Attachment 3: Early Career Reviewer (ECR) website –
https://public.csr.nih.gov/ForReviewers/BecomeAReviewer/ECR

Early Career Reviewer (ECR) Program

The program aims to help early career scientists become more competitive as grant applicants through first-hand experience with peer review and to enrich CSR's pool of trained reviewers in terms of experience and other merit-based factors.

Benefits of ECR | Qualifications for ECR | Enroll in the ECR Program | ECR Training | ECR Webinars

Benefits of ECR



1. Work side-by-side with some of the most accomplished researchers in your field to help NIH identify the most promising grant applications
2. Learn how reviewers determine overall impact scores
3. Improve your own grant writing skills by getting an insider's view of how grant applications are evaluated
4. Serve the scientific community by participating in NIH peer review
5. Develop research-evaluation and critique-writing skills

Learn more – view a webinar with recent ECRs

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.

Because the program is focused on early career scientists with a doctorate, you must be:

- an Assistant Professor or in an equivalent role, or
- an Associate Professor with NIH Early Stage Investigator (ESI) status.

Learn more about ESI status.

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.

- In press publications are considered; preprints are not.
- We consider "senior author" as single author, corresponding author, or first or last author.
- There is no requirement that the recent publication cover work performed at the current institution.

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.

Enroll in the ECR Program

How it Works

The demand to serve as an ECR far exceeds what we can meet. You may serve as an ECR only once.

After you are accepted in the program, to increase your chances of reviewing, we encourage you to directly contact the Scientific Review Officers (SROs) who run study sections in your field. The SROs are listed on the study section pages. They welcome your email!

Acceptance into the program means that your name is added to a database that SROs use to find eligible reviewers in particular areas of science.

You Will Need

- Full and up-to-date CV (Word or PDF format). Do not submit an NIH biosketch.
- List of terms that describe your areas of scientific expertise. These should be key words or phrases that describe your scientific and technical skills and interests.
- NIH Commons ID (case sensitive).
- Select up to 4 CSR study sections that match your expertise. **Adding this information increases the likelihood that you will be asked to review.**
- If you have questions, contact us at CSRearlyCareerReviewer@mail.nih.gov.

Use the ECR Application and Vetting System (EAVS) to enroll and update your information.

You must confirm your information yearly or it will be removed from the database.

Once accepted, you will remain in the program until you no longer meet the criteria above.

The system will email you on your anniversary date to update or confirm your qualifications.

Enroll in the ECR Program

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 25 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN: PRA (0925). Do not return the completed form to this address. The information provided in your online application will be kept private to the extent allowed by law and not disclosed to anyone but the staff of CSR that process the application except as otherwise required by law. The Public Health and Welfare Act provides the legislative authority for the Early Career Reviewer Program, including the online application, under U.S.C. Title 42. Your online application to the ECR program is strictly voluntary and there are no consequences for choosing not to participate. You may choose to email your CV, areas of expertise, and study section selections to the CSRearlyCareerReviewer@mail.nih.gov.

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Training Resources for Early Career Scientists

Training Resources National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Extramural Training Mechanisms
Careers
K Kiosk - Information about NIH Career Development Awards
National Cancer Institute (NCI)
Training opportunities and funding for cancer training and career development at universities and institutions nationwide
Intramural Training Programs for Students and Researchers available at NCI campuses in Maryland
Funding and training opportunities, researcher and student resources, related to CRCHD's disparities research training program
National Eye Institute (NEI)
Training, Careers and Jobs for Postdoctoral and Clinical Fellows, NEI Summer Intern Program
National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
Training and Careers
National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)
Education, training, professional development and career opportunities at NHGRI
Training and Career Development
National Institute on Aging (NIA)
Research Training and Career Award Support
National Advisory Allergy and Infectious Diseases Council (NIAID)
Training and Career
National Institutes of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)
Scientific Careers and Training Opportunities
National Institutes of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)
Training and Careers
National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
Training, Education, & Career Development

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Peer Review Webinars & Videos

CSR has produced a series of webinars and videos to give you an inside look at how scientists from across the country review NIH grant applications for scientific and technical merit.

Webinars

Early Career Reviewer (ECR) Panel Q & A

Monday - May 24, 2021
Meet the Panelists
View the Recording
Slides
Questions Submitted & Answers



Grants 101 & Early Career Reviewer Program

April 14, 2021
Recording
Slides
Q & A Portion

Videos



What Happens to Your NIH Grant Application



Top 10 NIH Peer Review Q&As for Applicants



CSR's Early Career Reviewer Program

MP4 Downloads and Transcripts

What Happens to Your NIH Grant Application	Transcript	MP4 Download
Top 10 NIH Peer Review Q&As for Applicants	Transcript	MP4 Download
CSR's Early Career Reviewer Program	Transcript	MP4 Download

Learn More

NIH Peer Review Process

- Extramural Research: Peer review policy and issues
- CSR Applicant Resources
- How Scientists Are Selected For Study Section Service

The NIH Grants Program

- NIH Office of Extramural Research
- How the NIH grants process works
- Instructions for filling out the SF424 (R&R) grant application
- NIH Web site with tips for writing grant applications

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