

# Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding Related to COVID-19

**Theresa Cruz, Ph.D.**

Acting Director

National Center for Medical Rehabilitation  
Research



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# Disclosures

- No Financial Disclosures
- This is a rapidly evolving situation, so the information provided is current as of April 1, 2020.
- I am not an infectious disease expert, so I will not be addressing the science of COVID-19.



# Learning Objectives:

- NIH Late Application Policy due to COVID-19
- Guidance on Human Subjects Research affected by COVID-19
- Flexibilities Available to Applicants and Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance Affected by COVID-19
- Impact on Peer Review Meetings
- Funding Opportunities Specific to COVID-19





## **General Messages on COVID-19**

April 7, 2020

# Patient Care and Researcher Safety is the First Priority!

- Do not let the lack of prior approvals from NIH prevent you from donating Personal Protective Equipment or other supplies purchased with NIH grant dollars to help patients with COVID-19.
- Many of you are being called to clinical duty when you are being paid with NIH grant dollars. Please continue to do so. Go where you are needed and do the work of caring for patients with COVID-19.
- NIH will work with you later to get projects back on track with administrative funds, flexible timelines and reporting, etc. as much as we are able.
- If you have specific questions, please reach out to your program officers and grants management staff.



## COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation.

Get the latest public health information from CDC: <https://www.coronavirus.gov>

Get the latest research information from NIH: <https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus>

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)



 [Click Here to Subscribe to COVID-19 Updates from NIH](#)





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## Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding

The NIH is deeply concerned for the health and safety of people involved in NIH research, and about the effects on the biomedical enterprise in the areas affected by the HHS declared [public health emergency for COVID-19](#). Due to the potential exceptional impact, we want to assure our recipient community that NIH will be doing our part to help you continue your research.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and we will provide updated guidance and information as it becomes available.





## **NIH Late Application Policy due to COVID-19**

April 7, 2020



# UPDATE: NIH Late Application Policy Due to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

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Notice Number: NOT-OD-20-091

## Key Dates

**Release Date:** March 26, 2020

## Purpose

NIH will be highly accommodating of late applications submitted through May 1, 2020. We anticipate, but cannot guarantee, that all late applications submitted by that date will be reviewed in the council round to which they were submitted (e.g. August or October 2020). As much as NIH would like to extend flexibility further, this rapidly evolving situation also creates multiple challenges for conducting review, and the timeline for getting review outcomes to councils (so that funding can occur) can only be delayed so long. Therefore, applicants should assume that late applications submitted after May 1 may not be reviewed until meetings for the January 2021 council round (e.g., October-November 2020).

NIH understands that the emergency declaration related to novel coronavirus (COVID-19) will adversely affect many NIH applicants' ability to submit applications in a timely manner.

**Therefore, all grant applications submitted late for due dates between March 9, 2020, and May 1, 2020, will be accepted through May 1, 2020.**

This notice applies to all relevant funding opportunity announcements, including those that indicate no late applications will be accepted. Institutions need not request advance permission to submit late due to this declared emergency and a cover letter providing a justification is not required.

April 7, 2020





## **Guidance on Human Subjects Research affected by COVID-19**

April 7, 2020

# Guidance for NIH-funded Clinical Trials and Human Subjects Studies Affected by COVID-19

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Notice Number: NOT-OD-20-087

## Key Dates

**Release Date:** March 16, 2020

- NIH recognizes the significant effects that this emergency is having on NIH-funded clinical trials and other human subjects studies. First and foremost, NIH is concerned about the safety and welfare of human subject participants and research staff. Institutions should take all steps necessary to ensure the safety of all human participants and research staff involved in NIH-funded clinical trials and human subjects studies.
- Flexibilities are offered for:
  - Delays in Research Progress – No Cost Extensions, Mid Project Extensions
    - If your NIH funded work is impacted by COVID-19, please send a statement from your authorizing official to the NIH grants management specialist and program officer stating the nature of the impact and the anticipated timeframe of the delay. The impact and resulting delays should be addressed in the next RPPR.
  - Unanticipated Costs – Rebudgeting, Supplement requests
    - Requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis

April 7, 2020





## **Flexibilities Available to Applicants and Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance Affected by COVID-19**

April 7, 2020

# Flexibilities Available to Applicants and Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance Affected by COVID-19

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Notice Number: NOT-OD-20-086

## Key Dates

**Release Date:** March 12, 2020

- Administrative Flexibilities
  - Pre-award Costs from January 20, 2020 are allowed
  - Extension of Post-Award Financial and Other Reporting – Late financial and RPPRs will be accepted
  - Prior Approval Requirements Waivers for non SNAP (carryover and no cost extensions allowed)
  - Salaries and Stipends may be continued to be paid while work is stopped due to COVID-19 if the institution's policy allows it.
  - Travel, Conference Registration, NIH-Supported Meetings and Conferences – nonrefundable fees for cancelled events may be charged if they would have been allowable.
  - Extension of Closeout – delays may not exceed one year
  - Extension of Single Audit Submissions – delays may not exceed one year

April 7, 2020





## **Impact on Peer Review Meetings**

April 7, 2020

# NIH is Open!

- NIH assures the applicant community that peer review will continue to take place.
- NIH will be flexible about accommodating virtual participation for aspects of peer review that would otherwise require in-person meetings.
- Late applications may not be reviewed in time for the original Council round.
- Thank you to the reviewers and scientific review officers!





## **Funding Opportunities Specific to COVID-19**

April 7, 2020



# Funding for Research on COVID-19 Competitive Revisions (Supplements)

- You cannot re-budget existing grant funds to change scope, including to do research on COVID-19. Prior approval from NIH is required.
- If you would like to change scope of an existing award and require funds, please apply to a competitive revision solicitation. Not all NIH Institutes currently offer these, so please check with your Program Officer.

## Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) regarding the Availability of Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

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Notice Number: NOT-AI-20-030

### Key Dates

**Release Date:** February 6, 2020

**First Available Due Date:** February 6, 2020

**Expiration Date:** April 8, 2020



# Administrative Supplements to grants unrelated to COVID-19 research but affected by the pandemic

- Exercise patience. We need to know the impact on the research first before we can assess what resources will be required - that's on an individual project basis and on an NIH wide basis.
- So please wait until we get on the other side and can assess before making those requests.
- The exception is mission critical, dire need situations and they should be discussed with Program Staff.





## **Trainees and ESI status**

April 7, 2020

# Will extensions be allowed?

- Yes, NIH will make allowances and grant extensions.
- There are specific instructions on the FAQ page to request ESI extensions.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) COVID-19 Flexibilities for Applicants and Recipients

Got Questions? We've Got Answers! The NIH and its individual Institutes/Centers offer an array of Frequently Asked Questions (and Answers) in response to inquiries on policies and programs affecting the grants process. Bookmark this page for future reference and watch for updates.



# Questions: Contact your Program Officers and Grants Management Specialists

[GrantsPolicy@nih.gov](mailto:GrantsPolicy@nih.gov)



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April 7, 2020

