregister.gov/>), as required by HHS regulations. Attendance at the closed grant review sessions is limited to Board members, Scientific Review Officers, the NCI Director, appropriate NCI and NIH staff, and designated representatives of the Secretary of HHS. In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), select Food and Drug Administration (FDA) staff also attend NCAB closed sessions. A quorum for conducting business will consist of a majority of the currently appointed members.

Approximately 6 to 8 weeks before the NCAB meeting, Summary Statements within the competitive range for applications to be reviewed at the upcoming meeting are made available to all NCAB members via the NIH Electronic Council Book (ECB). This is a restricted access website that allows NCAB members to view all of the Summary Statements, as well as the grant applications assigned to them for review based upon their areas of scientific interest. (*Note:* NCAB members are not given access to Summary Statements from their own institutions.) By the time the NCAB meets, approximately 5,000 Summary Statements will have been made available to the Board members. As described in its Charter, a key role of the NCAB is to “advise, assist, consult with, and make recommendations to the Secretary, and the Director, National Cancer Institute, ... relating to support of grants and cooperative agreements, following technical and scientific peer review.” This important function is accomplished in the closed session of the NCAB meeting by a committee of the whole known as the Special Actions Subcommittee.

NCAB Subcommittees

To expedite the Board’s work, four standing subcommittees and three *ad hoc* committees have been established to provide individual review of applications requiring special attention or detailed

discussion, and to handle other Board-related business as necessary. The subcommittees are:

- Subcommittee on Cancer Centers
- Subcommittee on Clinical Investigations
- Subcommittee on Planning and Budget
- Subcommittee on Special Actions
- *Ad Hoc* Subcommittee on Experimental Therapeutics
- *Ad Hoc* Subcommittee on Global Cancer Research
- *Ad Hoc* Subcommittee on Population Science, Epidemiology and Disparities

Each Board member is assigned to serve on one or more of the above subcommittees. (*Note:* The Subcommittee on Special Actions functions as a Committee of the Whole.) Subcommittee meetings are announced in the *Federal Register*. During the NCAB meeting, each subcommittee chairperson makes a report of current activities. After discussion, the NCAB votes for the acceptance, rejection, or modification of each report.

Special Actions Subcommittee

NCI's Division of Extramural Activities prepares for review by the NCAB special reports detailing grant applications that involve human subjects, animal welfare, biohazard risks, foreign grants, and inadequate representation/justification of gender, minorities, and children. The latter materials are posted on the Electronic Council Book (ECB) 1 to 2 weeks prior to the NCAB meeting. In addition to these special reports, all NCAB members receive appeal letters from principal investigators who disagree with IRG recommendations. The appeal documentation is sent by secured e-mail to NCAB members.

If a Board member has a question about an application or thinks that additional information would be helpful, he/she is encouraged to contact the NCI Program Director responsible for that application. The Program Director's name and telephone number appear in the upper left-hand corner of each Summary Statement. Further discussion of applications requiring special consideration may take place during the full Board meeting in closed session.

Applications that may require special consideration or detailed review include those in which:

- a policy issue has been identified;
- the summary of the discussion suggests that members of the review panel had divergent opinions;
- the recommended budget is unusually large or does not appear to be appropriate to complete the proposed work;
- some aspect of the recommendation from the IRG is questioned; or
- the research proposed is of particular interest or concern.

Foreign Grants: Applications from foreign institutions must be brought to the attention of the Board and identified for possible funding. These applications are reviewed for concurrence with the NIH policy on foreign grants. Grant applications from domestic institutions that contain substantial foreign components do not require special NCAB concurrence, except when special considerations are involved (e.g., unusually large budget for the foreign component, potential controversy, or other extenuating factors).

IRG Concerns: All applications for which reviewers have concerns about or objections to the participation of human subjects must be individually called to the attention of the Board, whether or not the IRG has recommended them for scoring. The Board is routinely informed of applications for which an IRG has expressed concern about any biohazard, animal, child, gender, or minority welfare concern. Information items may be presented to the Board by NCI staff as appropriate.

Appeals: The Board is provided with a list of appeal letters received for the meeting as well as access to the relevant summary statements. Appeal letters are assigned to 3 or 4 Board members for review based on their expertise and conflict of interest guidelines. Program and review staff are present and available if a Board member has questions about specific appeals. Prior to consideration by the Board, staff determines if there is sufficient merit in the appeal to recommend corrective action. Appealed applications where program and review staff determine that the review was flawed are deferred for re-review and are not presented to the Board (i.e., administratively resolved). Appeals where program and staff agree with the study section's review and determine there is no merit to the appeal are listed as "No Special NCAB

Action Recommended.” If program and review staff does not agree on a course of action, a staff recommendation will be presented to the Board for their action. Only two outcomes are possible following consideration of an appeal letter by the NCAB:

- The Board may concur with the study section’s recommendation and deny the appeal. Although factual errors or other issues may be evident, they may determine that these factors would be unlikely to alter the final outcome of the review.
- The Board may concur with the appeal and recommend that the application be deferred for re-review.

Special Council Review: NCAB members provide additional consideration of new and renewal applications from well-funded Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) [PD(s)/PI(s)] who receive more than \$2 million in total costs of NIH funding per year to support the more common Research Project Grants (RPG) and Cooperative Agreements. These applications are generally investigator-initiated research projects.

Special Council Review (SCR) does not represent a cap on total NIH funding. The Executive Secretary of the NCAB asks three members of the Board to assess the merit of funding applications that provide unique opportunities to advance research that is both highly promising and distinct from other funded projects from the PD/PI.

Applications excluded from SCR review are:

- Pending applications received in response to requests for applications (RFAs)
- P01s and other multi-component RPGs, unless all the PDs/PIs and sub-project investigators exceed the \$2 million threshold
- Multi-PD/PI projects unless all the PDs/PIs exceed the \$2 million threshold
- Sub-projects within complex applications
- Administrative supplements
- Support for investigator training and career development and center grants.

Applications for SCR are discussed in closed session.

Delegated Authorities: Every year at the February NCAB meeting, the members of the Board are asked to reapprove several authorities that deal with the Institute’s ability to: (1) appoint special experts for limited service; (2) appoint advisory

committees to advise the Director; and (3) expeditiously manage the NCAB review of grant applications. In the latter case, the authorities describe and reaffirm the NIH-wide policies used to manage Board review. These include the following: Individual National Research Service Award Applications (postdoctoral fellowships) also are exempt from this presentation requirement. In addition, applications over the 20th percentile and applications that were not discussed will not have their Summary Statements presented to the NCAB unless the Institute is considering an award. Applications assigned raw scores that are not percentiled will not be presented to the NCAB if the impact score is lower than 50. Expedited concurrence is reaffirmed. Finally, the Board delegates to the Director of the NCI permission to allow staff to negotiate adjustments in dollars or other terms and conditions of grant and cooperative agreement awards for those applications recommended by the Board.

Expedited Council Concurrence

The NCI has implemented a procedure to streamline the concurrence with IRG recommendations to expedite funding actions by the Institute. The expedited NCAB approval process is used for percentiled R01s reviewed by CSR and for all R21s, except for those applications submitted in response to a set-aside (RFA or PA with a set-aside). The Executive Secretary of the NCAB selects four members of the NCAB to provide *en bloc* concurrence on behalf of the entire NCAB, and the Institute establishes a “range of consideration.” For every application within the “range,” the name of the principal investigator, institution, project title, and priority score/percentile are provided. As the CSR IRGs meet and their scores are added to the NIH IMPAC II database, the four NCAB members mentioned above receive periodic e-mail notifications regarding applications that await their review and expedited council concurrence.

Applications do not undergo expedited review if they involve foreign institutions or if the Summary Statement expresses concerns with regard to human subjects, animal welfare, biohazards, or inadequate representation/justification of gender and/or minorities and/or children. (*Note:* Any application can be identified for NCAB discussion and removed from this process by any NCAB member.)

The NCAB members approve grant applications using the NIH ECB expedited process, and a notification letter is sent to the principal investigator

by the Grants Administration Branch of the NCI, notifying the principal investigator of the NCAB's approval and plans for expedited funding.

Nonconcurrency

Usually the Board concurs with the initial reviewers' recommendations. On occasion, however, the Board may vote to change the IRG recommendations in the following ways:

- If the NCAB disagrees with an initial review based upon scientific or technical merit, the action is deferral. The application is returned for a second review by either the same or a different IRG. If, after deferral and a second review, the NCAB still wishes to change the recommendation, it may do so.
- The NCAB may recommend that an application be considered for exception funding, in which case the application need not be returned to the IRG for an additional review.
- The NCAB may recommend that an application receiving a favorable recommendation in initial review not be considered for support for reasons other than lack of scientific or technical merit.
- In the case of a split vote from the IRG, the NCAB may accept the minority opinion without returning the application for further review.
- The NCAB may reverse a "not discussed" recommendation from an IRG and recommend that the application be considered for exception funding.

In all cases of nonconcurrency with the IRG recommendation, within 10 working days after the NCAB meeting, the NCAB must communicate to the SRO of the IRG its rationale for questioning or disagreeing with the IRG decision.

Mail Ballots

In some circumstances, a grant application does not come before the full Board for review; instead, the Summary Statement is sent to individual Board members for review by mail ballot (see [Exhibit XVI](#)). Board members may vote by fax for concurrence or nonconcurrency with the IRG recommendations. They may note any questions or concerns regarding an application on the mail ballot; if necessary, the issue is raised at the next full Board meeting. Applications requiring immediate attention are handled in this manner.

Conflict of Interest

Members of the NCAB are Special Government Employees (SGE). By definition, an SGE is an officer or employee in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government who is appointed to perform temporary duties, with or without compensation, for a period not to exceed 130 days during any period of 365 consecutive days. During the term of their appointments, SGEs must be aware of relevant statutes regarding criminal conflicts of interest, and they must follow defined standards of ethical conduct.

The Office of Government Ethics (OGE) has issued the following new conflict of interest guidelines for State multi-campus institutions and private institutions and affiliates.

Policy for State Multi-Campus Institutions:

The OGE has provided a regulatory waiver under 5 CFR 2640.203(c) for SGE Federal advisory committee members employed in one university of a State multi-university system to review applications from a separate university of the same system, provided the member has no conflicting multi-institutional duties and responsibilities that affect the entire educational system.

Policy for Private Institutions and Affiliates:

In addition, an SGE member of an advisory committee who is employed by a private institution may participate in the review of a grant application submitted by an affiliate of the private institution if the SGE: does not hold a joint appointment with that affiliate, does not have affiliate-wide responsibilities, and has a waiver to do so.

At each Board meeting, Board members sign a statement certifying that they did not participate in the discussion of or vote on any application from their own institution or an institution in which they have a financial interest.

In addition, the NCAB has agreed not to reverse the IRG action on any application from a member institution. Instead, all such applications in which Board opinion differs from that of an IRG are referred to an appropriate IRG for review.

AWARD OF GRANTS

Selection for Funding

Many more grants are approved by the NCAB than can be financed from the NCI budget. Early in the fiscal year, the NCI formulates funding guidelines

Exhibit XVI. Sample of an NCAB Mail Ballot



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

MAIL BALLOT

Please return by noon, September 25, 2020

NATIONAL CANCER ADVISORY BOARD

Division of Extramural Activities

The grant applications listed on the attached sheet have received initial review by the appropriate study section but were not listed with the applications which were reviewed by the September 2020 meeting of the NCAB. We are requesting your concurrence with the study section recommendations by this mail ballot in order that these applications may be considered for funding action. If you wish to register nonconcurrence with any of the recommendations, please do so, noting that we would appreciate its return no later than September 25, 2020. Please FAX your ballot to the NCAB Executive Secretary, DEA.

_____ Concurrence *en bloc*

_____ Concurrence except as noted for the applications listed below

GRANT NUMBER INVESTIGATOR BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS

_____ (Board Member's printed name and signature) _____ Date

for its programs based upon expected allocations of funds, program requirements, and prior history. Final funding decisions are made by the Director of the NCI and NCI staff, based primarily on IRG percentile/impact score ratings of scientific merit, the Institute's program objectives, avoidance of duplicate effort, and other considerations. The funding mechanisms are reevaluated prior to each grant review cycle and adjusted to the current level of funds available and future funding.

Administrative/Business Review

Following the NCAB grant review session, the NCI conducts an administrative/business review of all applications selected for funding. Applications are reviewed for compliance with NIH policies and for necessary or desirable adjustments in the amounts and terms of the recommended awards.

Early Awards

The NCI also has established guidelines, approved by the NCAB and the Director of the NIH, for the award of R01 grants subjected to early council concurrence (*vide supra*). According to these guidelines, applications eligible for early award include:

- applications from grantee institutions within the United States and its territories only; and
- applications whose IRG priority score is at least as high as what was required for funding in the last round or what is anticipated for the next round.

Applications not eligible for early award include:

- applications from foreign institutions and organizations. NIH policy requires that applications from foreign institutions and organizations considered for funding must first be called to the attention of the Board; and
- applications with identified policy problems, such as ethical issues or hazardous experiments. Awards will not be issued until the problem has been resolved.

Notice of Award

The list of applications selected for payment is signed electronically by the NCI Program Director and the Division Director. The signed documents are forwarded to the Extramural Financial Data Branch of the NCI, and the Grants Management Specialist negotiates the award if significant

adjustments are required prior to award. The funds then are obligated and recorded in the NIH official accounting records.

For each application selected for payment, a Notice of Award (NoA) is issued by the Grants Management Officer. NoAs are sent solely via e-mail to grantee organizations and are accessible in the eRA Commons. It contains the name and address of the grantee institution and the title of the project. The NoA also names the principal investigator(s) under whose direction the work is to be carried out, the direct and indirect cost awarded, the period of the grant, future years of support, and any special conditions or restrictions under which the grant is awarded. [Exhibit XVII](#) is a (fictitious) sample of a Notice of Grant Award.

Congress must be alerted at least 45 hours before the issuance of each new and renewed grant award, so that the appropriate member of Congress may notify his or her constituents. If the award exceeds \$1 million, 72 hours' advance notice is required, so that the White House may be informed. This requirement is fulfilled by forwarding a copy of the award notice to the NIH Office of Congressional Liaison at the same time the approval list is signed.

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Conflict of Interest

A number of procedures have been established by the HHS and the NIH to avoid violation of conflict of interest laws and regulations. Some of these procedures have been described in brief in the sections on CSR and NCI review ([pp. 31-55](#)). HHS guidelines for the conduct of peer review provide that: When a member of any given peer review group or a member's spouse, parent, child, partner, or close professional associate is named on a grant application or contract proposal as the principal investigator (or as an investigator who is currently, or is expected to be, responsible for conducting a project), that peer review group may not review the particular application or proposal. Instead, the application or proposal must be evaluated by another chartered or *ad hoc* group.

When peer review group members have participated in reviewing contract projects during development of detailed project approaches or RFPs, or in post-RFP evaluations, no contracts resulting from that solicitation may be awarded to those members or their relatives, close professional associates, or organizations. Participation in presolicitation project concept review and recommendations only does

Exhibit XVII. Sample Notice of a Grant Award

	RESEARCH Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE	Notice of Award Issue Date: 01/01/2020	
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Grant Number: 1R01CA999999-01

Principal Investigator(s):
Andrew Martin, PHD

Project Title: Community Intervention to Reduce Adolescent Tobacco Use

Administrative Coordinator
Massachusetts Research Institute
500 Aspen Lane
Concord, MA 02134

Award e-mailed to: THOMASE@MRI.EDU

Budget Period: 01/01/2020 – 12/31/2020
Project Period: 01/01/2020 – 12/31/2023

Dear Business Official:

The National Institutes of Health hereby awards a grant in the amount of \$337,500 (see “Award Calculation” in Section I and “Terms and Conditions” in Section III) to Massachusetts Research Institute in support of the above referenced project. This award is pursuant to the authority of 42 USC 241 42 CFR 52 and is subject to the requirements of this statute and regulation and of other referenced, incorporated or attached terms and conditions.

Acceptance of this award including the “Terms and Conditions” is acknowledged by the grantee when funds are drawn down or otherwise obtained from the grant payment system.

Each publication, press release or other document that cites results from NIH grant-supported research must include an acknowledgment of NIH grant support and disclaimer such as “The project described was supported by Award Number R01CA999999-01 from the National Cancer Institute. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Cancer Institute or the National Institutes of Health.”

Award recipients are required to comply with the NIH Public Access Policy. This includes submission to PubMed Central (PMC), upon acceptance for publication, an electronic version of a final peer-reviewed, manuscript resulting from research supported in whole or in part, with direct costs from National Institutes of Health. The author’s final peer-reviewed manuscript is defined as the final version accepted for journal publication, and includes all modifications from the publishing peer review process. For additional information, please visit <https://publicaccess.nih.gov/>.

Award recipients must promote objectivity in research by establishing standards to ensure that the design, conduct and reporting of research funded under NIH-funded awards are not biased by a conflicting financial interest of an Investigator. Investigator is defined as the Principal Investigator and any other person who is responsible for the design, conduct, or reporting of NIH-funded research or proposed research, including the Investigator’s spouse and dependent children. Awardees must have a written administrative process to identify and manage financial conflict of interest and must inform Investigators of the conflict of interest policy and of the Investigators’ responsibilities. Prior to expenditure of these awarded funds, the Awardee must report to the NIH Awarding Component the existence of a conflicting interest and within 60 days of any new conflicting interests identified after the initial report. Awardees must comply with these and all other aspects of 42 CFR Part 50, Subpart F. These requirements also apply to subgrantees, contractors, or collaborators engaged by the Awardee under this award. The NIH website <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coi/index.htm> provides additional information.

If you have any questions about this award, please contact the individual(s) referenced in Section IV.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Smith
Grants Management Officer
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

continued

Exhibit XVII. Sample Notice of a Grant Award (Continued)

SECTION I – AWARD DATA – 1R01CA999999-01

Award Calculation (U.S. Dollars)

Federal Direct Costs	\$225,000
Federal F&A Costs	\$112,500
Approved Budget	\$337,500
Federal Share	\$337,500
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD AMOUNT	\$337,500
AMOUNT OF THIS ACTION (FEDERAL SHARE)	\$337,500

SUMMARY TOTALS FOR ALL YEARS		
YR	THIS AWARD	CUMULATIVE TOTALS
1	\$337,500	\$337,500
2	\$337,500	\$675,000
3	\$337,500	\$1,012,500
4	\$337,500	\$1,350,000

Recommended future year total cost support, subject to the availability of funds and satisfactory progress of the project

Fiscal Information:

CFDA Number: 9X.XXX
 EIN: XXXXXXXXXXXX
 Document Number: RCA999999A
 Fiscal Year: 2010

IC	CAN	2020	2021	2022	2023
CA	XXXXXXXX	\$337,500	\$337,500	\$337,500	\$337,500

Recommended future year total cost support, subject to the availability of funds and satisfactory progress of the project

NIH Administrative Data:

PCC: XXXX / OC: 999A / Processed: SMITHB 12/31/2019

SECTION II – PAYMENT/HOTLINE INFORMATION – 1R01CA999999-01

For payment and HHS Office of Inspector General Hotline information, see the NIH Home Page at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/awardconditions.htm>

SECTION III – TERMS AND CONDITIONS – 1R01CA999999-01

This award is based on the application submitted to, and as approved by, NIH on the above-titled project and is subject to the terms and conditions incorporated either directly or by reference in the following:

- a. The grant program legislation and program regulation cited in this Notice of Award.
- b. Conditions on activities and expenditure of funds in other statutory requirements, such as those included in appropriations acts.
- c. 45 CFR Part 74 or 45 CFR Part 92 as applicable.
- d. The NIH Grants Policy Statement, including addenda in effect as of the beginning date of the budget period.
- e. This award notice, INCLUDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS CITED BELOW.

(See NIH Home Page at 'http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/awardconditions.htm' for certain references cited above.)

continued

Exhibit XVII. Sample Notice of a Grant Award (Continued)

This institution is a signatory to the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) Phase V Agreement which requires active institutional participation in new or ongoing FDP demonstrations and pilots.

An unobligated balance may be carried over into the next budget period without Grants Management Officer prior approval.

This grant is subject to Streamlined Noncompeting Award Procedures (SNAP).

In accordance with P.L. 110-161, compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy is now mandatory. For more information, see NOT-OD-08-033 and the Public Access Website: <http://publicaccess.nih.gov/>.

Treatment of Program Income:
Additional Costs

SECTION IV – CA Special Terms and Conditions – 1R01CA999999-01

INFORMATION: In a continuing effort to provide exceptional customer service, the NCI Office of Grants Administration has set up a Feedback address on its web site (<http://www.nci.nih.gov/admin/gab/index.htm>). General concerns and issues related to NCI grants policies, procedures, and practices can be sent to the Customer Liaison using this feature. Specific questions or concerns related to this grant should be addressed to the Grants Management Specialist listed in the Terms of Award.

INFORMATION: This award, including the budget and the budget period, has been discussed between Bill Smith of the National Cancer Institute and Evan Thomas on November 24, 2019.

STAFF CONTACTS

The Grants Management Specialist is responsible for the negotiation, award and administration of this project and for interpretation of Grants Administration policies and provisions. The Program Official is responsible for the scientific, programmatic and technical aspects of this project. These individuals work together in overall project administration. Prior approval requests (signed by an Authorized Organizational Representative) should be submitted in writing to the Grants Management Specialist. Requests may be made via e-mail.

Grants Management Specialist: Bill Smith
E-mail: gms@nih.gov Phone: 301-496-XXXX Fax: 301-496-XXXX

Program Official: Rebecca Sanders
E-mail: progofficial@nih.gov Phone: 301-496-XXXX Fax: 301-496-XXXX

SPREADSHEET SUMMARY

GRANT NUMBER: 1R01CA999999-01

INSTITUTION: Massachusetts Research Institute

<i>Budget</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Year 4</i>
TOTAL FEDERAL DC	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000
TOTAL FEDERAL F&A	\$112,500	\$112,500	\$112,500	\$112,500
TOTAL COST	\$337,500	\$337,500	\$337,500	\$337,500

<i>Facilities and Administrative Costs</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Year 4</i>
F&A Cost Rate	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
F&A Cost Base	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000
F&A Costs	\$112,500	\$112,500	\$112,500	\$112,500

not preclude peer group members (or their associates, relatives, or institutions) from receiving subsequent contract awards, provided such reviews and recommendations are limited to the broad purposes and objectives of proposed projects.

To help avoid conflicts of interest and undue influence, and to help ensure continuing objectivity in the peer review process, I/C staff may not participate as members of scientific peer review groups in reviewing projects, applications, or proposals if they have been or are expected to be involved in decisions or actions in the award and administration of the corresponding grants or contracts. Project Officers and other I/C staff may attend meetings of peer review groups that are evaluating applications, projects, or proposals within their purview, so that they may provide essential technical, administrative, and program information. However, they may not join in the scientific technical evaluations and recommendations of peer groups concerning those projects.

After scientific peer review meetings, the NCAB Executive Secretary must obtain written certification from all consultants that they have not participated in any reviews of proposals or applications in which they or their close relatives, associates, or organizations have a financial interest. Voting members of the Board must sign a conflict of interest document at NCAB meetings. [Exhibit XVIII](#) is an example of the certification statement signed by NCAB voting members.

Confidentiality

Regulations prohibit the disclosure to unauthorized persons of information obtained by the NIH in connection with a grant application. Review materials and proceedings of review meetings are privileged communications prepared for use by consultants and staff only. Members of the NCAB are requested to leave all review materials with the Executive Secretary at the conclusion of the closed session of the NCAB meeting. Privileged information in grant applications must not be used to the benefit of the reviewer or shared with anyone.

Under no circumstances should consultants advise applicants of recommendations or discuss the review proceedings with applicants. Premature advice to the applicants represents an unfair intrusion into the privileged nature of the proceedings and invades the privacy of fellow consultants serving on review committees and site visit teams. The protection of the confidentiality of review proceedings is in the best interest of the highly

respected NIH peer review system and the NIH tradition of allocating public funds on the basis of research excellence.

Communication With Applicants

There should be no direct communication between members of the NCAB and the applicants. In the event such a contact occurs, the Executive Secretary of the NCAB must be notified immediately. All communications are handled by the Executive Secretary of the NCAB. Telephone inquiries and correspondence from applicants should be referred or sent directly to the Executive Secretary.

Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts

The Freedom of Information Act (P.L. 93-502) and the Privacy Act (P.L. 93-579), both enacted in 1974, have affected the NIH review process. The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) provides for disclosure of all Federal records, unless they are covered by one or more of nine exemptions. The NIH seeks the advice of grantees when receiving requests for grant materials. FOIA officials ordinarily release funded grant applications but delete patentable and other commercial information and any information that would invade personal privacy. They do not release grant applications that have never been funded, nor do they release the opinion portions of site visit reports and Summary Statements. The Privacy Act safeguards the privacy of individuals in the face of this disclosure.

Under the Privacy Act, principal investigators upon request may have access to documents generated during the review of their grant applications. Such documents include site visit reports, Summary Statements, and reviewers' written comments, if available. Reviewers' written comments, however, are not retained after their substance has been incorporated into Summary Statements or site visit reports. [Exhibit XIX](#) compares and contrasts the major points of the two Acts.

Research Involving Human Subjects

The Public Health Service Act, as amended in 1974 (P.L. 93-348) and 1985 (P.L. 99-157), requires that, in accordance with HHS Regulations (45 CFR 46), all research grant applications and contract proposals involving human subjects must be evaluated by the NIH IRGs and I/C staff for adequacy of protection for human subjects. This evaluation must take into account the risks to the subjects, the adequacy of protection against these risks,

Exhibit XVIII. Sample Conflict of Interest Certification Statement

CONFLICT OF INTEREST CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL CANCER ADVISORY BOARD

February 4, 2020

This will certify that, during the review of applications by the National Cancer Advisory Board on February 4, 2020, I absented myself so as not to participate in the discussion of, nor did I vote on, any application or project in which, to my knowledge, any of the following has a financial interest: (a) myself or my spouse, parent, child, or close professional associate; (b) any organization in which I am serving as an officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee, or am otherwise similarly associated; and any organization with which I am negotiating or have any arrangement concerning prospective employment or other similar association.

I fully understand the confidential nature of the applications and summary statements and related committee discussions, and agree to respect the privileged status of the information contained in these documents.

In Board actions in which we voted on a block of applications without discussing any individual application – the “en bloc” actions – my vote did not apply to any application from any institution fulfilling the criteria in the above statements.

Signature

Exhibit XIX. The Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts

	Freedom of Information Act* (P.L. 93-502, Nov. 1974)	Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579, Dec. 1974)
Purpose	To make available certain information to the public and for public guidance.	To provide certain safeguards for an individual against an invasion of personal privacy.
Scope	<p>Applies to all Federal agencies, including executive and military departments and independent regulatory agencies.</p> <p>Pertains to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • methods whereby the public may obtain information • formal and informal procedures available for obtaining information • rules of procedure required to obtain information • rules of applications authorized by law and statements of general agency policy • all modifications to the above. 	<p>Applies to any Federal agency that maintains a system of records.</p> <p>Pertains to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any record(s) of identifiable personal information that contains an individual's name, identifying number or symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual • any system of records from which information is retrieved by an individual's name or other personal identifier as described above.
Requirements	<p>Requires Federal agencies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publish organizational descriptions and locating information in the <i>Federal Register</i> • make all agency opinions, orders, policy statements, manuals, and instructions available for public inspection and copying • publish rules stating time, place, fees (as authorized), and procedure to be followed for requesting information • make records promptly available to any person following the established guidelines for requesting such information • make available for public inspection a record of the final votes of each member in every agency proceeding, except as exempted. <p>*Agencies must release all portions of records not covered by FOIA exemptions. Exemptions that may apply to grants records include those permitting the deletion of commercial information, information that would invade personal privacy, and internal government opinions and advice.</p>	<p>Requires Federal agencies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disclose no information contained in a system of records without a written request or prior written consent of the individual to whom the record pertains • permit any individual, upon his/her request, to gain access to his/her record or any information pertaining to him/her, and to review and copy same • permit the individual to request, and appeal, amendment of any record pertaining to him/her • maintain only information relevant and necessary to accomplish the agency purpose, and to collect such information, whenever possible, from the individual • publish annually a notice in the <i>Federal Register</i> indicating the existence and character of the systems of records • ensure the security and confidentiality of records and protect against embarrassment or unfairness to the individual.
Summary	Makes possible disclosure of policy, procedures, and information to the public.	Safeguards the privacy of individuals in the face of disclosure.

the potential benefits of the proposed research to the subjects and others, and the importance of the knowledge to be gained.

Applicant organizations have the primary responsibility for safeguarding the rights and welfare of individuals who participate as subjects in research activities supported by the NIH. However, the NIH also relies on its scientific review groups and National Advisory Councils or Boards to evaluate, for compliance with the HHS human subject regulations, all applications and proposals involving human subjects.

There are several considerations for review of applications involving human subjects. These considerations can be clustered into two broad areas: protection of subjects from research risks, and the inclusiveness of the study population. Protection issues include questions regarding safety and welfare of the subjects, including data and safety monitoring where applicable. Inclusion issues reflect the appropriate involvement of women, minorities, and children.

Assessment of scientific and technical merit of applications involving human subjects must include an evaluation of the proposed composition of the study population and its appropriateness for the scientific objectives of the study. If representation of women, minorities, or children in the study design is considered to be inadequate to answer the scientific question(s) addressed, and if there appears to be inadequate justification for the selected study population, reviewers should consider this to be a scientific weakness or deficiency in the study design and must keep this in mind when assigning a priority score.

Based on the evaluation of whether the applicant has adequately addressed human subjects protection, the study section may score the application with no concerns or with comments or concerns that may affect the score to a level commensurate with the seriousness of the concern. A “concern” occurs when a scientific review group uncovers a finding about human subjects that requires resolution by program staff prior to award; a “comment” occurs when a scientific review group makes an observation that will be communicated in the Summary Statement as a suggestion to the principal investigator. No awards are made until all expressed concerns about human subjects have been resolved to the satisfaction of the NIH.

More detailed instructions for reviewing grant applications involving human subjects, as well as

exemptions, are available at: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/guidelines_general/Review_Human_Subjects_20130508.pdf.

Inclusion of Women and Minorities as Subjects in Clinical Research

It is the policy of the NIH that women and members of minority groups and their subpopulations must be included in all NIH-funded clinical research (see [Appendix G](#)), unless a clear and compelling rationale and justification establish that inclusion is inappropriate with respect to the health of the subjects or the purpose of the research. Cost is not an acceptable reason for exclusion, except when the study would duplicate data from other sources. Women of childbearing potential should not be routinely excluded from participation in clinical research.

The inclusion of women and members of minority groups, as well as their subpopulations, must be addressed in the research design in a way that is appropriate to the scientific objectives of the study. The research plan should describe the composition of the proposed study population in terms of sex/gender and racial/ethnic group, as well as a rationale for selection of subjects. Such a plan should contain a description of the proposed programs for recruiting women and minorities as participants. The objective should be to actively recruit and retain the most diverse study population, given the purposes of the research project. When an NIH-defined Phase III clinical trial (see [Appendix I](#)) is proposed, the Research Plan must include a description of plans to conduct valid analysis by sex/gender, racial/ethnic groups, and relevant subpopulations, if applicable. Additional information concerning the NIH Policy on Inclusion of Women and Minorities as Subjects in Clinical Research is available at: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/women_min/guidelines.htm.

Inclusion of Children as Participants in Research

It is the policy of the NIH that children (i.e., individuals under the age of 18) must be included in all human subjects research that is supported by the NIH, not solely in clinical research, as is the case for women and minorities, unless there are scientific or ethical reasons not to include them. This policy applies to all research involving human subjects, including research that is otherwise “exempt.” Proposals for research involving human subjects must include a plan for including children. If children are excluded

from the research, the application must present an acceptable justification for the exclusion. Pertinent information on the inclusion of children in NIH-supported research may be found at: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-16-010.html>.

NIH Inclusion of Individuals Across the Lifespan as Participants in Research

It is the policy of the NIH that individuals are included in clinical research in a manner appropriate to the scientific question under study so that the knowledge gained from NIH-funded research is applicable to all those affected by the researched diseases/conditions. The policy expands the Inclusion of Children as Participants in Clinical Research Policy to include individuals of all ages. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/lifespan/lifespan.htm>

Research Involving Animals

The Animal Welfare Act of 1966, as amended in 1970, 1975, and 1985 (P.L. 89-544, 91-579, 94-279, and 99-198) provides for the proper care of animals used for research purposes. The Public Health Service Act, as amended in 1985 (P.L. 99-158), mandates specific additional requirements for research that is conducted or supported by the Public Health Service (PHS).

Although the recipient institution and investigator bear the major responsibility for the proper care and use of animals, NIH staff, scientific review groups, and Councils and Boards also share this responsibility. Care and use of vertebrate animals in research must conform to applicable law and PHS policy, especially the “Principles for Use of Animals.” These principles can be summarized as two broad rules:

- The project should be worthwhile and justified on the basis of anticipated results for the good of society and the contribution to knowledge, and the work should be planned and performed by qualified scientists.

- Animals should be confined, restrained, transported, cared for, and used in experimental procedures in a manner that avoids any unnecessary discomfort, pain, or injury. Special attention must be provided when the proposed research involves dogs, cats, non-human primates, large numbers of animals, or animals that are in short supply or are costly.

IRGs may recommend concurrence, restriction, or limitation of the research, or unscoring of the application, based upon acceptability of the proposed research and standards regarding humane care and use of laboratory animals. Although evaluation and priority ratings are based solely upon scientific merit, any comments, concerns, restrictions, or limitations regarding the use or care of laboratory animals are noted in the Summary Statements. All applications about which there are concerns or objections are called to the attention of the Board for concurrence or nonconcurrence. No award is made until NCI staff, NIH, and the applicant institution have resolved all concerns concurred upon by the Board. Follow-up reports of action taken on each grant application are presented at the next Board meeting.

Biohazardous Research

The investigator and the sponsoring institution are responsible for protecting both the environment and the research personnel from hazardous conditions. As with research involving human subjects, reviewers are expected to apply the collective standards of the professions represented within the IRG to the identification of potential hazards, such as inappropriate handling of oncogenic viruses, chemical carcinogens, infectious agents, radioactive or explosive materials, or recombinant DNA.

If applications pose special biohazards, these hazards are identified on the Summary Statement. Any concerns about the adequacy of safety procedures are highlighted with a special note (biohazard). No award is made until all concerns about hazardous procedures or conditions have been resolved to the satisfaction of the NIH.

REFERENCES

1. *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts*. (NIH, published every week.)
2. *HHS Grants Administration Manual*. (HHS, regular issuances.)
3. NIH Policy Manual Issuances. Office of Management Assessment, NIH.
4. "Public Health Service Policy for the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals." Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, NIH Grants and Funding, 2015.
5. *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC, 220 pp., 2011.
6. *Responsibility for Care and Use of Animals*. NIH Manual Issuance 54206. Office of Extramural Research and Training, NIH.
7. *Everything You Wanted To Know About the NCI Grants Process But Were Afraid To Ask*. NIH Publication No. 08-1222, September 2005.
8. *NIH Committee Management Handbook*. December 2003 (and updates/revolving).

ABBREVIATIONS USED

ACF	Administration for Children and Families	CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (formerly the Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA])
ACL	Administration for Community Living	CRCHD	Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
AHRQ	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	CSR	Center for Scientific Review
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	CSSI	Center for Strategic Scientific Initiatives
AMC	AIDS-Associated Malignancy Clinical Trials Consortium	CTAC	Clinical Trials and Translational Research Advisory Group
AREA	Academic Research Enhancement Award	CTB	Cancer Training Branch
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	D43	International Training Grants in Epidemiology
B&F	Building and Facilities	DCB	Division of Cancer Biology
BSA	Board of Scientific Advisors	DCCPS	Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
BSC	Board of Scientific Counselors	DCEG	Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics
CBIIT	Center for Biomedical Informatics and Information Technology	DCP	Division of Cancer Prevention
CCCT	Coordinating Center for Clinical Trials	DCTD	Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis
CCG	Center for Cancer Genomics	DEA	Division of Extramural Activities
CCR	Center for Cancer Research	DF	Deferred
CCSG	Cancer Center Support Grant (P30)	DHHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (now HHS)
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	DP1	NIH Director's Pioneer Award (NDPA)
CFARs	Centers for AIDS Research	DP2	NIH Director's New Innovator Awards
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	DP5	NIH Director's Early Independence Awards
CGAP	Cancer Genome Anatomy Project		
CGCR	Center for Global Cancer Research		

ECB	Electronic Council Book	K22	Career Transition Award
F31	Predocctoral Individual National Research Service Award (NRSA)	K23	Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award
F32	Postdoctoral National Research Service Award (NRSA)	K24	Mid-Career Investigator in Patient-Oriented Research Award
F33	National Research Service Award (NRSA) for Senior Fellows	K25	Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award
FDA	U.S. Food and Drug Administration	K30	Institutional Curriculum Award
FIC	Fogarty International Center	L30	Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program
FNLAC	Frederick National Laboratory Advisory Committee	L40	Pediatric Research Loan Repayment Program
FNLCR	Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research	LRP	Loan Repayment Program
FOA	Funding Opportunity Announcement	MARC	Minority Access to Research Careers
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (replaces DHHS)	MBRS	Minority Biomedical Research Support (S06)
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration	MGC	Mammalian Gene Collection
IAR	Internet Assisted Review	MMHCC	Mouse Models of Human Cancers Consortium
I/C	Institute/Center	MSI	Minority Serving Institution
ICG	Initiative for Chemical Genetics	NCAB	National Cancer Advisory Board
IHS	Indian Health Service	NCATS	National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
IRG	Initial Review Group (in NCI)	NCCAM	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
IRG	Integrated Review Group (in CSR)	NCI	National Cancer Institute
K01	Mentored Research Scientist Development Award	NCP	National Cancer Program
K05	Senior Scientist Award	NCRA	NCI Council of Research Advocates
K07	Academic Career Award	NEI	National Eye Institute
K08	Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award	NHGRI	National Human Genome Research Institute
K12	Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Award	NHLBI	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

NIA	National Institute on Aging	NRSA	National Research Service Award
NIAAA	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	OAR	Office of Advocacy Relations
NIAID	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	OCPL	Office of Communications and Public Liaison
NIAMS	National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	OCCAM	Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine
NIBIB	National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	OCCM	Office of Cancer Content Management
NICHD	<i>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</i> National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	OCG	Office of Cancer Genomics (now Center for Cancer Genomics)
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse	OCTR	Office of Centers, Training and Resources
NIDCD	National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	OD	Office of the Director
NIDCR	National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	OESI	Office of Education and Special Initiatives
NIDDK	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	OFACP	Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy
NIHES	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	OGA	Office of Grants Administration
NIGMS	National Institute of General Medical Sciences	OIA	Outstanding Investigator Award
NIH	National Institutes of Health	OLA	Office of Liaison Activities
NIMH	National Institute of Mental Health	OLAW	Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
NIMHD	National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	OSO	Office of Scientific Opportunities
NINDS	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	OTIR	Office of Technology and Industrial Relations
NINR	National Institute of Nursing Research	P01	Research Program Project Grant
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	P20	Planning Grant
NLM	National Library of Medicine	P30	Cancer Center Support Grant
NR	Not Recommended for Further Consideration	P50	Specialized Center Grant (SPORE)
		PA	Program Announcement
		PAR	Program Announcement with Special Receipt
		PCP	President's Cancer Panel

PCRB	Program Coordination and Review Branch	RFA	Request for Applications
PHS	Public Health Service	RFP	Request for Proposals
PL	Public Law	RO	Referral Officer
PO	Program Officer	RPRB	Research Programs Review Branch
PSC	Program Support Center	RTCRB	Research Technology and Contract Review Branch
R01	Research Project Grant	RTRB	Resources and Training Review Branch
R03	Small Research Grant	S06	Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS)
R13	Conference Grant	S21	Research and Institutional Resources Health Disparities Endowment Grants-Capacity Building
R15	Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA)	SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
R21	Exploratory/Developmental Grant	SBIR	Small Business Innovation Research Grant (Phase I R43; Phase II R44)
R24	Resource-Related Research Project	SC1	Research Enhancement Award
R25	Cancer Education Grant	SC2	Pilot Research Project
R33	Exploratory/Developmental Grant - Phase II	SCR	Special Council Review
R35	Outstanding Investigator Award	SEG	Source Evaluation Group
R37	MERIT Award	SEP	Special Emphasis Panel
R41	Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Grant Phase I	SGE	Special Government Employee
R42	Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Grant Phase II	SPL	Scientific Program Leadership
R43	Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant Phase I	SPORE	Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (P50)
R44	Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant Phase II	SRB	Special Review Branch
R50	Research Specialist Award	SRG	Scientific Review Group
R55	James A. Shannon Director's Award	SRO	Scientific Review Officer
R56	High Priority, Short-Term Project Award	STTR	Small Business Technology Transfer Grant (Phase I R41; Phase II R42)
R&D	Research and Development	T32	Institutional National Research Service Award (NRSA)
RCB	Research Contracts Branch		

U01	Research Project Cooperative Agreement	UE5	Educational Projects Cooperative Agreement
U10	Clinical Research Cooperative Agreement	UG1	Clinical Research Cooperative Agreement (Single Project)
U13	Conference Cooperative Agreement	UG3	Exploratory/Development Cooperative Agreement – Phase I
U19	Research Program Cooperative Agreement	UH2	Exploratory/Developmental Cooperative Agreement – Phase I
U24	Resource-Related Research Project Cooperative Agreement	UH3	Exploratory/Developmental Cooperative Agreement – Phase II
U43	Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Cooperative Agreement Phase I	UM1	Research Project With Complex Structure Cooperative Agreement
U44	Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Cooperative Agreement Phase II	UM2	Research Project or Center With Complex Structure Cooperative Agreement
U54	Specialized Center - Cooperative Agreement	WIHS	Women’s Interagency HIV Study
U56	Exploratory Grant - Cooperative Agreement		

APPENDIX A

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APPENDIX B

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APPENDIX C

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(**The Honorable Martin J. Walsh–DOL**)

TBN
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
Washington, DC
(**Alondra Nelson, Ph.D.–OSTP**)

Designated Federal Official

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Director
Division of Extramural Activities
National Cancer Institute, NIH
Bethesda, MD

Committee Management Officer

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APPENDIX D

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Pillar Chair in Biomedical Research
Professor and Vice Chair
RNA Therapeutics Institute
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, MA

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Lynne V. Abruzzo, M.D., Ph.D. 2023 Professor Department of Pathology Division of Cytogenetics The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center Columbus, OH	E. Julie Buring, Sc.D. 2021 Professor of Medicine Harvard Medical School Senior Epidemiologist Brigham and Women's Hospital Boston, MA
Alex A. Adjei, M.D., Ph.D. 2026 Professor of Oncology and Pharmacology Consultant Division of Medical Oncology Mayo Clinic College of Medicine Rochester, MN	Arnab Chakravarti, M.D. 2022 Professor and Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology Max Morehouse Chair of Cancer Research Director, Brain Tumor Program The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center Richard L. Solove Research Institute Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital Columbus, OH
Christopher R. Aiken, Ph.D. 2024 Cornelius Vanderbilt Chair and Professor Department of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology Vanderbilt University Medical Center Nashville, TN	Navdeep Chandel, Ph.D. 2024 David W. Cugell Distinguished Professor Section of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Northwestern University Chicago, IL
Leslie J. Berg, Ph.D. 2026 Professor and Chair, Immunology and Microbiology Department Director, Human Immunology and Immunotherapy Initiative University of Colorado School of Medicine Aurora, CO	Blossom A. Damania, Ph.D. 2024 Vice Dean for Research School of Medicine Director, Programs in Virology and Global Oncology Lineberger Cancer Center The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC

<p>Nancy E. Davidson, M.D. Senior Vice President and Full Member Clinical Research Division Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center President and Executive Director Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Head, Division of Medical Oncology Department of Medicine University of Washington Seattle, WA</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Tracy L. Johnson, Ph.D. Maria Rowera Ross Chair of Cell Biology and Biochemistry Professor Department of Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence Division of Life Sciences University of California, Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA</p>	<p>2022</p>
<p>Faith G. Davis, Ph.D. Professor and Vice Dean School of Public Health University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta, Canada</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Welkin E. Johnson, Ph.D. Professor and Chair Department of Biology Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA</p>	<p>2024</p>
<p>Ralph L. Deberardinis, M.D., Ph.D. Joel B. Steinberg M.D. Chair in Pediatrics Sowell Family Scholar in Medical Research Department of Pediatrics The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, TX</p>	<p>2026</p>	<p>David R. Jones, M.D. Fiona and Stanley Druckenmiller Professor of Lung Cancer Research Chief, Thoracic Surgery Department of Surgery Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, NY</p>	<p>2024</p>
<p>Mary L. Disis, M.D. Director, Institute for Translational Health Sciences Director, University of Washington Vaccine Institute Professor, Division of Oncology Department of Medicine University of Washington Member, Clinical Research Division Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Seattle, WA</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Barbara L. Kee, Ph.D. Professor Department of Pathology The University of Chicago Chicago, IL</p>	<p>2026</p>
<p>David W. Goodrich, Ph.D. Distinguished Professor of Oncology Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics Associate Dean for Postdoctoral Education Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center Buffalo, NY</p>	<p>2026</p>	<p>Eric A. Klein, M.D. Andrew C. Novick Distinguished Professor and Chair Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute Cleveland Clinic Foundation Professor of Surgery Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine Cleveland, OH</p>	<p>2023</p>
<p>Daphne A. Haas-Kogan Chair Department of Radiation Oncology Brigham and Woman’s Hospital Dana–Farber Cancer Institute Boston, MA</p>	<p>2026</p>	<p>Robert J. Klein, Ph.D. Associate Professor Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences Director, Cancer Risk Prediction Icahn Institute for Multiscale Biology Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai New York, NY</p>	<p>2024</p>
<p>Stephen C. Jameson, Ph.D. Professor Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology Center for Immunology University of Minnesota Medical School Minneapolis, MN</p>	<p>2021</p>	<p>Mitchell Kronenberg, Ph.D. Chief Scientific Officer La Jolla Institute for Immunology San Diego, CA</p>	<p>2023</p>

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Professor and Chair Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine Professor, Division of Hematology and Oncology UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center University of California, Davis Sacramento, CA		Dean's Professor Chief Division of Biostatistics Department of Public Health Sciences University of California, Davis Davis, CA	
Paul F. Lambert, Ph.D.	2022	Duane A. Mitchell, M.D., Ph.D.	2022
Howard M. Temin Professor Chair, Department of Oncology Director McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Madison, WI		Director, University of Florida Brain Tumor Immunotherapy Program Associate Chair of Research Phyllis Kottler Friedman Professor Department of Neurosurgery University of Florida Gainesville, FL	
Steven K. Libutti, M.D.	2023	Michelle L. Monje-Deisseroth, M.D., Ph.D.	2026
Director, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey Vice Chancellor for Cancer Programs Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey New Brunswick, NJ		Associate Professor Department of Neurology and Neurological Sciences Stanford University Medical Center Stanford, CA	
Christopher D. Lima, Ph.D.	2024	Denise J. Montell, Ph.D.	2023
Chair, Member, and Professor Structural Biology Program Sloan Kettering Institute New York, NY		Robert and Patricia Duggan Professor Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA	
David Malkin, M.D.	2026	Anna Barbara Moscicki, M.D.	2026
Associate Chair Department of Medical Biophysics Professor Departments of Pediatric and Medical Biophysics University of Toronto Toronto, Ontario. Canada		Professor of Pediatrics Chief Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine David Geffen School of Medicine University of California, Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA	
Anna K. Mapp, Ph.D.	2022	Baldomero M. Olivera, Ph.D.	2026
Edwin Vedejs Collegiate Professor of Chemistry Research Professor Director, Cancer Biology Program Life Sciences Institute University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI		Distinguished Professor Department of Biology The University of Utah Salt Lake City, UT	
Douglas G. McNeel, M.D., Ph.D.	2023	Mary Ann Osley, Ph.D.	2023
Professor of Medicine Division of Hematology-Oncology University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center Madison, WI		The Victor and Ruby Hanson Surface Professor in Cancer Epigenetics Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology The University of New Mexico Co-Director, Cancer Genetics, Epigenetics, and Genomics Program The University of New Mexico Cancer Center Albuquerque, NM	

Alpa V. Patel, Ph.D., M.P.H. Senior Vice President, Population Science American Cancer Society Kennesaw, GA	2026	JoAnn Trejo, Ph.D. Professor and Vice Chair of Pharmacology Assistant Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Faculty Affairs Department of Pharmacology School of Medicine University of California, San Diego La Jolla, CA	2023
Tanya T. Paull, Ph.D. Burl G. and Lorene L. Rogers Chair in Human Health Professor Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology The University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX	2024	Marcel R. M. Van Den Brink, M.D., Ph.D. Head and Alan N. Houghton Chair Division of Hematologic Oncology Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Professor in Immunology and Medicine Weill Cornell Medical College New York, NY	2026
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Matthew J. Strickland, Ph.D., M.P.H. Professor and Division Lead Division of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Environmental Health School of Public Health University of Nevada, Reno Reno, NV	2026	David L. Wiest, Ph.D. Professor Immune Cell Development and Host Defense Program Blood Cell Development and Cancer Keystone Fox Chase Cancer Center Philadelphia, PA	2021
Mary Beth Terry, Ph.D. Professor Department of Epidemiology Mailman School of Public Health Columbia University New York, NY	2023	John S. Witte, Ph.D. Professor and Vice Chair of Epidemiology and Population Health Professor of Biomedical Data Science and Genetics (by courtesy) Department of Epidemiology and Population Health Stanford University Stanford, CA	2024
Dan Theodorescu, M.D., Ph.D. Director Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Los Angeles, CA	2025		
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Gail E. Tomlinson, M.D., Ph.D. Professor of Pediatrics Greehey Distinguished Chair in Genetics and Cancer Division Chief, Pediatric Hematology-Oncology The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio San Antonio, TX	2021		
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APPENDIX F

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APPENDIX G

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<p>Charles D. Blanke, M.D. Chair, SWOG Cancer Research Network Professor Knight Cancer Institute Oregon Health & Science University Portland, OR</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>Adam P. Dicker, M.D., Ph.D. Professor and Chair Department of Radiation Oncology Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center Thomas Jefferson University Philadelphia, PA</p>	<p>2024</p>
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<p>Nancy E. Davidson, M.D. (BSC) Senior Vice President, Director, and Full Member Clinical Research Division Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center President and Executive Director Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Head, Department of Medicine Division of Medical Oncology University of Washington Seattle, WA</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Ernest T. Hawk, M.D. Vice President and Head Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences T. Boone Pickens Distinguished Chair for Early Prevention of Cancer The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Houston, TX</p>	<p>2024</p>
		<p>Michael V. Knopp, M.D. Professor of Radiology Department of Radiology Novartis Chair of Imaging Research The Ohio State University Columbus, OH</p>	<p>2023</p>

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		James H. Doroshow, M.D. Deputy Director Clinical and Translational Research Director, Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis National Cancer Institute National Institutes of Health Bethesda, MD	

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Coordinating Center for Clinical Trials
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National Institutes of Health
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APPENDIX H

FREDERICK NATIONAL LABORATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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	Denise J. Montell, Ph.D. (BSC) 2023 Robert and Patricia Duggan Professor Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA

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Chair, Division of Pulmonary Disease
and Critical Care Medicine
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Vice Chair
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University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
Philadelphia, PA

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Director, Informatics and Biological Computing
Platform, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Linda F. van Dyk, Ph.D. 2025
Professor and Vice Chair
Department of Immunology and Microbiology
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Aurora, CO

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Wlodek Lopaczynski, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Director
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National Cancer Institute
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BSC Board of Scientific Counselors, NCI
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Research
Director, Division of Cancer Treatment and
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Douglas R. Lowy, M.D.
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Dinah S. Singer, Ph.D.
Deputy Director for Scientific Strategy
and Development
National Cancer Institute
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD

* Pending.

APPENDIX I

CLINICAL RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TRIALS

Clinical Research: NIH defines human clinical research as: (1) Patient-oriented research. Research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens, and cognitive phenomena) for which an investigator (or colleague) directly interacts with human subjects. Excluded from this definition are *in vitro* studies that utilize human tissues that cannot be linked to a living individual. Patient-oriented research includes: (a) mechanisms of human disease, (b) therapeutic interventions, (c) clinical trials, or (d) development of new technologies. (2) Epidemiologic and behavioral studies. (3) Outcomes research and health services research. *Note:* Not considered clinical research by this definition is: research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.

Clinical Trial: For purposes of reviewing applications submitted to the NIH, a clinical trial is operationally defined as a prospective biomedical or behavioral research study of human subjects that is designed to answer specific questions about biomedical or behavioral interventions (drugs, treatments, devices, or new ways of using known drugs, treatments, or devices).

Clinical trials are used to determine whether new biomedical or behavioral interventions are safe, efficacious, and effective. Clinical trials of experimental drug, treatment, device, or behavioral intervention may proceed through the following phases:

- **Phase 0** trials represent the earliest step in testing new treatments in humans. In a phase 0 trial, a very small dose of a chemical or biologic agent is given to a small number of people (approximately 10-15) to gather preliminary information about how the agent is processed by the body (pharmacokinetics) and how the agent affects the body (pharmacodynamics). Because the agents are given in such small amounts, no information is obtained about their safety or effectiveness in treating cancer.

- **Phase I** clinical trials are conducted to test a new biomedical or behavioral intervention in a small group of people (e.g., 20-80) for the first time to evaluate safety (e.g., determine a safe dosage range, and identify side effects).
- **Phase II** clinical trials are done to study the biomedical or behavioral intervention in a larger group of people (several hundred) to determine efficacy and to further evaluate its safety.
- **Phase III** studies are conducted to study the efficacy of the biomedical or behavioral intervention in large groups of human subjects (from several hundred to several thousand) by comparing the intervention to other standard or experimental interventions as well as to monitor adverse effects, and to collect information that will allow the interventions to be used safely.
- **Phase IV** studies are done after the intervention has been marketed. These studies are designed to monitor effectiveness of the approved intervention in the general population and to collect information about any adverse effects associated with widespread use.

NIH-Defined Phase III Clinical Trial: For the purpose of the NIH Grants Policy Guidelines, an NIH-defined Phase III clinical trial is a broadly based prospective NIH-defined Phase III clinical investigation, usually involving several hundred or more human subjects, for the purpose of evaluating an experimental intervention in comparison with a standard or control intervention or comparing two or more existing treatments. Often, the aim of such investigation is to provide evidence leading to a scientific basis for consideration of a change in health policy or standard of care. The definition includes pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, and behavioral interventions given for disease prevention, prophylaxis, diagnosis, or therapy. Community trials and other population-based intervention trials also are included.

APPENDIX J

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Cancer.gov Website
<https://www.cancer.gov>

NCI Budget Fact Book
<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/budget/fact-book>

Bypass Budgets
<https://plan.cancer.gov>

Cancer Centers
<https://cancercenters.cancer.gov>

Clinical Trials
<https://www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials>

BSA Orientation Book
<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/bsa/OrientationBook/OrientationBook.pdf>

FNLAC Orientation Book
<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/fac/OrientationBook.pdf>

CTAC Members' Manual
<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ctac/OrientationBook.pdf>

NCI Division of Extramural Activities
<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov>

DEA Annual Report
<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov>

NCI Office of Grants Administration
<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/oga>

Grants and Contracts
<https://www.cancer.gov/grants-training/grants-funding/funding-opportunities>

Grant Mechanisms and Descriptions
<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/flash/awards.htm>

Center for Cancer Training
<https://www.cancer.gov/grants-training/training/about>

Center for Scientific Review (CSR) Reviewer Resources
<https://public.csr.nih.gov/ReviewerResources/Pages/default.aspx>

Surveillance
<https://seer.cancer.gov>

NIH Grant Review Process YouTube Videos
<https://public.csr.nih.gov/aboutcsr/contactcsr/pages/contactervisitsrpages/nih-grant-review-process-youtube-videos.aspx>

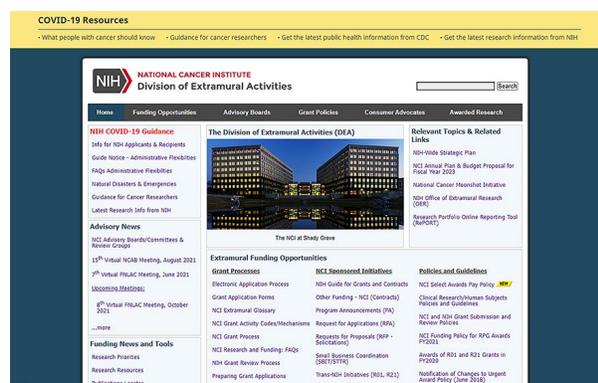
APPENDIX K

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

DEA Websites

DEA home page. Includes links to individual DEA Web Pages, the mission of the Division, and contact information for DEA staff.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov>



Links to the home pages of NCI's advisory boards.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/boards.htm>

President's Cancer Panel (PCP) charter; meeting agendas and meeting minutes; annual reports.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/pcp/index.htm>

National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB) charter; rosters; meeting agendas, minutes, presentation slides.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ncab/ncab.htm>

Board of Scientific Advisors (BSA) charter; subcommittee rosters; meeting agendas, minutes, presentation slides.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/bsa/bsa.htm>

Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) charter, rosters, meeting dates.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/bsc/index.htm>

Clinical Trials and Translational Research Advisory Committee (CTAC).

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ctac/ctac.htm>

Frederick National Laboratory Advisory Committee (FNLAC) charter, members, meeting information.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/fac/fac.htm>

Charter of the NCI Council of Research Advocates (NCRA); meeting schedules, agendas, minutes, and meeting summaries.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ncra/ncra.htm>

Charter of the Initial Review Group (IRG); subcommittee rosters.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/irg/irg.htm>

Charter of the Special Emphasis Panel (SEP); rosters of recent meetings.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/sep/sep.htm>

Links to grant-related NCI and NIH policies, such as guidelines on the inclusion of women and minorities in clinical trials and instructions for evaluating research involving human subjects.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/grants/policies/index.htm>

Comprehensive information about funding for cancer research; lists of active PAs and RFAs; grant policies and guidelines; downloadable application forms.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/funding.htm>

Active PAs, with links to detailed descriptions.

<https://deais.nci.nih.gov/foastatus/?nt=P>

Active RFAs, with links to detailed descriptions.

<https://deais.nci.nih.gov/foastatus/>

Grants Guidelines and Descriptions (descriptions of NCI funding mechanisms, with links to PAs, RFAs, guidelines, and supplemental materials).

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/flash/awards.htm>

NCI Glossary of Terms.

<https://deais.nci.nih.gov/glossary>

NCI Dictionary of Cancer Terms.

<https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/>

NCI's Funded Research Portfolio database contains information about research grant and contract awards for the current and past 5 fiscal

years. Searchable by text words in abstracts and by Special Interest Category (SIC) and anatomic site codes.

<https://fundedresearch.cancer.gov>

NCI Websites

The NCI maintains numerous sites containing information about the Institute and its programs. All NCI websites, including those designed to provide cancer-related information to the general public and physicians, can be reached from the NCI home page.

<https://www.cancer.gov>

Descriptions of NCI's Divisions, Offices, and Centers.

<https://www.cancer.gov/aboutnci/organization>

NCI's website for the press, managed by the NCI Office of Media Relations; contains news and information on cancer research and NCI programs and resources.

<https://www.cancer.gov/newscenter>

A wide variety of information sources on obtaining funding for cancer research, including assistance in applying for grants; descriptions of NCI-sponsored research initiatives; review panel rosters and schedules; training opportunities; and links to other funding resources.

<https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/funding.htm>

The essentials of the NCI grants process are available on this website.

<https://www.cancer.gov/grants-training/grants-process>

The Biorepositories and Biospecimens Research Branch is responsible for promoting a common biorepository infrastructure that promotes resource sharing and team science.

<https://biospecimens.cancer.gov/researchnetwork/default.asp>

Links to NCI's partnerships with the cancer research, advocacy, and support communities.

<https://www.cancer.gov/researchprograms/partners>

Technology Transfer Center (TTC). The NCI TTC's mission is to speed the progress of cancer research by encouraging development of new technologies and promoting scientific collaborations between the NCI and the private sector.

<https://ttc.nci.nih.gov>

The NCI Office of Advocacy Relations (OAR) uses a variety of methods to engage cancer research advocates in NCI activities.

<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/oar>

The Cancer Moonshot Initiative aims to make more therapies available to more patients, while also improving our ability to prevent cancer and detect it at an early stage.

<https://www.cancer.gov/research/key-initiatives/moonshot-cancer-initiative>

NCI Cancer Information Websites

Links to a wide variety of NCI's Web-based information resources for health professionals and the general public.

<https://www.cancer.gov/cancerinfo>

A comprehensive resource for definitions of cancer-related terms, as well as links to additional online dictionaries of medical and health-related terms.

<https://cancer.gov/dictionary>

The NCI Contact Center, or Cancer Information Service (CIS), is a free public service providing accurate, up-to-date, and reliable information on cancer that is easy to understand. The Cancer Information Specialists respond to calls in English and Spanish and can be reached at 1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237). Hearing-impaired callers with TTY equipment may call 1-800-332-8615.

<https://www.cancer.gov/contact/contact-center>

The Cancer Trials website provides information and news about cancer research studies. The site is designed to answer basic questions about clinical trials; provide resources for people considering participating in clinical trials; help people learn what clinical trials are available; and publish current, accurate information about clinical trial results and advances in cancer care.

<https://www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials>

The NCI Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program is the most authoritative source of information on cancer incidence and survival in the United States. Information on more than 2.5 million cancer cases is included in the SEER database, and approximately 160,000 new cases are added each year within the SEER catchment areas.

<https://seer.cancer.gov>

NIH Websites

National Institutes of Health home page.

<https://www.nih.gov>

National Institutes of Health Almanac.

<https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/what-we-do/nih-almanac>

NIH Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tool (RePORT). Provides access to reports, data, and analyses of NIH research activities, including information on NIH expenditures and the results of NIH-supported research.

<https://report.nih.gov>

Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy (OFACP). This site features downloadable guidelines, reference tools, and training materials. It also contains advisory committee membership lists; laws, regulations, and policies related to Federal advisory committees; and other resources.

<https://ofacp.od.nih.gov>

NIH Office of Extramural Research. Includes an overview of the grants process.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm>

NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts for NIH grants and funding opportunities.

<https://grants.nih.gov/funding/searchguide/index.html>

NIH Center for Scientific Review.

<https://www.csr.nih.gov>

Definitions of NIH Acronyms and Glossary.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm>

eRA Commons is an online interface where grant applicants and Federal staff at the NIH and grantee institutions can access and share administrative information relating to research grants.

<https://commons.era.nih.gov/commons>

The Center for Information Technology (CIT) makes special NIH events, seminars, and lectures available to viewers on the NIH network and the Internet from the NIH VideoCasting and Podcasting website.

<https://videocast.nih.gov>

Information on Electronic Review of Grant Applications.

<https://era.nih.gov/reviewer/index.cfm>

Information on grants policy statements and notices, grant awards and NIH appropriations, policy resources, and other guidance resources.

<https://grants1.nih.gov/grants/policy/policy.htm>

Information on Extramural Training Mechanisms.

<https://grants.nih.gov/training/extramural.htm>

The NIH Event Calendar is a scheduling system for cancer-related scientific meetings and events.

<https://calendar.nih.gov>

The NIH Precision Medicine Initiative (PMI) Cohort Program will seek to extend precision medicine to all diseases by building a national research cohort of 1 million or more U.S. participants.

<https://www.nih.gov/precision-medicine-initiative-cohort-program>

PubMed comprises more than 29 million citations from Medline, life science journals, and online books.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>

General Government-Related Websites

The official U.S. Government portal to 30 million pages of Government information, services, and online transactions. The website <https://www.usa.gov> offers a powerful search engine that searches every word of every U.S. Government document. The site also features a topical index, options to contact Government agencies, links to state and local agencies, and other tools, so the user does not have to know the name of the agency to get needed information.

<https://www.usa.gov>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<https://www.cdc.gov>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

<https://www.fda.gov>

An electronic version of this document can be viewed and downloaded from the Internet at <https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ncab/OrientationBook.pdf>





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