February 23, 2024

ASIA ECRC Webinar Series: Meet the Funders!

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NIH/NINDS

National Institute of
Neurological Disorders
and Stroke

The National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH's mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability.
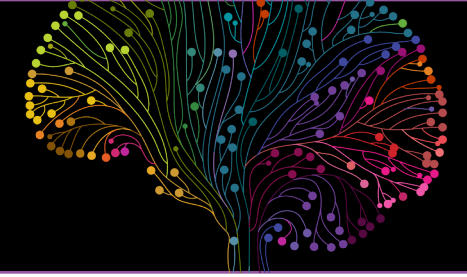
There are **27** different Institutes and Centers (ICs) at the NIH, **24** of which award grants.

Each one has:
- Different missions
- Different funding priorities
- Different budgets
- Different types of grants they support
- A unique portfolio of research performed by Federal scientists on the Bethesda campus
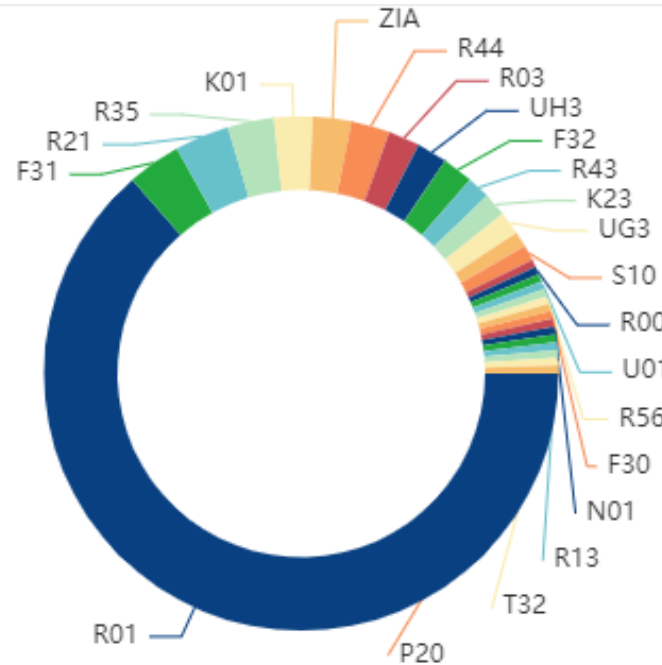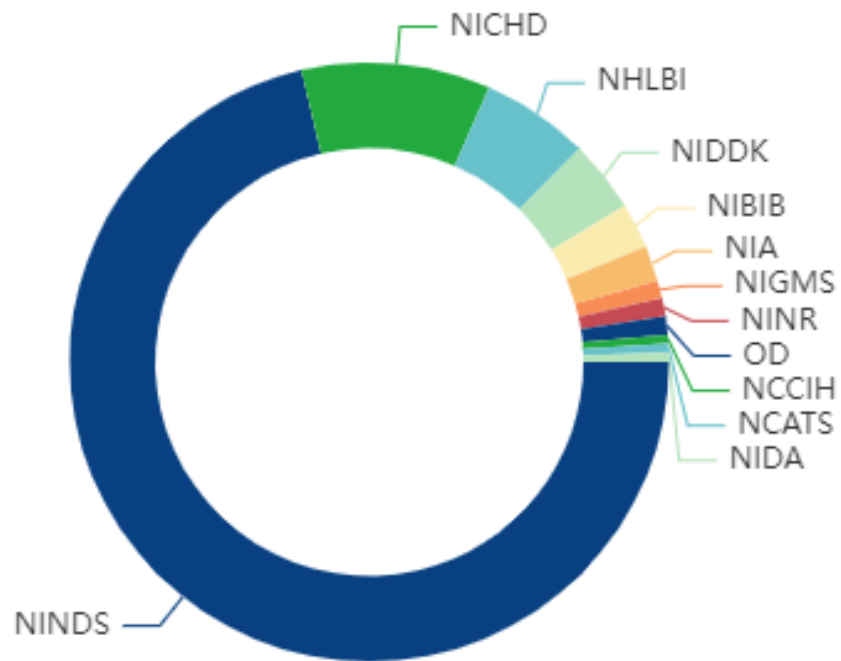
A rainbow view of NIH funding for SCI Research

NINDS leads the NIH effort in support for SCI Research

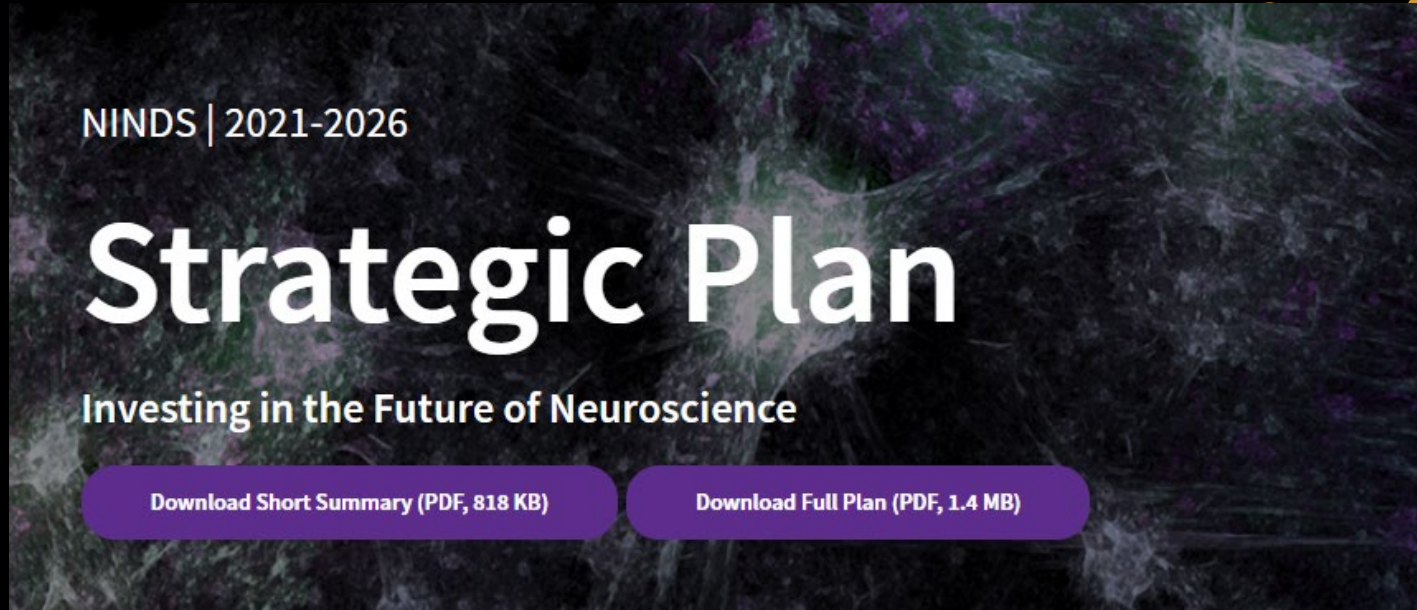- 206 Total Awards

- $98.5 M Total Spending in FY 2022
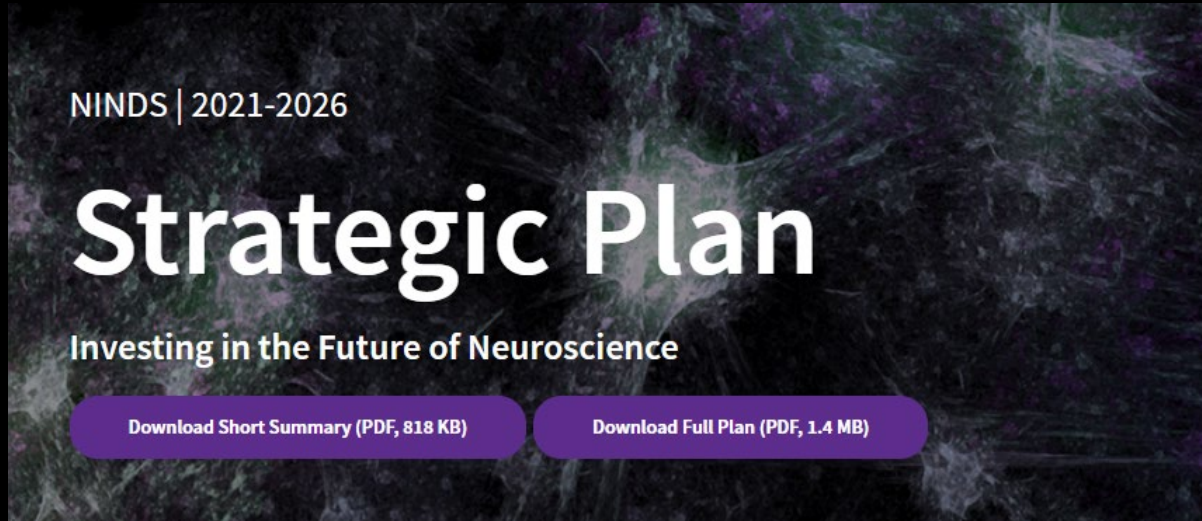

Source: NIH Report-- FY 2022, Spinal Cord Injury

https://report.nih.gov/

NINDS Funding Opportunities

Driven by the NINDS Strategic Plan

NINDS | 2021-2026

Strategic Plan
Investing in the Future of Neuroscience

Download Short Summary (PDF, 818 KB)   Download Full Plan (PDF, 1.4 MB)

Overarching Goals and priorities:

- Understanding the nervous system
- Identifying mechanisms of neurol disorders
- Improving treatments and therapies
  - Biomarkers and Outcome Measures
  - Personalized therapeutics
  - Targeting disease processes
  - Improving testing and clinical trials
- Preventing neurological disorders
- Advancing health equity

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NINDS Funding Opportunites

NINDS | 2021-2026

Strategic Plan

Investing in the Future of Neuroscience

Download Short Summary (PDF, 818 KB)   Download Full Plan (PDF, 1.4 MB)

Cross-cutting Strategies

- Rigor and Transparency
- Investigator-initiated Research
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Team Science
- Data Sharing and Data Science
- Neuroethics
- Patient Engagement
- Technology Access
- Models for Neuroscience Research
- Collaboration and Partnerships
- NINDS Intramural Research Program

*Focus of the bulk of NINDS funding is on **Investigator Initiated Research,** with Targeted Opportunities.*

*Except for congressional mandates or other specified funding streams, most of our research opportunities are **disease agnostic***

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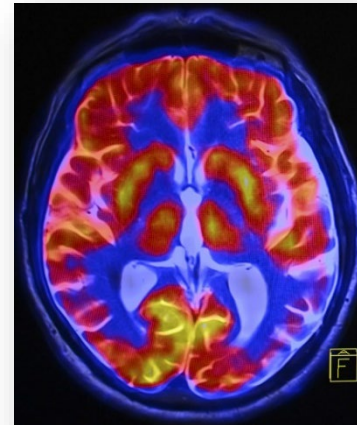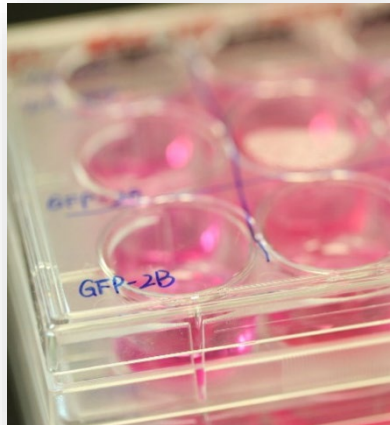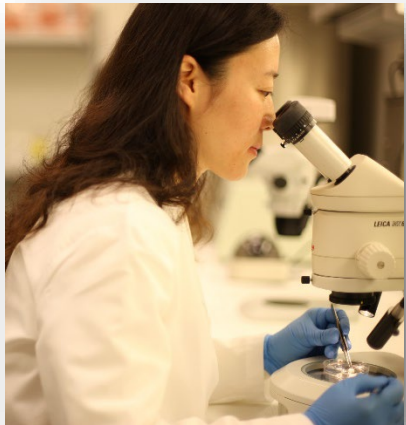
Basic
Fundamental Neuroscience
Disease-Focused Research

Translational
Pipeline through to
FDA IND/IDE

Clinical
Phase I, II, III Trials
FDA Review

Division of Neuroscience

Division of Translational Research

Division of Clinical Research

Division of Extramural Activities (includes Diversity and Training programs)

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Most funded basic and disease related research projects are supported by general funding opportunities

Research Project Grants

There are several mechanisms that could be used to support individual or small teams of investigators seeking to support investigator-initiated research projects via "Parent" Funding Opportunities (NOFO). The most appropriate mechanism depends on many factors including the scope, breadth, career stage, institution, and other factors. Learn how to identify the best mechanism for your research project grant.
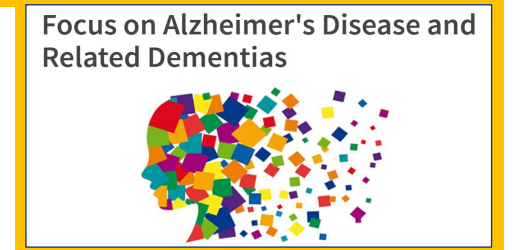
Research Project Grants (RPGs)

- **R01 * (with extended ESI payline)**
- R21
- R03
- R15

Special Opportunities

- **R35** NINDS Research Program Award
- **RM1** COMBINE Team Science Award
- **SBIR/STTR** Small Business Opportunities

Congressional Programs (With Separate Funds)

BRAIN RESEARCH THROUGH ADVANCING INNOVATIVE NEUROTECHNOLOGIES
BRAIN INITIATIVE

HEAL — NIH · Helping to End Addiction Long-term

Focus on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

Research Project Grants | National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (nih.gov)

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Translational Research is also supported by targeted funding opportunities

Translational Research

The mission of the NINDS Division of Translational Research (DTR) is to accelerate basic research findings towards patient use for neurological disorders and stroke by providing funding, expertise, and resources to the research community.

Congressional Programs (With Separate Funds)

Focus on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

Targeted translational programs (Phased and Milestone Driven)

- Biomarker Development and Validation
- (Early) Innovation Grants to Nurture Initial Translational Efforts (IGNITE) Program
- Advanced Therapeutic Development
  - ➤ Small Molecules (BPN Therapeutics)
  - ➤ Biologics (BPN Biologics)
  - ➤ Devices (Translational Devices, BluePrint MedTech
- Gene Therapy (UrGENT, Partnerships with FNIH, NIH Common Fund and others)

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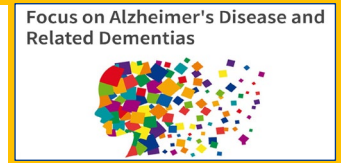
Clinical Research and Clinical Trials include Network and Non-Network opportunities

NINDS Networks

Clinical Research

The mission of the NINDS Division of Clinical Research is to provide oversight for clinical trials to test the safety and efficacy of innovative treatments of neurological disorders and stroke, epidemiological studies of natural history, biomarker studies, and studies designed to elucidate the causes of neurological disorders. DCR also develops new clinical science initiatives, ensures the proper level of patient safety monitoring, maintains the scientific integrity of clinical trials, and provides expertise in statistics and clinical trial design to the Institute and to clinical investigators.

Clinical Trial Funding Opportunities
- Clinical Trial Readiness for Rare Neurological Disorders
- Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER)
- Exploratory Clinical Trials (Phase 0, 1, 2 and Device Feasibility)
- Efficacy Clinical Trials (Phase III and Pivotal)

Clinical Networks
- Early Phase Pain Investigation Clinical Network (EPPIC-Net)
- Stroke Trials Network (NIH StrokeNet)
- NeuroNEXT Early phase clinical trials and biomarker studies
- SIREN (Strategies to Innovate EmeRgENcy Care Clinical Trials Network)

NINDS Office of Global Health and Health Disparities

Legend:
- C-Clinician-scientist
- G-General
- D-Diversity
- I-Institutional

*Eligibility measured from date joined lab

Programs shown across career stages (High School Student → Undergraduate Student → Graduate/Medical Student → Postdoc → New Faculty):

- F30[C]
- K08/K23[C]
- K02[C]
- BRAIN F32[G]
- Postdoc K01[G]
- F31[G]
- NINDS F32*[G]
- K99/R00[G]
- Loan Repayment Program[G]
- Re-Entry Supplements[G]
- BRAIN, MOSAIC, ADRD K99/R00s[D]
- F31[D]
- BP F99/K00[D]
- Faculty K01[D]
- Diversity Research Supplements (AD/ADRD, BRAIN, SBIR/STTR, HEAL)[D]
- Residents & Fellows R25[C,I]
- NINDS K12s[C,I]
- JSPTPN T32s[G,I]
- NINDS T32[G,I]
- Summer Research R25[G,I]
- General R25[G,I]
- BP-ENDURE R25 [D,I]
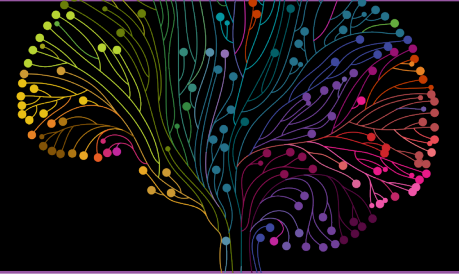- Advancing Diversity R25 Programs[D,I]

R01
R15

Diversity R01 for New and "At-Risk" Investigators PAR-22-181

Research Supplements to Promote Diversity

Administrative supplements to active NIH research grants (R, P, U) to support the training of underrepresented individuals and enhance the diversity of the research workforce.

- NIH Parent FOA (PA-21-071)

- Alzheimer's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias (NOT-NS-21-047)

- HEAL (NOT-NS-20-023)

- BRAIN Initiative (NOT-MH-19-038)

For Research and Development Small Businesses

Administrative supplements to active NIH SBIR/STTR grants to enhance the diversity of the research workforce and increase the participation of women and socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in small businesses (PA-18-837)

Three Top Tips for Successful Applications

#1 Start planning early:

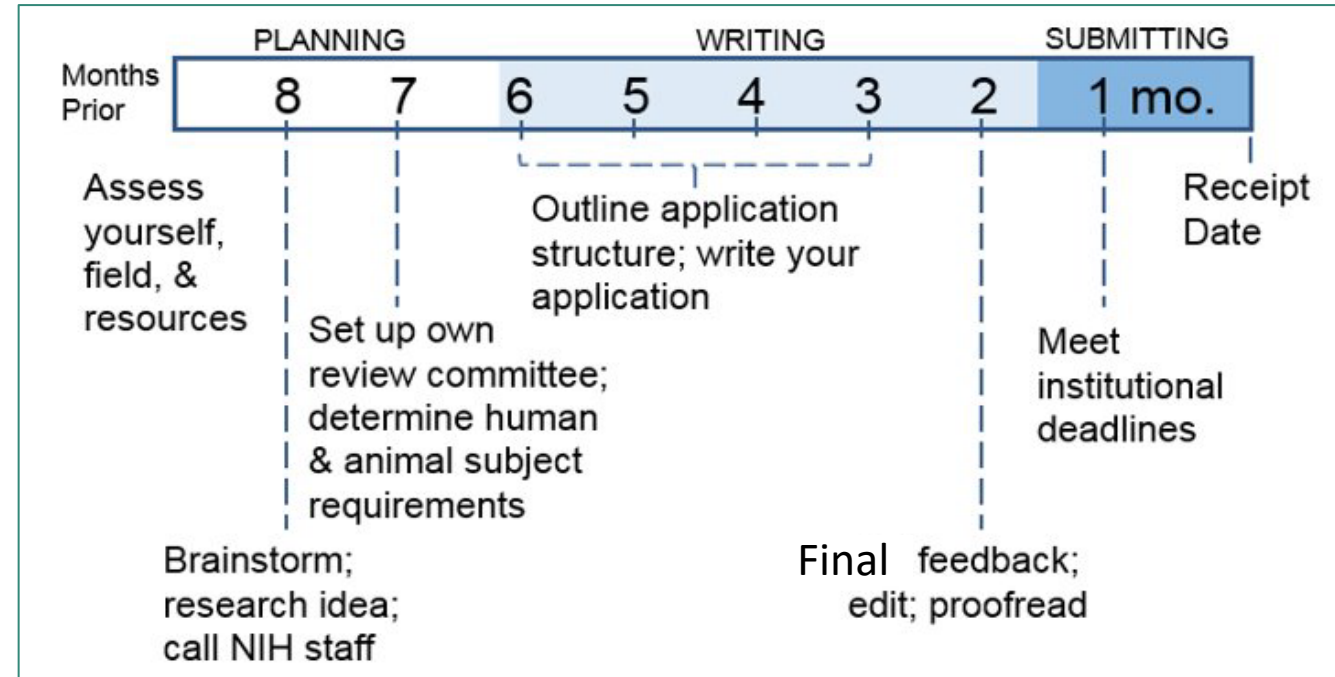From "Plan" to "Apply" takes longer than you think!

NIH matchmaker can help you find program officials, ICs, and review panels:

reporter.nih.gov/matchmaker

Resources: ninds.nih.gov/Find-Your-Program-Director

ninds.nih.gov/Funding/Find-Funding-Opportunities

NIH Assisted Referral Tool (Find a Study Section)
https://art.csr.nih.gov

Three Top Tips for Successful Applications

#2 Include diverse perspectives
at every step

Solicit input and listen to feedback
- Mentors and colleagues
- Experts in related fields or disciplines
- Fellows and Trainees
- Persons with Lived Experience
- Prior summary statements
- NIH Program Director

reporter.nih.gov/matchmaker

ninds.nih.gov/Find-Your-Program-Director

NIH Simplified Peer Review Framework is Coming

Five regulatory criteria reorganized into three factors

For due dates before Jan 25, 2025

(all considered in overall impact score)

- **Significance** - scored
- **Investigator(s)** - scored
- **Innovation** - scored
- **Approach** - scored
- **Environment** - scored

For due dates on/after Jan 25, 2025

- **Factor 1 : Importance of the Research**
  - Significance, Innovation
  - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 2 : Rigor and Feasibility**
  - Approach (*also includes Inclusion and Clinical Trial (CT) Study Timeline*)
  - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 3 : Expertise and Resources**
  - Investigators, Environment
  - Valuated as appropriate or gaps identified; gaps require explanation
  - Considered in overall impact; no individual score

Three Top Tips for Successful Applications

#3 Take the long view

- Persistence pays off
- Consider various funding sources
- Foster strong and varied collaborations
- Separate your "self-view" from the application review

- NINDS SCI Program Director: Linda Bambrick   linda.bambrick@nih.gov

We are honored to support you throughout your research career!

Lyn Jakeman, PhD

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