## The Basics of Fellowship Peer Review



Center for **Scientific Review** 

(Id)Date mission omission

Funding

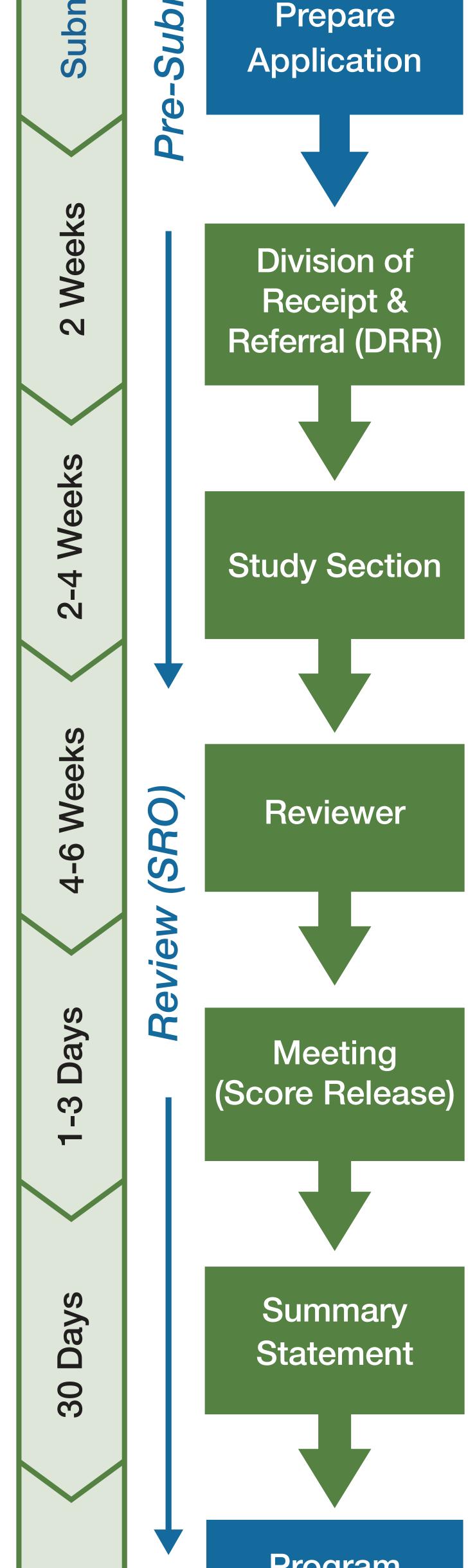
The fellowship should ultimately enhance an applicant's potential for, Announcement and commitment to, an independent, productive scientific research career in a health-related field.

Elements of a Strong Application

**Training Potential** 

Training and **Research Support** • Connection of research and training to career goals

Training consistent with career stage



# Division of Receipt & Referral (DRR) Study Section Reviewer

### **Scored Review Criteria**

- Applicant
- Sponsors and Collaborators
- Research Training Plan
- Training Potential
- Institutional Environment and Commitment

Additional **Review Criteria** (Impact Score) Human Subjects • Vertebrate Animals Biohazards

#### **Additional Review** Considerations

- Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Critical Elements Development and expansion of skill set

• Tailored, relevant training plan (Sponsor)

- Proposed goals & activities supported by proposed training (Applicant)
- Clear advancement towards applicant's research independence / career progression

**Preparation**  Clear Organization Adequate resolution on figures & tables Acceptable font and text size • Minimize and define abbreviations/acronyms • Complete and current references • Proofread!

• Clear expansion of skill set • Expertise available for skill development • Appropriate engagement of sponsor / co-sponsor with clear, documented roles in training, mentoring and funding support • Clear institutional commitment

Competitive **Documentation**  Publications Fellowship • Supportive, detailed Application recommendation letters **Presentation** 

 Responsible Conduct of Research

 Resources and access Compliant biosketches including appropriate academic records • Clear rationale and reasoning Clear presentation of what • Focused, rigorous objectives for

Resubmission

Foreign Organizations

 Select Agents • Resource Sharing Plans

Budget & Period of Support

 Authentication of Key **Biological and Chemical** Resources

Who Do I Talk To?

#### **Before Review:**

- Administrative questions: Scientific Review Officer
- Funding/Relevance questions: Program Officer
- Institute support of fellowships: Check website / Ask PO
- Study section assignment questions: Contact IRG Chief

- Critical role of Sponsor / Co-sponsor
- Targeted, individualized training plan
- Sufficient, clear training potential

#### **CSR Fellowship Review Grant Types**

- F30 Dual-degree fellowship for Institutions with and without NIH Institutional Training (T32) grants
- F31 To promote diversity -Predoctoral Fellowship (underrepresented applicants

 Realistic aims & timelines • Proper use of statistics • Consideration of pitfalls & alternatives Sufficient detail

both research and training

will be learned

#### **NIH Fellowship Resources NIH Fellowship Funding Opportunity** Announcement

https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/ fellowships

#### **NIH Review Guidelines**

https://grants.nih.gov/new-to-nih/informationfor/reviewers

Program Discussion (DO)Revie Council Post

Decision

#### **After Review:** Program Officer

#### How to Identify Study Sections

- Fellowship Study Section Descriptions
- NIH Reporter
- Use the Assignment Request Form for both Study Section and Institute requests

can use the award to pursue a Dual-degree)

F31 (Parent) Predoctoral Fellowship

#### F32 Postdoctoral Fellowship

#### F33 Senior Fellowship

#### **Fairness and Integrity**

The review process requires public trust and the support of the entire research community. Concerns about fairness or bias may be reported to reportbias@csr.nih.gov. Confidentiality is critical for discussion and evaluation, and conflicts of interest are closely monitored.

www.csr.nih.gov

**Fellowship Application Deadlines** April 8 | August 8 | December 8

**AIDS & AIDS Related Fellowship Deadlines** May 7 | September 7 | January 7