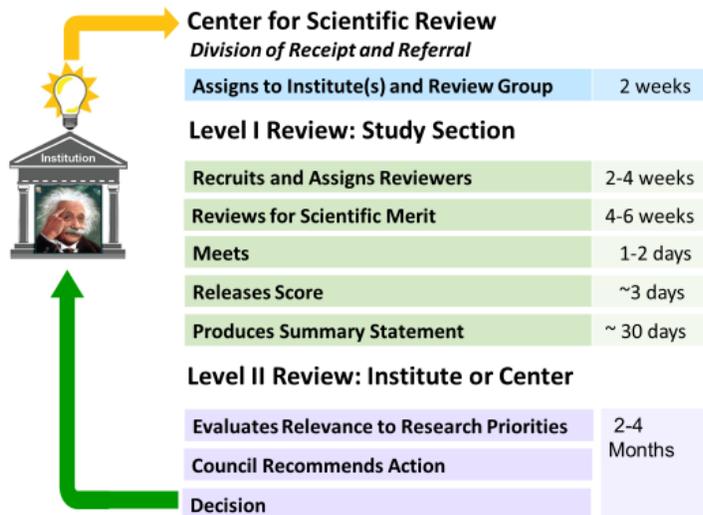


What Happens to Your NIH Grant Application

The review and funding of your grant application begins at the NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR)

Review and Funding of NIH Grant Applications



Your application is checked and assigned



CSR's Division of Receipt and Referral and one of its scientists familiar with your research field (Referral Officer):

- Makes sure your application is on time, complete, formatted correctly and compliant with NIH policies.
- Assigns your application to a scientific review group/study section best able to review it
- Assigns it to one or more NIH Institutes or Centers that could fund it

What you can do before you submit

- **Identify a Review Group for Your Application:** More than one CSR study section frequently has the expertise to review your application because the scientific boundaries of our study sections overlap. To help us identify the best one for your application, you may:
 - o Explore CSR study section descriptions: www.csr.nih.gov
 - o Use CSR Assisted Referral Tool (ART) to discover where similar applications have been reviewed: <https://art.csr.nih.gov>
- **Identify an Institute/Center and a Program Officer**
 - o Use the NIH RePORTER Matchmaker and pair your application with NIH Institutes and Centers who might fund you, and Program Officers most interested in your research as well as review groups. <https://projectreporter.nih.gov>

Use the Assignment Request Form in your application to suggest your application be assigned to a particular study section or NIH funding Institute or Center.

- **Follow the process in your eRA Commons account.**
 - If you don't get your assignments within two weeks after the submission deadline, contact 301-435-0715.
 - If you have questions about your assignments, speak with your SRO

Before the meeting

Your SRO will –

- Double check your application for completeness and compliance
- Analyze the content of your application and the others
- Recruit and train reviewers from the scientific community as needed
- Assign three or more reviewers to your application



Your assigned reviewers will confidentially submit draft critiques to your SRO. All assigned reviewers will submit preliminary scores for each review criteria and for overall impact.

At the meeting



- One member serves as chair and conducts the meeting with the SRO
- Any reviewer in conflict with your application will leave the room.
- Assigned reviewers present their evaluations.
- Reviewers typically discuss – in random order – the top 50% of the applications based on initial scores, though any reviewer can bring up any application for discussion.
- After a general discussion, all reviewers confidentially submit scores.

But reviewers must speak up if they intend to score outside the range of scores from assigned reviewers.

The results are released to you

After the meeting, we will post the following information in your eRA Commons account:

- Scores for each review criterion – in three business days
- Critiques from assigned reviewers – within 30 calendar days

If your application was discussed, you also will see

- An overall impact score and percentile ranking, if one is calculated
- A summary of discussion drafted by the SRO



The assigned NIH institute or center takes charge

- A program officer at your assigned institute becomes your point of contact. They can help interpret your results and give guidance on next steps.
- In a second level or review, the assigned institute/center and its advisory council will consider the study section recommendations and determine the relevance of your proposal to their research priorities and public health needs.

View the Video!

What Happens to Your NIH Grant Application

CSR has produced a video to give you an in depth look at what happens to your grant application in the peer review process.

<http://www.csr.nih.gov/Video/Video.asp>

Grant Info

Get info on funding opportunities, application forms, instructions and policies from the NIH Office of Extramural Research:

<http://www.grants.nih.gov>.

Learn More About CSR

CSR organizes peer review groups that evaluate three quarters of the grant applications submitted to NIH. CSR also receives all NIH and many Public Health Service grant applications and assigns them to the appropriate NIH Institutes and Centers and PHS agencies.

Visit our Web site or call for more information:

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