

UPDATE: NIH Late Application Policy Due to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

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Notice Number: NOT-OD-20-091

Key Dates

**Release Date:** March 26, 2020

Related Announcements

[NOT-OD-20-082](#) - NIH LATE APPLICATION POLICY Due to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

[NOT-OD-20-083](#) - General Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Proposal Submission and Award Management Related to COVID-19

[NOT-OD-20-086](#) - Flexibilities Available to Applicants and Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance Affected by COVID-19

[NOT-OD-20-087](#) - Guidance for NIH-funded Clinical Trials and Human Subjects Studies Affected by COVID-19

Issued by

Office of The Director, National Institutes of Health ([OD](#))

Purpose

NIH will be highly accommodating of late applications submitted through May 1, 2020. We anticipate, but cannot guarantee, that all late applications submitted by that date will be reviewed in the council round to which they were submitted (e.g. August or October 2020). As much as NIH would like to extend flexibility further, this rapidly evolving situation also creates multiple challenges for conducting review, and the timeline for getting review outcomes to councils (so that funding can occur) can only be delayed so long. Therefore, applicants should assume that late applications submitted after May 1 may not be reviewed until meetings for the January 2021 council round (e.g., October-November 2020).

NIH understands that the emergency declaration related to novel coronavirus (COVID-19) will adversely affect many NIH applicants' ability to submit applications in a timely manner.

**Therefore, all grant applications submitted late for due dates between March 9, 2020, and May 1, 2020, will be accepted through May 1, 2020.**

This notice applies to all relevant funding opportunity announcements, including those that indicate no late applications will be accepted. Institutions need not request advance permission to submit late due to this declared emergency and a cover letter providing a justification is not required.

Disclaimer: This notice pertains to applications reviewed by CSR and does not supersede the IC's discretion nor authorities to make these decisions on case by case basis as noted in the third bullet below.

For Funding Opportunity Announcements that expire prior to May 1, 2020, NIH will extend the expiration date for 90 days to accommodate the submission of late applications and Grants.gov will be adjusted to allow NIH to receive applications.

- Reference Letters for Fellowships and Career Development Award applications submitted during this interval will also be accepted through May 1, 2020.
- Non-AIDS applications eligible for continuous submission (NOT-OD-20-060) will also be accepted through May 1, 2020.
- Some Institute/Center (IC)-reviewed FOAs with due dates during this time may be able to accept applications beyond the May 1, 2020 deadline. However, applicants must contact the IC first, to confirm that a later deadline is possible.

Due dates after May 1 (including the May 7, 2020, AIDS and AIDS-Related Research due dates) will remain as posted and follow usual late application policies.

### **Late Applications**

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This notice does not apply to contract proposals. Contact the Contracting Officer listed in the individual solicitation for questions about proposal submission deadlines.

### Inquiries

Please direct all inquiries to:

Division of Grants Policy  
Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration  
Office of Extramural Research  
Telephone: 301-435-0949  
[GrantsPolicy@nih.gov](mailto:GrantsPolicy@nih.gov)  
[https://grants.nih.gov/grants/natural\\_disasters.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/natural_disasters.htm)

and

Division of Receipt and Referral  
Center for Scientific Review  
Telephone: 301-435-0715  
Email: [csrdrr@mail.nih.gov](mailto:csrdrr@mail.nih.gov)

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[NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices](#)

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