CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate most of the ~ 82,000 grant applications researchers submit to NIH each year. We recruit over 18,000 experienced and respected researchers annually. Their scientific assessments help NIH identify the most promising biomedical and behavioral research. Early Career Reviewers play a key role and gain insights into the NIH peer review process.

What’s the Purpose of the Early Career Reviewer Program?
- To help early career scientists become more competitive as grant applicants through first-hand experience with peer review
- To enrich and diversify NIH’s pool of trained reviewers

What Are the Benefits?
- Work side-by-side with some of the most accomplished researchers in your field
- Learn how reviewers evaluate and score applications
- Develop research-evaluation and critique-writing skills
- Serve the scientific community by helping NIH identify the most promising grant applicants

What Does an Early Career Reviewer Do?
- Reviews two applications as the third reviewer for one meeting
- Writes full critiques for these two applications
- Sees all applications and is encouraged to participate in open discussions

What Are the Requirements for Being an Early Career Reviewer?

**Employment:** You have at least 2 years of experience as a fulltime faculty member (Assistant Professor) or a researcher in a similar role

**Grant & Review History**
- You have not served on an NIH study section aside from being a mail reviewer.
- You have not held an R01 or equivalent grant as a PI/PD. But you’ve received a summary statement for an R01 or similar application. Fellowship applications do not count.

**Research**
- You have evidence of an active, independent research program such as publications, presentations, institutional research support, patents, or experience supervising student projects.
- You have at least 2 senior-authored research publications in a peer-reviewed journal.

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