

**ATTACHMENT A.5: PHONE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR EARLY INDEPENDENCE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (VERSIONS A & B)**

**OMB#** 0925-XXXX **EXP. DATE:** XX/XX/XXXX

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Have you changed institutions since you received the Early Independence Award (EIA)?  Yes  No  
*(If respondents answer NO to Question 1, respondent will complete version A of the phone interview  
If respondents answer YES to Question 1, respondent will complete version B of the phone interview)*

**Version A - EIA Principal Investigators who have NOT changed institutions.**

2. What was your position before receiving the Early Independence Award? (e.g., tenure track faculty, non-tenure track research fellow, post-doctoral fellow, doctorate student, etc.)
3. What is your current position at your host institution? (e.g., tenure track faculty, non-tenure track research fellow, etc.)?
4. What are your current roles and responsibilities as an Early Independence Principal Investigator (PI) at your host institution?
5. During the past fiscal year, what scientific collaborative activities have you participated in? (Please check all that apply)
- Laboratory meetings of other PIs
  - Institutional scientific retreats
  - One-on-one meetings with collaborators within the institution
  - One-on-one meetings with collaborators outside the institution
  - Faculty/Division/Department/ Seminar series
  - Formal introductions to the scientific community at the institution
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
6. During the past fiscal year, have you negotiated changes with your host institution regarding the type and level of support agreed to after receiving the Early Independence Award (EIA)? (Examples of type of support include laboratory space, administrative support, start-up funds, career development resources, etc.)
- Yes. After receiving the EIA grant, I negotiated changes with my host institution regarding the type and level of support offered  
What type of resources and level of support have you negotiated to change with your host institution? \_\_\_\_\_
  - No. After receiving the EIA grant, I **DID NOT** negotiate changes with my host institution regarding the type and level of support offered
7. During the past fiscal year, what steps has your host institution taken to integrate you and your NIH EIA scientific project into the institutional scientific culture and the faculty community?
8. Early Independence Principal Investigators are expected to devote most or all of their time to conducting independent research. During the past fiscal year, what steps have you taken to protect your scientific independence?
9. During the past fiscal year, what steps has your host institution taken to maintain your scientific independence?
10. How satisfied are you with your host institution's efforts to maintain your scientific independence?
- Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied
- Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_

11. During the past fiscal year, which of the following challenges or barriers have you encountered as EIA PI? (Please check all that apply)
- None
  - Administrative (e.g., lack of support staff, inadequate ordering systems, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Operations (e.g., difficulty setting up the laboratory, obtaining needed equipment, accessing research resources, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Recruitment (e.g., difficulty recruiting or hiring staff to work in the laboratory and/or on the project, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Career Development (e.g., lack of opportunities to attend training, conferences, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Collaboration within the institution (e.g., unable to establish collaborations with senior scientists within the institution, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Collaboration outside the institution (e.g., unable to access senior scientists outside the institution, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Teaching (e.g., heavy teaching load, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Scientific Independence (e.g., limited time to engage in research project, unproductive interactions with faculty regarding research project, expectation that you work under senior faculty, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Institution Leadership (e.g., lack of access to leadership within the institution, division, or department, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Funding (e.g., unable to identify and apply for other sources of funding, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Integration into Institution Structures  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Advisory structure within the division or department (e.g., lack of access to senior colleagues, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Management (e.g., challenges overseeing the budget, overseeing staff, etc.)  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how \_\_\_\_\_
12. How satisfied are you with your host institution's responses to the challenges discussed in Question 12?
- Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  Not Applicable
- Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
13. During the past fiscal year, has your institution formally evaluated you and the progress made in your NIH EIA research project?
- Yes  
Describe the evaluation process, the issues discussed, and who performed the evaluation \_\_\_\_\_
- No  
Will you be formally evaluated in the future? If so, when and what process will be used to conduct your evaluation?  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. During the past fiscal year, what type and level of support have you received from leadership at your host institution? (e.g., Department Chair, Division Head, Dean, etc.)
15. How satisfied are you with the support that you received from the leadership at your host institution during the past fiscal year? (e.g., Department Chair, Division Head, Dean, etc.)
- Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied
- Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
16. Please describe the advisory structure that is in place for the EIA PI at your host institution. Please include in your response the number of faculty assigned as advisor(s), their roles, and whether they are from within or outside the institution

17. During the past fiscal year, how often have you met with your advisor(s) and what issues were discussed during the meeting?
18. During the past fiscal year, how satisfied are you with the faculty in their advisory role?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  Not Applicable  
 Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
19. During the past fiscal year, what type and level of support have you received from senior colleagues (excluding advisors) at your host institution?
20. How satisfied are you with the support that you received from senior colleagues (excluding advisors) during the past fiscal year?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  
 Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
21. During the past fiscal year, what administrative and/or support resources were provided to you? (e.g., human resources, supply and equipment ordering systems, administrative assistance, budget manager, etc.)
22. How satisfied are you with the administrative and/or support resources that were provided to you during the past fiscal year?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  
 Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
23. During the past fiscal year, what career development resources were provided to you, and which ones did you use? (e.g., courses in laboratory management, grant writing, staff supervision, etc.)
24. How satisfied are you with the career development resources that you used during the past fiscal year?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  
 Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
25. During the past fiscal year, did you teach a course?  
 Yes  
 Please describe the type of courses taught and your teaching load \_\_\_\_\_  
 No
26. Overall, how do you feel the level of commitment from your host institution compares to what it was when you first received the EIA grant?  
 Increased  Stayed the same  Decreased
27. During the past fiscal year, which of the following sources of funding have you applied for? Please check all that apply.  
 I have NOT applied for additional sources of funding during the past year  
 NIH  
 What is the status of this funding request?  
 Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received  
 Please list the name of the Institute or Office of the Director, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Government Agencies (excluding NIH)  
 What is the status of this funding request?  
 Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received  
 Please list the name of the organization, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Institutional Resources  
 What is the status of this funding request?  
 Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received  
 Please list the name of the organization, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Private (e.g., foundations, industry, etc.)  
 What is the status of this funding request?  
 Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received  
 Please list the name of the organization, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_

- Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 What is the status of this funding request?  
 Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received

28. Which of the following have occurred during the past fiscal year? Please check all that apply.

- I am applying for tenure  
 I filed a patent application or have been granted a patent  
 I expanded my research group (e.g., added staff)  
 I formed new partnerships/collaborations  
 Please describe the partnerships/collaborations \_\_\_\_\_  
 I received an award(s)  
 What award(s) did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_  
 I was promoted  
 What promotion did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_  
 I published an original, peer-reviewed article  
 Are you the senior or corresponding author? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_  
 I published a book or other non-periodical, one time publication (e.g., monograph, any significant publication in the proceedings of a one-time conference or in the report of a one-time study, commission, or the like).  
 Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_  
 I produced other publications such as conference papers and presentations  
 Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_  
 I have expanded my research focus  
 Please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
 I changed my research focus  
 Please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
 My work has been featured in the popular press and/or media  
 In what popular press and/or media has your work been featured? Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_  
 I served as a grant reviewer  
 Please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

29. What products resulted from your scientific project during the past fiscal year? Please check all that apply.

- I do not have any products to report  
 Website(s) or other Internet site(s)  
 Please provide URL for the website or other internet sites that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution \_\_\_\_\_  
 Technologies or techniques  
 Please list all your technologies or techniques that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution \_\_\_\_\_  
 Inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses  
 Please list all your inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other products  
 Please check the products that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution  
 Databases  
 Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Physical collections  
 Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Audio or video products  
 Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Software or NetWare  
 Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Models  
 Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Educational aids or curricula  
 Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Instruments or equipment

- Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Data & Research Material (e.g., cell lines, DNA probes, animal models, etc.)
- Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Other. Please specify and indicate the percent attribution to EIA funding: \_\_\_\_\_

30. What additional support would be useful from the NIH during your time as an awardee?

31. Please feel free to share any other thoughts you might have related to the EIA program.

THANK YOU!

**Version B - EIA Principal Investigators who have changed institutions.**

2. When did you change host institutions? (month/date/year) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What was your position before receiving the Early Independence Award? (e.g., tenure track faculty, non-tenure track research fellow, post-doctoral student, doctorate student, etc.)
4. What was your position at your old host institution (e.g., tenure track faculty, non-tenure track research fellow, etc.)?
5. What is your current position at your new host institution (e.g., tenure track faculty, non-tenure track research fellow, etc.)?
6. What were the reasons for changing institutions?
7. Were there challenges associated with changing institutions? If so, what were they and how were they addressed?

**PLEASE NOTE QUESTIONS 8-30 APPLY TO YOUR NEW INSTITUTION**

8. What are your roles and responsibilities as an Early Independence Principal Investigator (PI) at your new host institution?
9. During the past fiscal year, what scientific collaborative activities have you participated in?
  - Laboratory meetings of other PIs
  - Institutional scientific retreats
  - One-on-one meetings with collaborators within the institution
  - One-on-one meetings with collaborators outside the institution
  - Faculty/Division/Department/ Seminar series
  - Formal introductions to the scientific community at the institution
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
10. During the past fiscal year, have you negotiated changes with your host institution regarding the type and level of support agreed to after receiving the Early Independence Award (EIA)? (Examples of type of support include laboratory space, administrative support, start-up funds, career development resources, etc.)
  - Yes. After receiving the EIA grant, I negotiated changes with my host institution regarding the type and level of support offered  
What type of resources and level of support have you negotiated to change with your host institution? \_\_\_\_\_
  - No. After receiving the EIA grant, I **DID NOT** negotiate with my host institution regarding changes in the type and level of support offered
11. During the past fiscal year, what steps has your host institution taken to integrate you and your NIH EIA scientific project into the institutional scientific culture and the faculty community?
12. Early Independence Principal Investigators are expected to devote most or all of their time to conducting independent research. During the past fiscal year, what steps have you taken to protect your scientific independence?
13. During the past fiscal year, what steps has your host institution taken to maintain your scientific independence?

14. How satisfied are you with your host institution's efforts to maintain your scientific independence?

Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied

Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_

15. During the past fiscal year, which of the following challenges or barriers have you encountered as EIA PI? (Please check all that apply)

None

Administrative (e.g., lack of support staff, inadequate ordering systems, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Operations (e.g., difficulty setting up the laboratory, obtaining needed equipment, accessing research resources, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Recruitment (e.g., difficulty recruiting or hiring staff to work in the laboratory and/or on the project, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Career Development (e.g., lack of opportunities to attend training, conferences, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Collaboration within the institution (e.g., unable to establish collaborations with senior scientists within the institution, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Collaboration outside the institution (e.g., unable to access senior scientists outside the institution, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Teaching (e.g., heavy teaching load, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Scientific Independence (e.g., limited time to engage in research project, unproductive interactions with faculty regarding research project, expectation that you work under senior faculty, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Institution Leadership (e.g., lack of access to leadership within the institution, division, or department, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Funding (e.g., unable to identify and apply for other sources of funding, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Integration into Institution Structures

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Advisory structure within the division or department (e.g., lack of access to senior colleagues, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Management (e.g., challenges overseeing the budget, overseeing staff, etc.)

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the challenges, if they were addressed, and how.

16. How satisfied were you with your host institution's responses to the challenges discussed in Question 16?

Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  Not Applicable

Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_

17. During the past fiscal year, has your institution formally evaluated you and the progress made in your NIH EIA research project?

Yes

Describe the evaluation process, the issues discussed, and who performed the evaluation \_\_\_\_\_

No

Will you be formally evaluated in the future? If so, when and what process will be used to conduct your evaluation?  
\_\_\_\_\_

18. During the past fiscal year, what type and level of support have you received from leadership at your host institution? (e.g., Department Chair, Division Head, Dean, etc.)

19. How satisfied are you with the support that you received from leadership at your host institution during the past fiscal year? (e.g., Department Chair, Division Head, Dean, etc.)

Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied

Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_

20. Please describe the advisory structure that is in place for the EIA PI at your host institution. Please include in your response the number of faculty assigned as advisor(s), their roles, and whether they are from within or outside the institution.
21. During the past fiscal year, how often have you met with your advisor(s) and what issues were discussed during the meeting?
22. During the past fiscal year, how satisfied are with the faculty in their advisory role?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  Not Applicable  
Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
23. During the past fiscal year, what type and level of support have you received from senior colleagues (excluding advisors) at your host institution?
24. How satisfied are you with the support that you received from senior colleagues (excluding advisors) during the past fiscal year?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  
Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
25. During the past fiscal year, what administrative and/or support resources were provided to you? (e.g., human resources, supply and equipment ordering systems, administrative assistance, budget manager, etc.)
26. How satisfied are you with the administrative and/or support resources that were provided to you during the past fiscal year?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  
Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
27. During the past fiscal year, what career development resources were provided to you and which ones did you use? (e.g., courses in laboratory management, grant writing, staff supervision, etc.)
28. How satisfied are you with the career development resources that you used during the past fiscal year?  
 Very Satisfied  Satisfied  Dissatisfied  Very Dissatisfied  
Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_
29. During the past fiscal year, did you teach a course?  
 Yes  
Please describe the type of courses taught and your teaching load \_\_\_\_\_  
 No
30. Overall, how do you feel the level of commitment from your host institution compares to what it was when you first received the EIA grant?  
 Increased  Stayed the same  Decreased

**PLEASE NOTE QUESTIONS 31 THROUGH 33 APPLY TO THE TIME AT BOTH YOUR OLD AND NEW INSTITUTIONS**

31. During the past fiscal year, which of the following sources of funding have you applied for? Please check all that apply.  
 I have NOT applied for additional sources of funding during the past year  
 NIH  
What is the status of this funding request?  
 Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received  
Please list the name of the Institute or Office of the Director, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Government Agencies (excluding NIH)  
What is the status of this funding request?  
 Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received  
Please list the name of the organization, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional Resources

What is the status of this funding request?

Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received

Please list the name of the organization, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_

Private (e.g., foundations, industry, etc.)

What is the status of this funding request?

Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received

Please list the name of the organization, the name of the program, the amount, and the period of funding \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the status of this funding request?

Applied, but did not receive funding  Applied, awaiting notification  Funding received

32. Which of the following have occurred during the past fiscal year? Please check all that apply.

I am applying for tenure

I filed a patent application or have been granted a patent

I expanded my research group (e.g., added staff)

I formed new partnerships/collaborations

Please describe the partnership/collaboration \_\_\_\_\_

I received an award(s)

What award(s) did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_

I was promoted

What promotion did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_

I published an original, peer-reviewed article

Are you the senior or corresponding author? \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_

I published a book or other non-periodical, one time publication (e.g., monograph, any significant publication in the proceedings of a one-time conference or in the report of a one-time study, commission, or the like).

Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_

I produced other publications such as conference papers and presentations

Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_

I have expanded my research focus

Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

I changed my research focus

Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

My work has been featured in the popular press and/or media

In what popular press and/or media has your work been featured? Please provide the URL or citation \_\_\_\_\_

I served as a grant reviewer

Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

33. What products resulted from your scientific project during the past fiscal year? Please check all that apply.

I do not have any products to report

Website(s) or other Internet site(s)

Please provide URL for the website or other internet sites that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution \_\_\_\_\_

Technologies or techniques

Please list all your technologies or techniques that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution \_\_\_\_\_

Inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses

Please list all your inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution \_\_\_\_\_

Other products

Please check the products that you can attribute to EIA funding and the percent attribution

Databases

Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_

Physical collections

Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_

Audio or video products



- Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Software or NetWare  
Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Models  
Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Educational aids or curricula  
Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Instruments or equipment  
Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Data & Research Material (e.g., cell lines, DNA probes, animal models, etc.)  
Percent attribution to EIA funding \_\_\_\_\_
- Other. Please specify and indicate the percent attribution to EIA funding: \_\_\_\_\_

34. What additional support would be useful from the NIH during your time as an awardee?

35. Please feel free to share any other thoughts you might have related to the EIA program.

THANK YOU!