



NIH Director's
Early Independence Awards
 Paper-and-Pencil Survey for Principal Investigators

ATTACHMENT A.4 - PAPER SURVEY FOR EARLY INDEPENDENCE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR
 OMB# 0925-XXXX EXP. DATE: XX/XX/XXXX

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Name: _____ Institution: _____ Date: _____

1. What was your contribution to the development of the “Facilities and Other Resources” section of the application for the Early Independence Award (EIA)? (Note: This section focused on the institutional commitment and support of the host institution). Please check all that apply.

- Writing Reading Reviewing Did not contribute Other (please specify): _____

2. What sort of negotiations did you undergo with your host institution when preparing the EIA application and after receiving the Early Independence Award?

A. **Before** EIA (Please check all that apply)

- Type of position (e.g., tenure vs. non-tenure, promotion, etc.)
 Roles and responsibilities
 Laboratory resources (e.g., physical structure, space layout, availability of support staff, etc.)
 Level of administrative and other support resources
 Opportunities to collaborate with colleagues
 Career development courses (e.g., management, grant writing, etc.)
 Scientific independence
 Startup Funds
 Other: _____

B. **After** Receiving EIA (Please check all that apply)

- NO negotiations or refinements to agreements took place after receiving the award
 Type of position (e.g., tenure vs. non-tenure, promotion, etc.)
 Roles and responsibilities
 Laboratory resources (e.g., physical structure, space layout, availability of support staff, etc.)
 Level of administrative and other support resources
 Opportunities to collaborate with colleagues
 Career development courses (e.g., management, grant writing, etc.)
 Scientific independence
 Startup Funds
 Other: _____

3. If there were refinements to agreements after receiving the Early Independence Award, please discuss the refinements.

4. Do you feel your host institution has been clear in providing you with the roles and responsibilities for the EIA position?
 Not at all clear Slightly clear Moderately clear Very clear Completely clear

5. What is your current position at your host institution (e.g., tenure-track faculty, non-tenured researcher, other)?

6. Please rate the likelihood of your current position changing under the Early Independence Award.
 Not at all likely Slightly likely Moderately likely Very likely Completely likely

7. Under what conditions do you think your host institution would change your current position (e.g., non-tenure track to tenure track)?



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8. Have you changed institutions since you received the Early Independence Award? Yes No.

9. If **YES to Question 8**, please explain the reason.

10. Please rate the institution's commitment to your success based on your perceptions so far.

Not at all committed Slightly committed Moderately committed Very committed Completely committed

11. What challenges do you think you will encounter at your host institution as an EIA Principal Investigator?

12. How do you define scientific independence? Please address in your response: (1) what steps you will take to protect your scientific independence, (2) how you plan to balance colleague support and scientific independence; and (3) what expectations you have for your host institution to maintain your scientific independence.

13. How will your host institution formally evaluate your performance and progress made on the EIA scientific project?

14. In which of the following scientific collaborative activities do you expect to participate?

Laboratory meetings of other PIs Participation in Institutional scientific retreats Other (please specify): _____

15. What type and level of support do you expect from (a) leadership, (b) senior colleagues, (c) advisors?

16. Is there a formal plan to meet with advisors to discuss challenges and progress? Yes No

17. If **YES to Question 16**, please explain the plan.

18. What administrative and/or support resources did you request from your institution and which do you anticipate being provided? (e.g., human resources, supply and equipment ordering systems, administrative assistance, etc.)



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19. What career development resources did you request from your institution and which do you anticipate to receive? (e.g., courses in laboratory management and grant writing, etc.)

20. Will you engage in any teaching? Yes No If **YES to Question 20**, describe anticipated teaching duties.

21. How would you classify your research? *Please check all that apply.*

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioral and Social Sciences | <input type="checkbox"/> Neuroscience | <input type="checkbox"/> Molecular Biology and Cellular Biology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical and Translational Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Pathogenesis | <input type="checkbox"/> Quantitative and Computational Biology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instrumentation and Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Immunology | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physiology and Integrative Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical Biology | _____ |

22. Describe how your EIA proposed idea came about and estimate how long you have had it.

23. Please indicate which of the following examples (if any) are true of your proposed EIA project. *Please check all that apply.*

- One or more of the fundamental ideas underlying my proposed research is at odds with prevailing wisdom.
- My proposed research requires use of equipment or techniques that have not been proven or are extraordinarily difficult.
- My proposed research goes in a new direction that is distinct from what was done during graduate studentship.
- My research involves a novel combination of disciplines or an unprecedented scientific perspective.
- None of these statements are true of my proposed research.

24. Please indicate which of the following statements (if any) are true for the potential outcomes of your proposed EIA project.

Please check all that apply.

- My proposed research could result in the formulation of a novel idea (or set of ideas) that could instigate a new cognitive frame or advance theories to a new level of sophistication.
- My proposed research could result in the discovery of new empirical phenomena that could stimulate the generation of new principles.
- My proposed research could result in the invention of novel instruments that could instigate new search perspectives and research domains.
- My proposed research could result in new integration of formerly disparate ideas into general principles enabling analyses of diverse phenomena within a common cognitive frame.
- None of these statements indicate a potential result of my proposed research.

25. How do you plan on transitioning from this award to other sources of funding to maintain your independence?