

NHGRI Genomic Innovator Award Pre-application Webinar (RFA-HG-18-006)

Lisa Chadwick, Program Director

NHGRI Division of Genome Sciences

August 28, 2020



National Human Genome
Research Institute

The **Forefront**
of **Genomics**

Welcome to the webinar!

- You can ask questions using the Q&A box
- We will not cover specific questions about scientific fit today
- You can (and should!) email me to set up a call to discuss your proposal

Program contacts



Primary contact:

Lisa Chadwick
Division of Genome Sciences
lisa.chadwick@nih.gov



Rongling Li
Division of Genomic Medicine
lir2@mail.nih.gov



Nicole Lockhart
Division of Genomics and Society
lockhani@mail.nih.gov

Review and Grants Management contacts



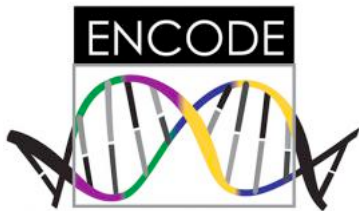
Ken Nakamura
Scientific Review Branch
nakamurk@mail.nih.gov



Deanna Ingersoll
Grants Administration Branch
deanna.ingersoll@nih.gov

Goals of the Genomic Innovator Award

- Support early career researchers who have played important roles in consortia or other “team science” programs
- Provide flexible funding to establish your individual research program



Am I eligible to apply?

I am an early career researcher

- ✓ I have New Investigator or Early Stage Investigator status
- ✓ I double-checked my Commons account to make sure

I have been involved in consortium/team science research

- ✓ I was (or am) actively involved in one (doesn't have to be an NHGRI consortium)
- ✓ Recommendation letters from people that I have worked with

My research is relevant to the mission of NHGRI

- ✓ Generalizable: not limited to one/few disease(s) or a limited set of loci
- ✓ If unsure, I've reached out to the program contact

How should I structure my application?

The R35 does not use Specific Aims

Follow the instructions in the Research Strategy Section of RFA

What do you see as a critical challenge in the field? How will you approach it?

6 pages

Provide rationale:

- Give background information
- Why is this important?

Describe broad approach:

- What is your broad vision for addressing this challenge?
- What are some of the general strategies you will take?

What will the impact be:

- How generalizable will this be?
- If you're successful, what will be the impact on the field? What kinds of things will now be possible?

How are you qualified to lead this:

- What have you contributed to the field so far?
- How will the proposed work build upon those accomplishments?

Is this a resubmission?

Resubmissions are allowed for this RFA

- Unless your new project is VERY different, do a resubmission
- Include one page introduction to revised application
- Revise your application in response to previous review
- Call your program officer for guidance

Other unique features of this RFA

Budget

Budget: limited to \$300,000
direct costs/year
Project period: 5 years

Effort requirement

PI must devote 6 person-months effort
(3.6 months in out years with prior
approval)

Recommendation letters

- Required to submit 4 recommendation letters
- At least some of them from people who speak for your consortium/team science
- Can also be mentors, other colleagues
- Bundle them all into a single pdf and upload as “letters of support”
- Please try to limit letters in addition to these

NHGRI values data and resource sharing

A resource sharing plan is required for all applications

- Data, model organisms, software, protocols/reagents, etc.
- Include a Genomic Data Sharing Plan if appropriate
link to the NHGRI implementation of GDS is broken in RFA
Search [genome.gov](https://www.genome.gov) for 'NHGRI Genomic Data Sharing'



A few other tips

- Preliminary data is not required (although you can include it)
- This is not intended to be a detailed experimental plan...
- ...but you do want to convince reviewers that you've thought about it, including that you understand the potentially risky parts and have alternate approaches in mind
- Convince reviewers you will do your research in a robust and rigorous manner – describe how you will validate new approaches, provide sample size estimates, etc.
- Make it easy for reviewers of varied backgrounds to understand why this project is important

Read the RFA carefully

The specific review and selection criteria are in the RFA:

Section V. Application Review Information

NEW Important Update: See [NOT-OD-18-228](#) for updated review language for due dates on or after January 25, 2019.

1. Criteria

Only the review criteria described below will be considered in the review process. As part of the [NIH mission](#), all applications submitted to the NIH in support of biomedical and behavioral research are evaluated for scientific and technical merit through the NIH peer review system.

2. Review and Selection Process

Applications will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by (an) appropriate Scientific Review Group(s) convened by NHGRI, in accordance with [NIH peer review policy and procedures](#), using the stated [review criteria](#). Assignment to a Scientific Review Group will be shown in the eRA Commons.

As part of the scientific peer review, all applications:

- May undergo a selection process in which only those applications deemed to have the highest scientific and technical merit (generally the top half of applications under review) will be discussed and assigned an overall impact score.
- Will receive a written critique.

[Appeals](#) of initial peer review will not be accepted for applications submitted in response to this FOA.

Applications will be assigned to the appropriate NIH Institute or Center. Applications will compete for available funds with all other recommended applications submitted in response to this FOA. Following initial peer review, recommended applications will receive a second level of review by the National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research. The following will be considered in making funding decisions:

- Scientific and technical merit of the proposed project as determined by scientific peer review.
- Availability of funds.
- Relevance of the proposed project to program priorities.
- Compliance with resource sharing policies.
- Significance and innovation of the proposed work.
- Creativity, accomplishments, and promise of the applicant.
- Generalizability of the approaches beyond the specific systems studied.
- Programmatic balance among the chosen awards across approaches and fields of genomics.

How will these applications be reviewed?

Applications will be reviewed for responsiveness:

Do you meet the eligibility criteria? Is the work appropriate for NHGRI?



A special panel is convened by NHGRI Scientific Review (Dr. Ken Nakamura, SRO)

NOTE: Reviewers will have diverse expertise!



Applications will be reviewed in the spring



You will get scores and a summary statement.

You can contact your Program Officer for additional feedback and advice! (check your summary statement)

Still have questions?

Contact Lisa Chadwick by email: lisa.chadwick@nih.gov

We can set up a call...

- to ensure eligibility and fit
- to help match you with a Program Director with appropriate scientific expertise
- to ask any other questions you might have