Within the broader NIH mission, NHGRI supports research directly relevant to the topics covered at AGBT, including genomic technology development, genomic medicine and informatics solutions for genomic research. NHGRI has a very strong interest in helping genomics scientists who are in the beginning or early stages of their career as independent investigators. Below, is a collection of relevant information for New and Early Stage Investigators in this field.

To download a copy of this document, go to: https://www.genome.gov/ESI-AGBT-2020.

NHGRI-specific Resources

**I have a question about whether my research is a good fit for NHGRI....**
Email us!! It always helps when we hear from a potential grantee at the earliest possible stage during concept development of your application. If it is not a fit for NHGRI, we may be able to help you find another NIH institute.

**Where can I find more information about research funding opportunities at NHGRI?**
Check out https://www.genome.gov/research-funding/Funding-Opportunities. NHGRI welcomes investigator-initiated applications and solicitations related to its scientific priorities. On this page, you can find links to NHGRI’s staff by Division, funding opportunities, and relevant listservs.

**What future areas of genomics will NHGRI be actively focusing on?**
Later this year, we will publish a 2020 vision for genomics. To learn more about the strategic planning process and how you can provide input, visit https://www.genome.gov/about-nhgri/strategic-plan. NHGRI aims to identify paradigm-shifting areas of genomics that enable novel applications to human health and disease.

NIH-wide Resources

**How do I find out if I qualify for Early Stage Investigator (ESI) or New Investigator (NI) status?**
This link could help: https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-investigators/index.htm. On this webpage, find out how to determine ESI/NI status, the types of NIH funding ESIs can hold and still be considered ESIs, and how to request a status extension.

**I want to learn more about NIH Research Career Development Awards. Where can I look?**
Here is some information about individual and institutional research training opportunities at all levels (undergraduate to postdoctoral): https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/career-development.

**I am not tenured yet – can I still participate in the NIH peer review process?**
Yes! Take a look at the Early Career Reviewer (ECR) program, which aims to help early career scientists become more competitive as grant applicants: https://public.csr.nih.gov/ForReviewers/BecomeAResearcher/ECR.

**I am a postdoc and want to learn more about K99/R00 (Pathway to Independence) grants...**
Congratulations on getting started early in the NIH funding process! This website contains a wealth of information about this program designed to facilitate the transition of postdoctoral researchers into independent research careers: https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/career-development/k99-r00.

**Where should I look for more funding information as I get started with my own genomics laboratory?**
Reach out to any of the NHGRI Program Directors at this table (email contacts below). You can also find a list of NIH-wide opportunities at https://grants.nih.gov/funding/searchguide/index.html#/

Email contacts: Mike Smith (michael.smith@nih.gov), Stephanie Morris (morriss2@mail.nih.gov), and Shurjo Sen (sensh@mail.nih.gov)
Other Resources

**I have a proposal for a small business venture in genomics. Will NHGRI fund me?**

NHGRI has a long history of funding SBIR/STTR ([https://sbir.nih.gov/](https://sbir.nih.gov/)) applications that have led to cutting edge-technologies driving much of today’s genomics research. Contact Mike Smith and schedule a time to talk about your specific idea – we may be interested!

**Why does it seem so hard for ESIs to get their R-series grant applications funded?**

NIH recognizes that it is harder to get funding when you are just starting out as an investigator and is actively trying to help make it easier. Take a look at the Next Generation Researcher’s Initiative, which is designed to increase investment in researchers during the early stages of their independent research careers: [https://grants.nih.gov/ngri.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/ngri.htm).

Email contacts: Mike Smith ([michael.smith@nih.gov](mailto:michael.smith@nih.gov)), Stephanie Morris ([morriss2@mail.nih.gov](mailto:morriss2@mail.nih.gov)), and Shurjo Sen ([sensh@mail.nih.gov](mailto:sensh@mail.nih.gov))