



# The Early Career Reviewer Program



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# Goals of today's webinar and Q & A

- Provide brief context about CSR's role
- Learn more about the requirements for the Early Career Reviewer Program
- Give you a chance to hear from recent ECRs about their experience serving as a reviewer

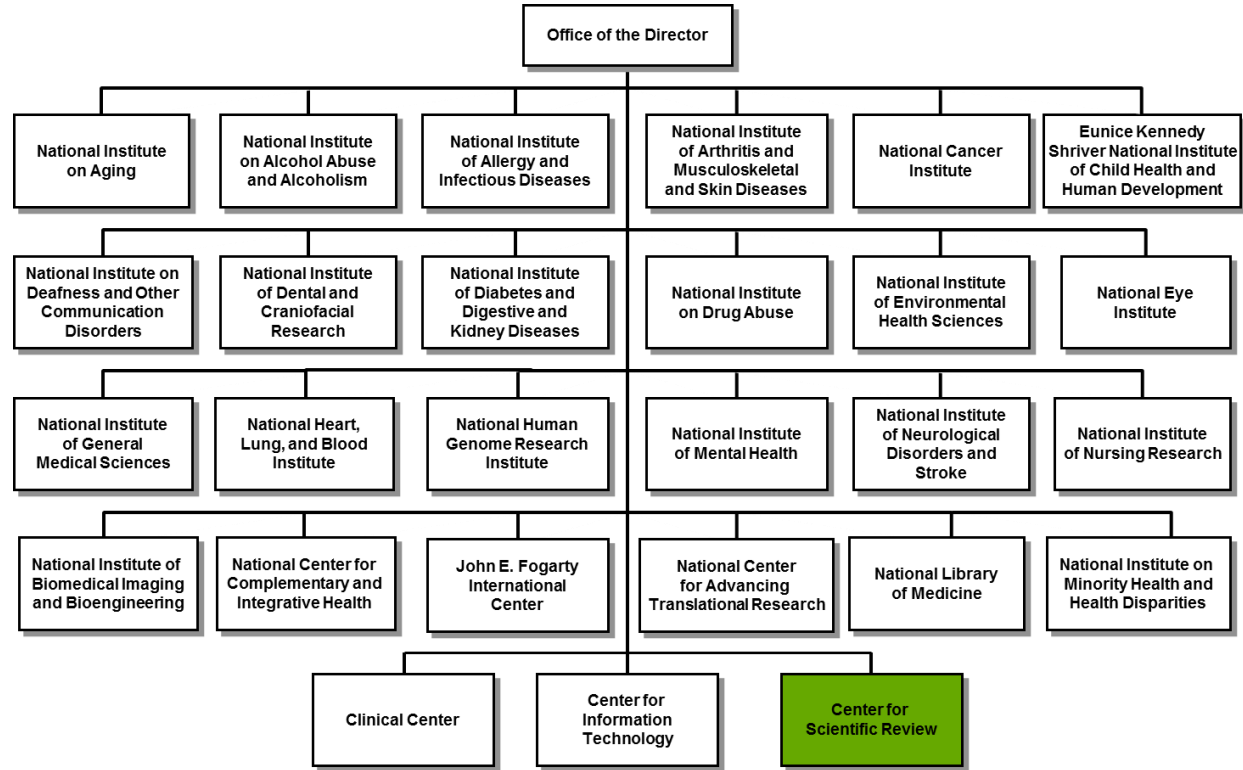
# The Gateway for NIH Grant Applications

## The Center for Scientific Review



- **Receives all NIH grant applications**
- **Assigns applications to one or more NIH Institutes or Centers** for potential funding
- **Assigns applications to CSR or NIH Institute review groups**
- **Conducts initial scientific merit review of most NIH** research applications - ~76% of NIH grant applications = ~ 64,000 applications/year with the help of > **18,000 reviewers!!**

# Your application could be funded by one of 24 NIH Institutes or Centers (ICs)



# Serve on a review panel – Early Career Reviewer Program

## Program goals:

- Train qualified scientists to become critical and well-trained reviewers
- Expose investigators to the peer review experience so that they can write more competitive grant applications of their own
- Enrich the existing pool of NIH reviewers



# Early Career Reviewer Program – the Basics

- Early career scientists can apply to CSR's Early Career Reviewer (ECR) program.
- ECR's serve as an ECR one time and review 2 applications as Reviewer 3.
- ECRs write full critiques and participate in the review meeting and score all applications.



## ECR Qualifications

### Employment

You have at least 1 year of experience as a fulltime faculty member or researcher in a similar role. Post-doctoral fellows are not eligible.

You must be an Assistant Professor or in an equivalent role. Because the program is focused on early career scientists, Associate Professors are not eligible.

### Research

You show evidence of an active, independent research program. Examples include publications, presentations, institutional research support, patents, acting as supervisor of student projects.

You have at least 1 senior-authored research publication in a peer-reviewed journal in the last 2 years plus at least 1 additional senior-authored research publication since receiving a doctorate.

- To access publications see [researcherprofiles.nih.gov](#)

### Grant & Review History

You have not served on an NIH study section in any capacity aside from as a mail reviewer. (Mail reviews do not include participation in the meeting.)

You have not held an R01 or R01-equivalent (R35, R37, RF1, R23, R29, DP1, DP2, DP5, U01, RL1) grant in the PD/PI role

You must have submitted a grant proposal, in the PI/PD role, to the NIH and received the associated summary statement.

Visit <https://public.csr.nih.gov/ForReviewers/BecomeAReviewer/ECR> for qualifications and application process.

# Qualifications for the Early Career Reviewer Program

## Employment

- You have at least **1 year 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.
- You have submitted a grant application to NIH and received the summary statement.

## Research

- You have evidence of an active, independent research program.
- You have at least 2 senior-authored research publication in a peer-reviewed journal – 1 since doctoral degree, 1 in the last 2 yrs.

Visit <https://public.csr.nih.gov/ForReviewers/BecomeAReviewer/ECR> for qualifications and application process.

# The Application Process...

- It is useful, but not required, to identify study sections (= review panels) that fit your area of expertise.
- The application process is simply a check to see that you meet the published requirements.
- Some of the checks for eligibility are automated and errors do happen. If you think you were rejected in error, please email [CSREarlyCareerReviewer@mail.nih.gov](mailto:CSREarlyCareerReviewer@mail.nih.gov).

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NIH Center for Scientific Review

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Coronavirus Guidance for NIH Applicants and Grantees: [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/natural\\_disasters/corona-virus.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/natural_disasters/corona-virus.htm)

Home > Study Sections

## Regular Standing Study Sections and Continuing SEPs

Filter Results:

Study Section ^	Study Section Description	Scientific Review Officer
ACTS	Arthritis, Connective Tissue and Skin Study Section	Dr. Robert Gersch
ANIE	Acute Neural Injury and Epilepsy Study Section	Dr. Elyse Schauwecker
APDA	Adult Psychopathology and Disorders of Aging Study Section	Dr. Joanna Szczepanik
ARM	Addiction Risks and Mechanisms Study Section	Dr. Kristen Prentice
ASG	Aging Systems and Geriatrics Study Section	Dr. Inese Beitins
AUD	Auditory System Study Section	Dr. Brian Scott
AVI	Atherosclerosis and Vascular Inflammation	Dr. Natalia Komissarova
BACP	Bacterial Pathogenesis Study Section	Dr. Marci Scidmore
BBLV	Basic Biology of Blood, Heart and Vessels	Dr. Arkas Tinton

<https://public.csr.nih.gov/StudySections/StandingStudySections>



# What happens after you apply?

- You'll receive an email letting you know if you've been accepted or not.
- If you've been accepted into the program, your name is entered into a database which SROs can use to identify ECRs. For most study sections, SROs are required to recruit 2 ECRs for each meeting.
- Feel free to call attention to yourself by emailing the SRO – we're happy to hear from you! You can find contact info on the study section page.

## Molecular Neuropharmacology and Signaling Study Section – **MNPS**



**Dr. Vanessa Boyce**  
Scientific Review Officer

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☎ 301-402-3726

The Molecular Neuropharmacology and Signaling (MNPS) Study Section reviews hypothesis-driven and discovery-based applications on neurotransmitter and transduction with a focus on neurochemical, neuroendocrine and molecular neuropharmacological mechanisms.

This includes studies of receptor signaling, ligand-receptor interactions, bias, neuromodulator and hormonal interactions, neurotransmitter uptake and reuptake, neurotransmitter and neuropeptide synthesis, and behavioral neuropharmacology. We employ molecular, cellular, biochemical, pharmacological, electrophysiological, chemogenetic, viral, transgenic, imaging, and behavioral approaches. Emphasis is on fundamental cellular and molecular mechanisms, including those relevant to addiction and mental disorders.

The List of Reviewers lists all present, whether standing members or temporary. Lists are posted 30 days before the meeting, pending any last minute changes.

### Review Dates

- > [List of Reviewers on 06/10/2021](#)
- > [List of Reviewers on 02/25/2021](#)
- > [List of Reviewers on 10/22/2020](#)

<https://public.csr.nih.gov/StudySections/StandingStudySections>

## If you are invited to serve...you will work closely with your scientific review officer (SRO).



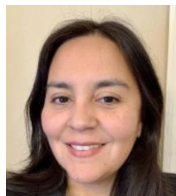
- Your SRO will provide ample training in advance of the review meeting through a pre-meeting training session and will read your critiques in advance and provide feedback.
- Typically, you'll receive review assignments ~ 6 weeks in advance of the review meeting.
- Your SRO will also make sure you know what to expect at the meeting.

## And now to hear from some recent ECRs...



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