

NIH Funding Opportunities Available for High-Risk Research

The NIH Common Fund announces FY2019 funding opportunities for the NIH Director's Pioneer Award, New Innovator Award, Transformative Research Award, and Early Independence Award in the [High-Risk, High-Reward Research program](#). The program provides unique opportunities for exceptionally creative scientists at all career stages to pursue highly innovative approaches to address major challenges in biomedical or behavioral research. Any research topic relevant to the broad mission of NIH is welcome. The NIH recognizes a compelling need to promote diversity in the biomedical, behavioral, clinical and social sciences research workforce. Applicant institutions are always encouraged to consider talented researchers from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in biomedical research, including underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, persons with disabilities, and women for participation in all NIH-funded research opportunities.

2019 NIH Director's Pioneer Award (DP1 - Clinical Trial Optional): [RFA-RM-18-007](#)

Supports scientists with outstanding records of creativity pursuing new research directions to develop pioneering approaches to major challenges in biomedical and behavioral research.

- Open to all career stages
- Single-PI applications only
- No preliminary data required
- Must be new scientific research direction
- \$700,000 direct costs per year for 5 years
- See [website](#) for more information and [FAQs](#)
- Application deadline: **September 14, 2018**

2019 NIH Director's New Innovator Award (DP2 - Clinical Trial Optional): [RFA-RM-18-008](#)

Supports exceptionally creative early career scientists proposing innovative and high-impact projects. **Note: The NIH definition of an [Early Stage Investigator](#) now includes clinical training.**

- Early Stage Investigators only
- Single-PI applications only
- No preliminary data required
- \$1.5 million in direct costs disbursed in first year of 5-year project period
- See [website](#) for more information and [FAQs](#)
- Application deadline: **September 10, 2018**

2019 NIH Director's Transformative Research Award (R01 - Clinical Trial Optional): [RFA RM-18-009](#)

Supports individuals or teams proposing projects that are inherently risky and untested but have the potential to create or overturn fundamental paradigms.

- Open to all career stages
- Open to individuals or teams
- No preliminary data required
- No limits to budget
- See [website](#) for more information and [FAQs](#)
- Application deadline: **September 21, 2018**

2019 NIH Director's Early Independence Award (DP5 - Clinical Trial Optional): [RFA RM-18-010](#)

Supports outstanding junior scientists with the intellect, scientific creativity, drive, and maturity to flourish independently launch independent research careers and bypass the traditional postdoctoral training period. Over 50% of doctoral degrees in biomedical sciences are awarded to women; NIH views the Early Independence Award as an opportunity to ensure that women do not prematurely leave science at this vulnerable time in an academic career. NIH hopes that sponsoring institutions will take this into consideration in selecting their applicants to put forward. **Note: To be consistent with the updated NIH definition of [Early Stage Investigators](#), clinical training is now included in the eligibility window.**

- Complete doctoral degree or clinical training between June 1, 2017 and September 30, 2019
- In non-independent position at time of application
- Single-PI applications only
- Limited to two applications per institution
- Up to \$250,000 direct costs per year for up to 5 years
- See [website](#) for more information and [FAQs](#)
- Application deadline: **September 27, 2018**

The High-Risk High-Reward Research Program and other Common Fund programs are managed by the Office of Strategic Coordination, Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives in the NIH Office of the Director, in partnership with the component NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices. The [NIH Common Fund](#) encourages collaboration and supports a series of exceptionally high impact, trans-NIH programs.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) –“The Nation's Medical Research Agency” – includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit the [NIH website](#).