



'Full' Implementation of Shorter Review Cycle Announced for Certain NIH Grant Applications

Beginning with the September-October review cycle, the Center for Scientific Review within the National Institutes of Health changed its review process to allow consecutive cycle resubmissions for all new investigator R01 applications reviewed by all its recurring study sections. NIH made the announcement in a recent notice. The change saves four months of time for those who want to resubmit. NIH has been pilot testing this process since 2006 in an effort to decrease the time between applications and awards for those investigators who need or want to submit corrections. The pilot has been gradually expanded and now will include all the recurring study sections with the CSR. The change is likely to be welcomed, as the notice said some 13% of eligible investigators had "used the option of the next cycle submission." "Study sections participating will schedule meetings so that new investigators receive their summary statements no later than March 1, July 1, or November 1. The Summary Statements for qualifying applications will have an explicit note indicating eligibility for next cycle submission. Resubmission applications for consideration at the next cycle must be submitted by March 20, July 20, or November 20. New investigators who do not choose the next cycle option will use the standard resubmission dates for subsequent cycle submission (March 5, July 5, or November 5), "the announcement states. Investigators also are not required to resubmit their applications to the same section that originally considered them, but can request a different section. CSR will decide where the resubmission will go next. Link: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-083.html>