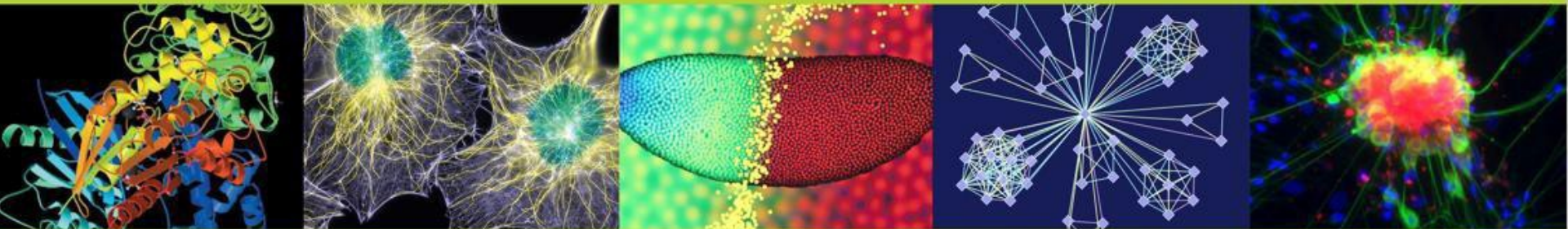




SEPA Overview and Grant Application Webinar
Wednesday, June 5, 2019
2:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time (GMT-04:00)

SEPA Overview and Grant Application Process Webinar

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)
Division for Research Capacity Building
National Institutes of Health (NIH)



Webinar Presenters

Scientific/Research

Tony Beck, Ph.D. (SEPA)

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)

Email: beckl@mail.nih.gov

Human Subjects

Rashada Alexander, Ph.D. (SEPA-Human Subjects SME)

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)

Email: rashada.alexander@nih.gov

Peer Review

Jonathan Arias, Ph.D.

Center for Scientific Review (CSR)

Email: ariasj@csr.nih.gov

Financial/Grants Management

Brian Iglesias

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)

Email: iglesiab@mail.nih.gov



SEPA Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

Department of Health and Human Services

Part 1. Overview Information

Participating Organization(s)

National Institutes of Health ([NIH \(http://www.nih.gov\)](http://www.nih.gov))

Components of Participating Organizations

National Institute of General Medical Sciences ([NIGMS \(http://www.nigms.nih.gov\)](http://www.nigms.nih.gov))

Funding Opportunity Title

NIH Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA)(R25)

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number

PAR-17-339



Section VII. Agency Contacts

Scientific/Research Contact (**PO**)

Tony Beck, Ph.D. (SEPA)

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)

Email: beckl@mail.nih.gov

Peer Review Contact (**SRO**)

Jonathan Arias, Ph.D.

Center for Scientific Review (CSR)

Email: ariasj@csr.nih.gov

Financial/Grants Management Contact (**GMS**)

Christy Leake, christy.leake@nih.gov

Brian Iglesias, iglesiab@mail.nih.gov

National Institute of General Medical Sciences
(NIGMS)



Funding:

- R25 NIH Research Science Education funding mechanism
- 5-Year, \$1.35M award
- Budget FY19 = \$20.1M

Letter of Intent Due Date

June 9, 2019

Application Due Date

July 9, 2019, 5:00 PM local time

Scientific Merit Review

September/October 2019

Advisory Council Review

January 2020

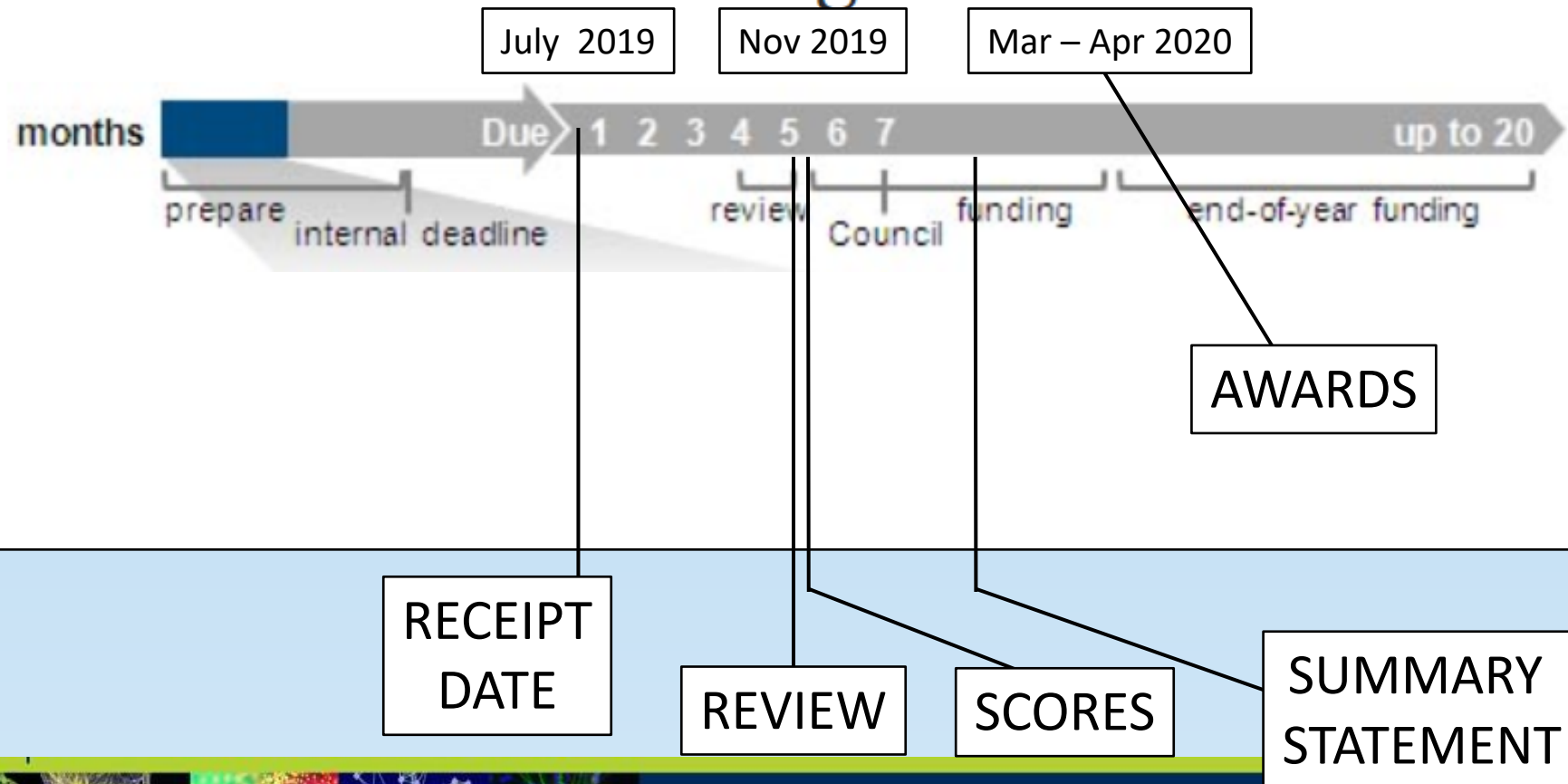
Earliest Start Date

March/April 2020



FY19 SEPA REVIEW & AWARD CYCLE

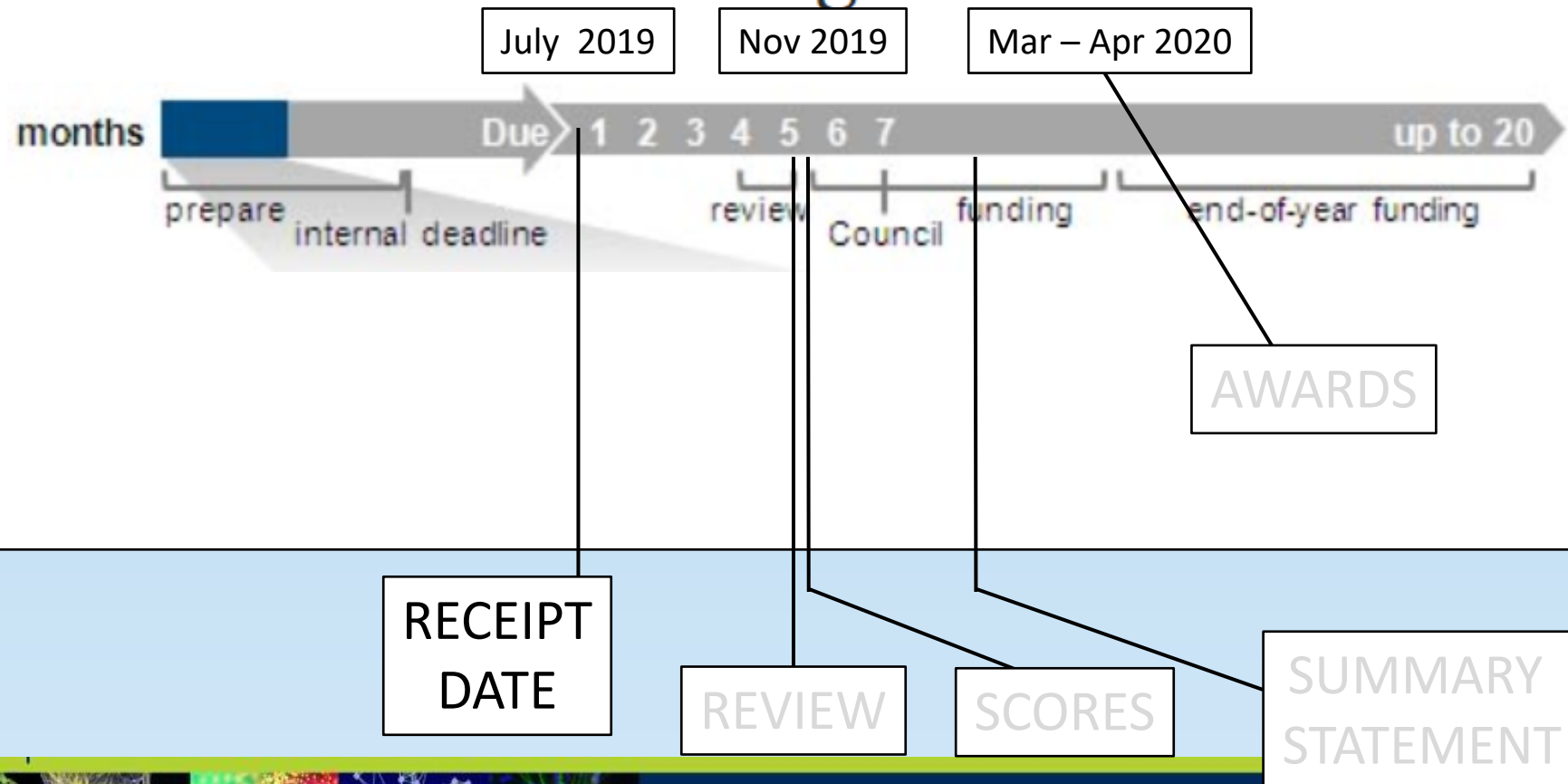
Timeline for Planning a Grant



FY19 SEPA REVIEW & AWARD CYCLE

staff contacts

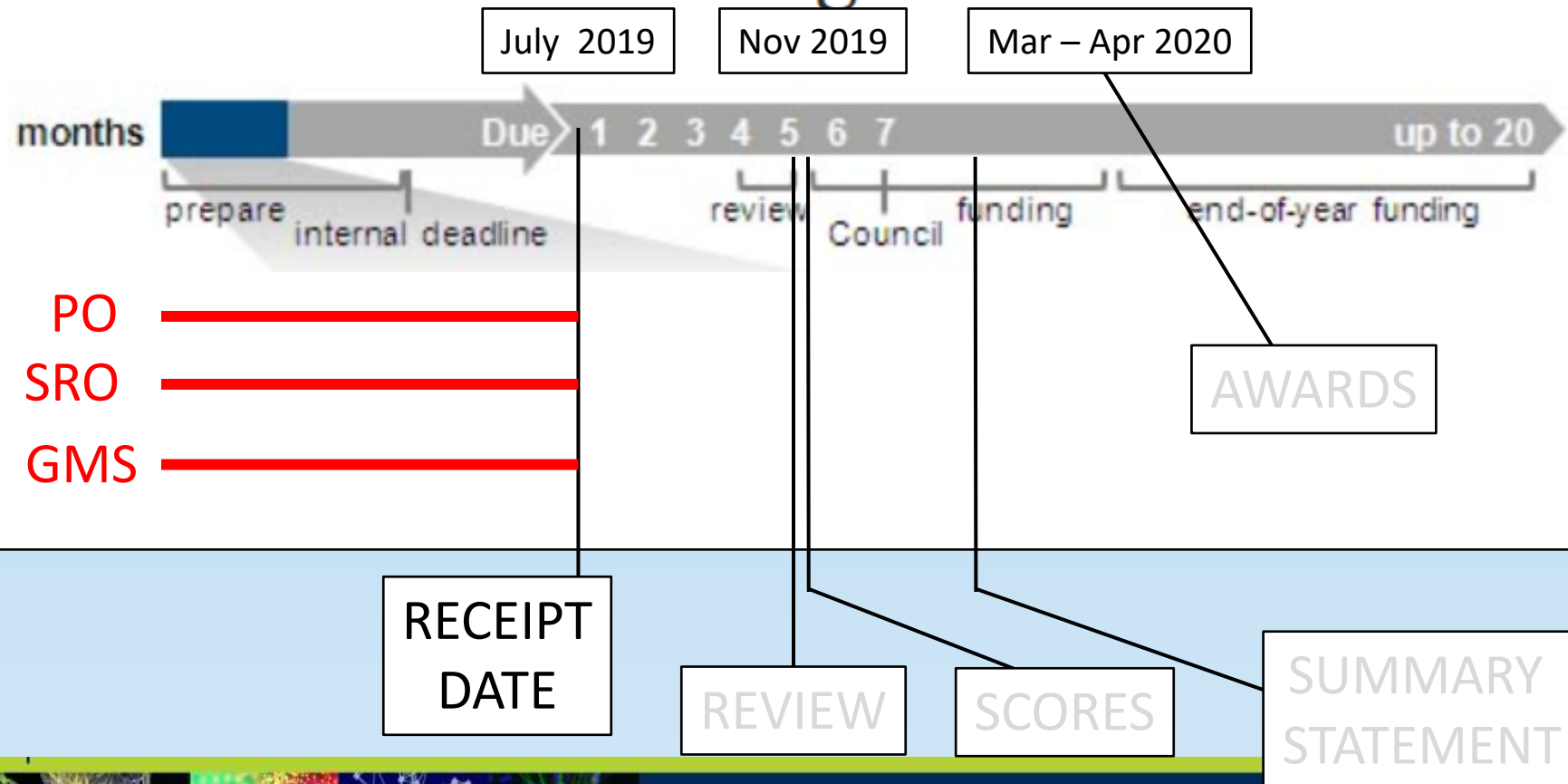
Timeline for Planning a Grant



FY19 SEPA REVIEW & AWARD CYCLE

staff contacts

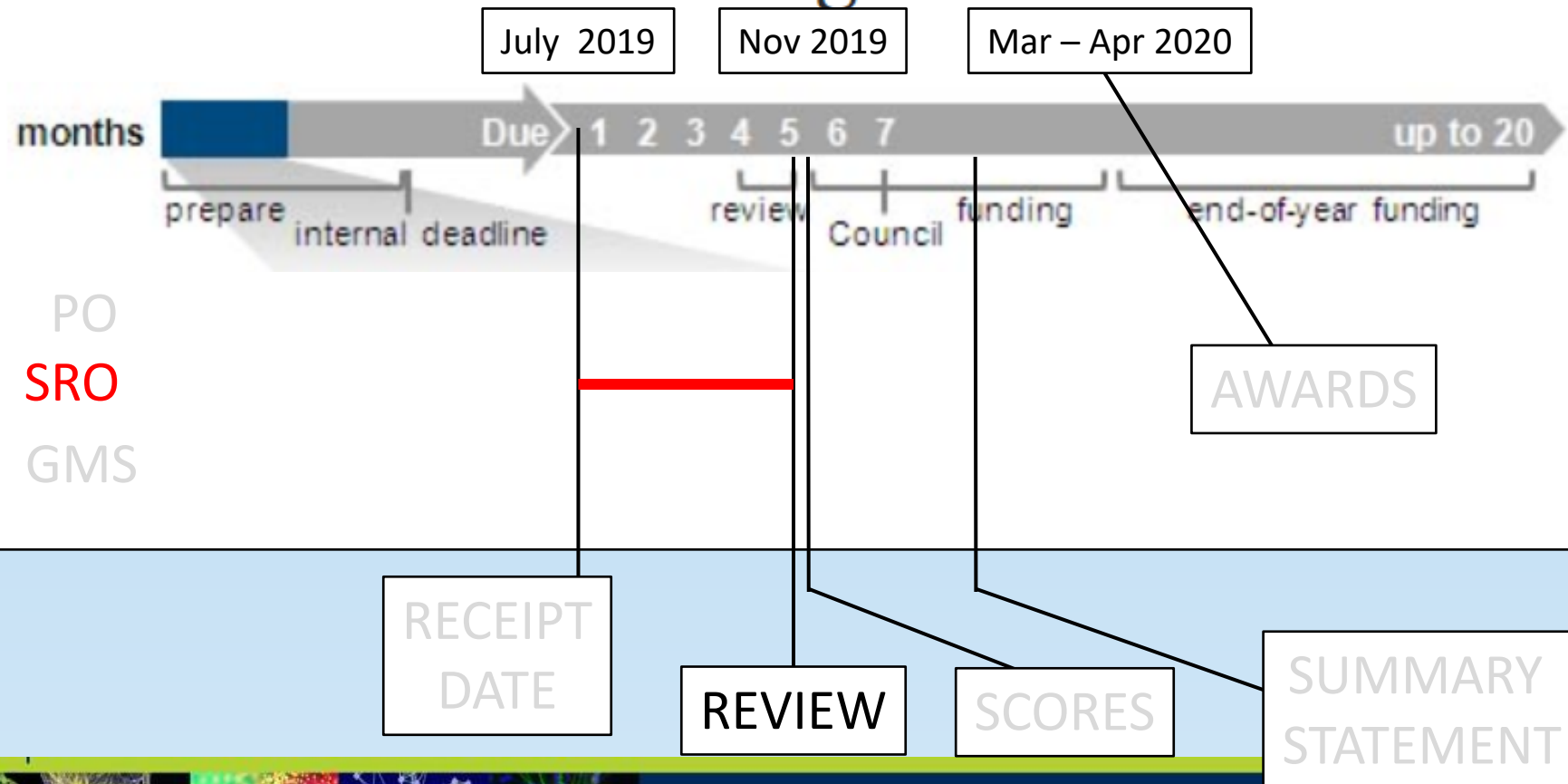
Timeline for Planning a Grant



FY19 SEPA REVIEW & AWARD CYCLE

staff contacts

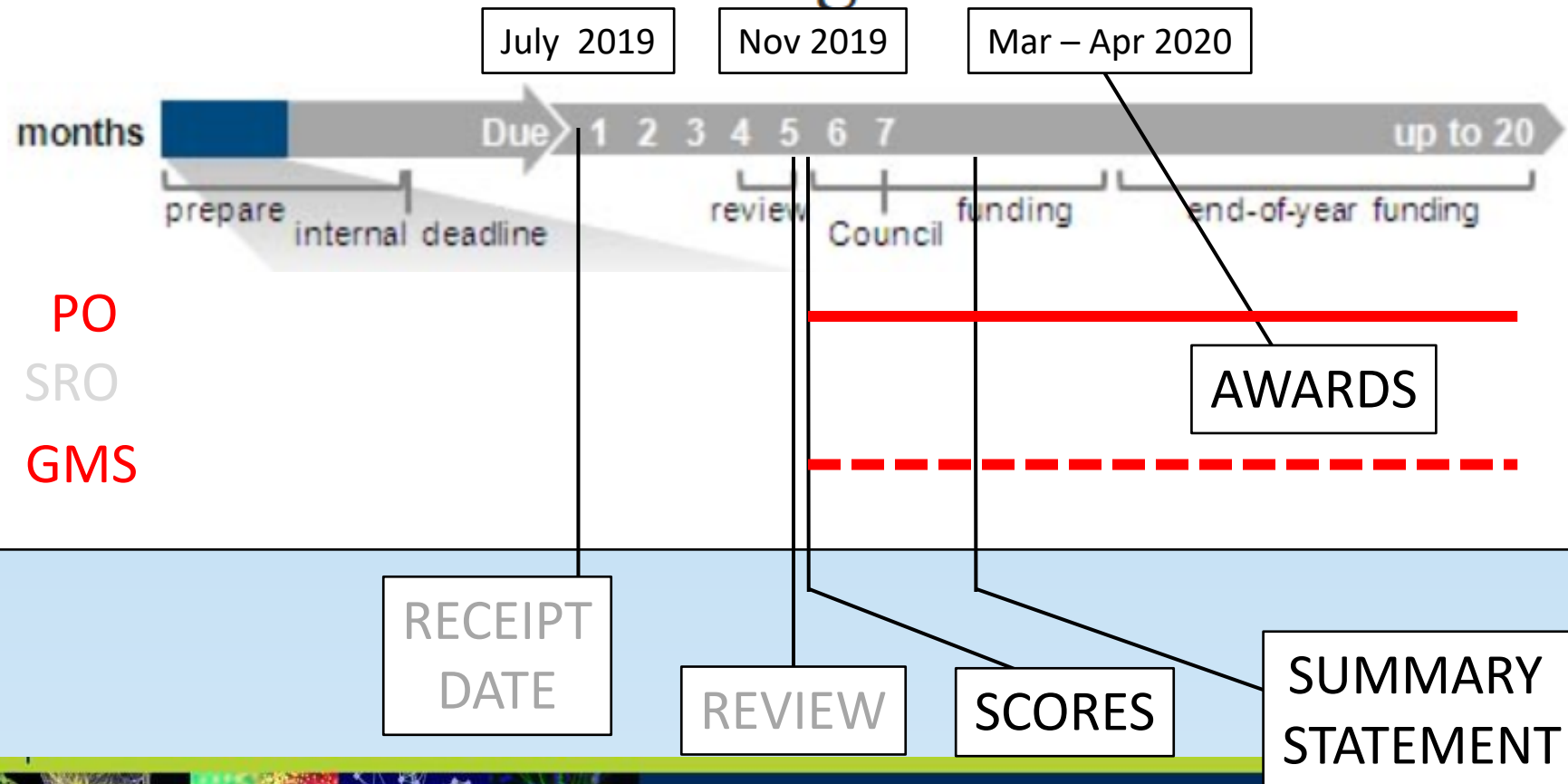
Timeline for Planning a Grant



FY19 SEPA REVIEW & AWARD CYCLE

staff contacts


Timeline for Planning a Grant





SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
Supported by the National Institutes of Health

Our goal - a diverse pipeline



Purpose

- Increase the numbers of urban, rural and minority students considering research and medical careers
- Public health literacy

SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
Supported by the National Institutes of Health

Our goal - a diverse pipeline



Partnerships

- Scientists and clinicians partnering with educators, community organizations and science centers



SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION
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Supported by the National Institutes of Health

Our goal - a diverse pipeline



Goals

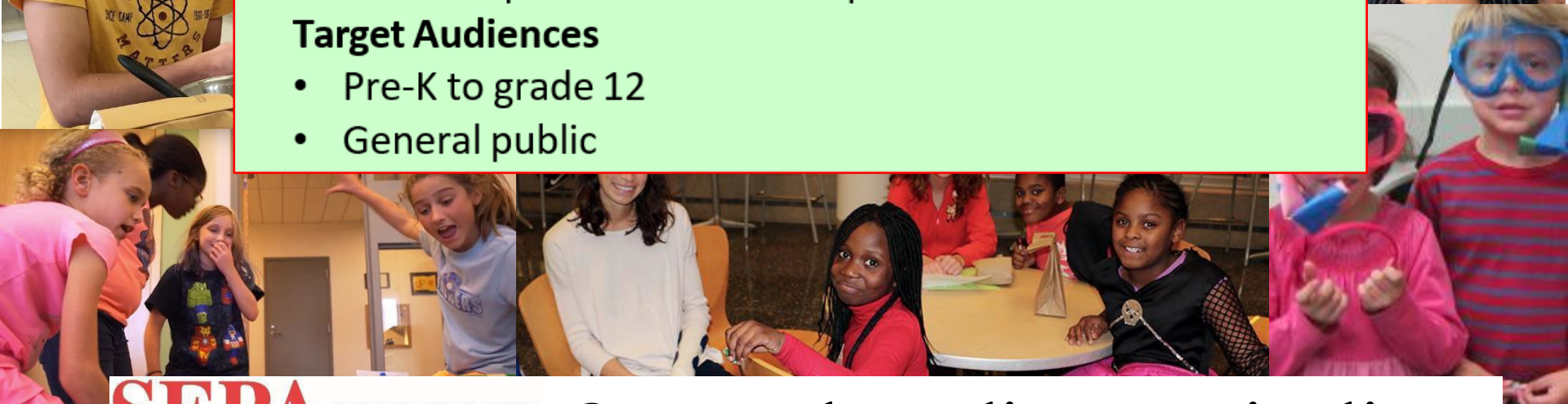
- Career opportunities for minority and underserved students to increase workforce diversity
- Teacher professional development





Target Audiences

- Pre-K to grade 12
- General public



SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
Supported by the National Institutes of Health

Our goal - a diverse pipeline



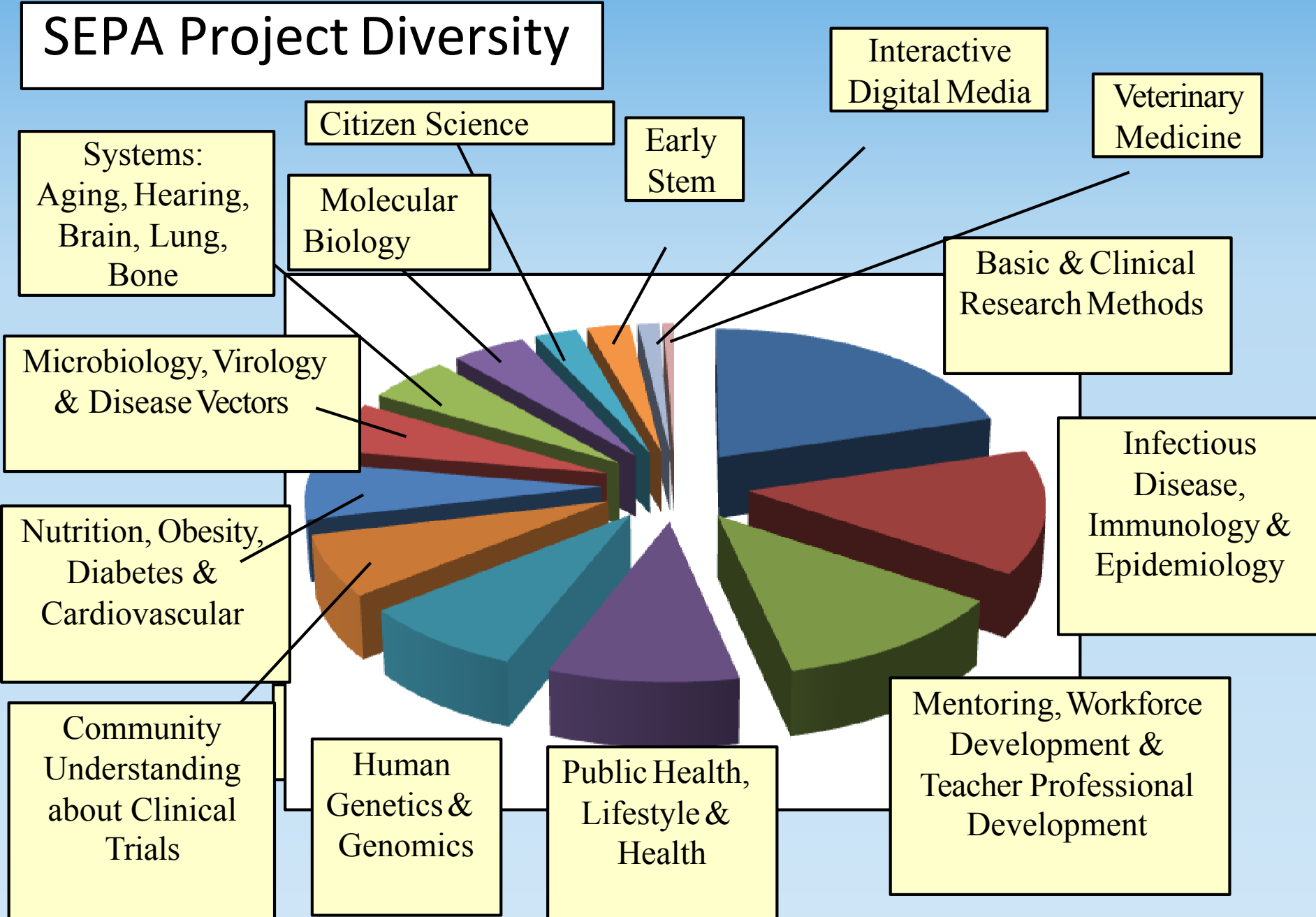
Topics

- Any area of NIH funded basic or medical research

SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
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Our goal - a diverse pipeline

SEPA Project Diversity



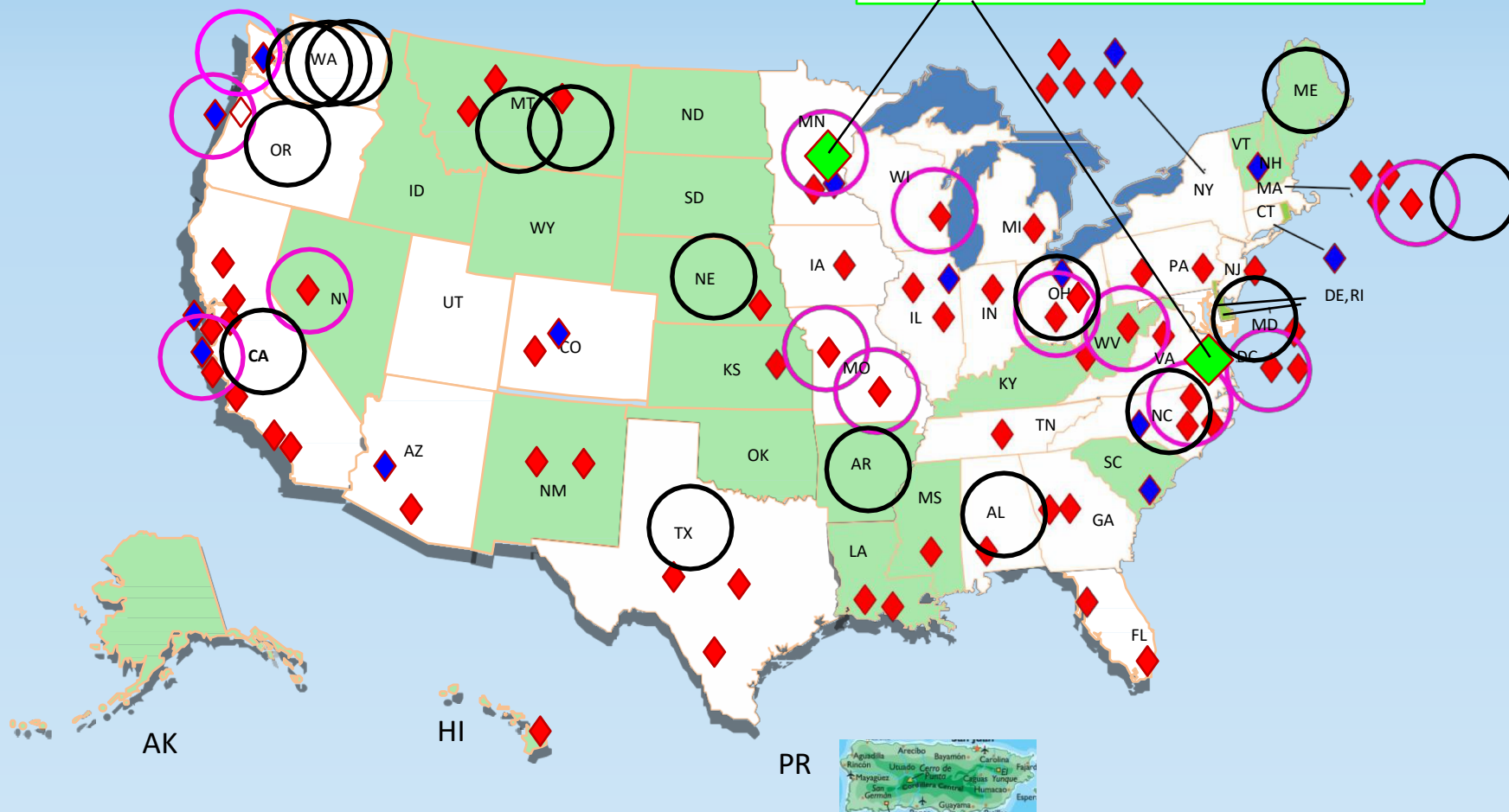
◆ P-12 STEM Projects

◆ Museum Exhibits

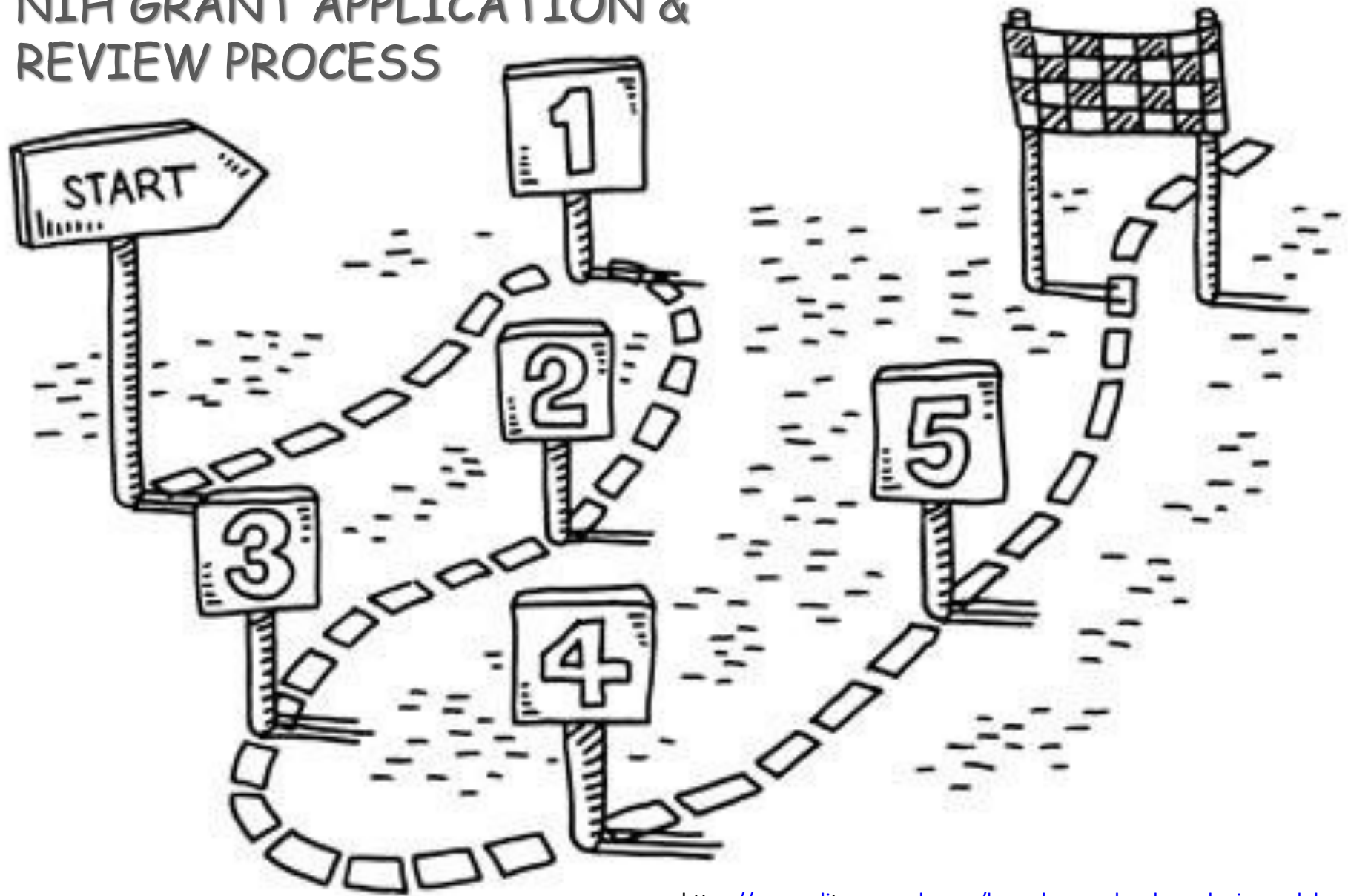
○ FY17 AWARDS

○ FY18 AWARDS

◆ SEPA Public Radio Stations



NIH GRANT APPLICATION & REVIEW PROCESS

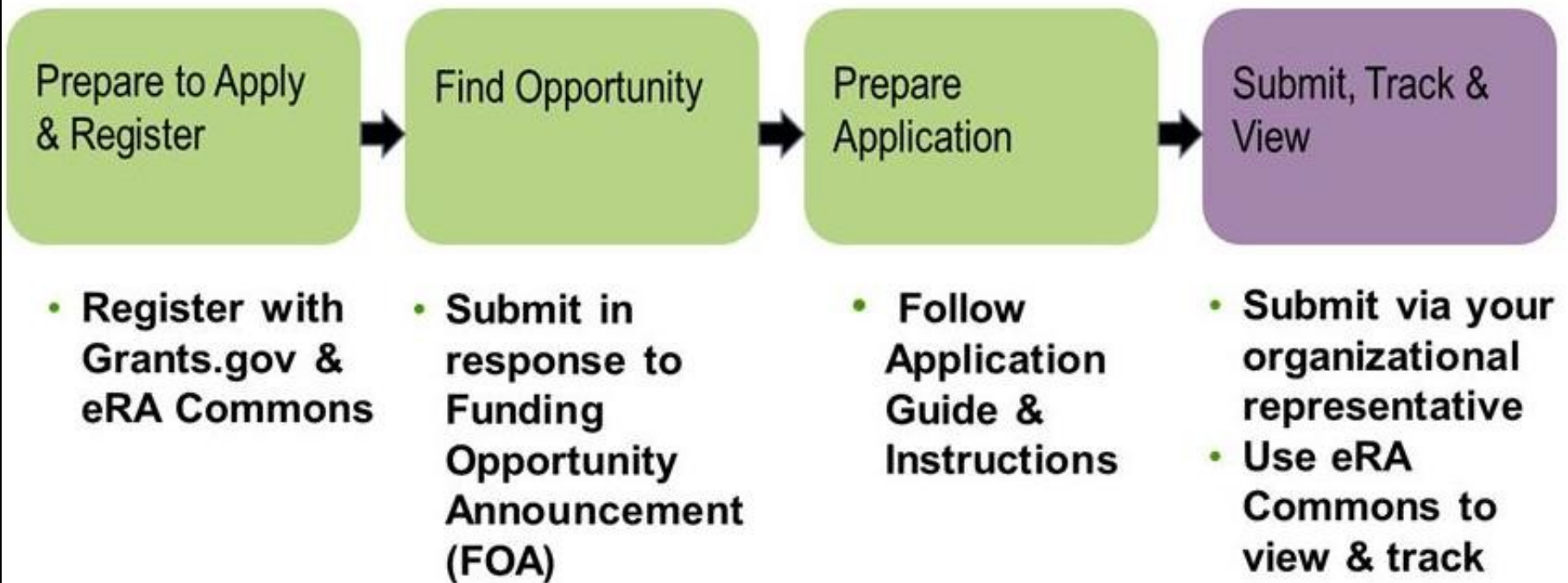


<https://www.eliteresearch.com/how-do-you-develop-a-logic-model>



PREPARATION – PART 1

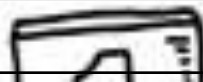
Electronic Application Process



<http://slideplayer.com/slide/5288203/>



PREPARATION – PART 1



electronic Research Administration (eRA)



A program of the National
Institutes of Health

Other Web Resources

eRA Commons Registration
& Accounts

eRA Training

Modules, User Guides
& Documentation

Related NIH Guide Notices

PubRoster
(Rosters of NIH Scientific
Review Groups)

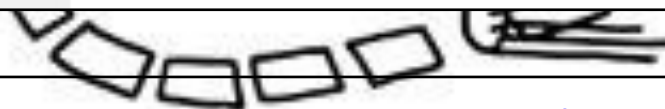
Grants & Funding Info

NIH (OER)

AHRO

eRA Commons Frequently Asked Questions

- | | |
|--|---|
| I. General Questions | XI. No Cost Extension |
| II. eRA Commons Registration | XII. Reference Letters |
| III. Accounts Log In and Password | XIII. Internet Assisted Review |
| IV. Roles in eRA Commons | XIV. Summary Statement |
| V. Creating Accounts; Delegating and Revoking Authority; Affiliating | XV. My NCBI |
| VI. Personal Profile | XVI. xTrain |
| VII. Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) | XVII. LikeThis |
| VIII. Financial Status Report | XVIII. Administrative Supplements (Type 3s) |
| IX. Grants Closeout | XIX. Change of Institution/Relinquishing Statement (Type 7s) |
| X. Just in Time | XX. Extramural Trainee Reporting And Career Tracking (xTRACT) |
| | XXI. PI Verification of Preferred eRA Commons Account |



https://era.nih.gov/commons/faq_commons.cfm



National Institute of
General Medical Sciences

PREPARATION – PART 2

1. Study SEPA FOA
2. Visit SEPA website, <https://nihsepa.org/>
 - Search by
 - Topic
 - Target Audience
 - Applicant Organization
 - SEPA Projects by Funding Year
 - Annual SEPA PI Conference Reports

SEPA

SCIENCE EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
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Feature Focus

Opioid Crisis

**PBS
NEWS
HOUR**

PBS NewsHour has produced a series of informative SEPA-funded segments about the opioid crisis in America.

Search Programs by State

View SEPA programs from as many as 40 states across the nation plus DC & Puerto Rico.

<https://nihsepa.org/>



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Participating Institutions

Institutions by State

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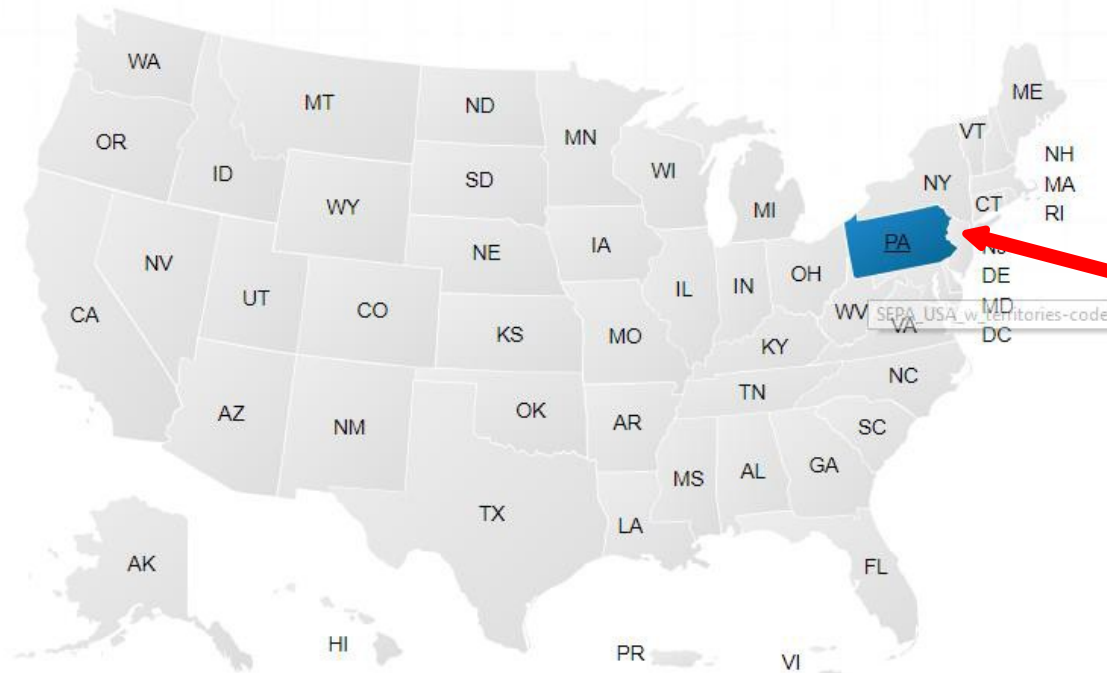
View SEPA programs from as many as 40 states across the nation plus DC & Puerto Rico.

<https://nihsepa.org/>



National Institute of
General Medical Sciences

Filter by state:



Choose a State

Please make a selection

PA



Pennsylvania

Planarians and the pharmacology of addiction: an in vivo model for K-12 education

Temple University – Lewis Katz School of Medicine, Philadelphia PA

R25DA033270-01A1 : 07/15/2014 - 06/30/2018

A Partnership in Neuroscience Education

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh PA

R25OD016516 : 04/15/2014 - 02/28/2019

Resources for Education and Action for Community Health in Ambler (REACH Ambler)

University of Pennsylvania – School of Medicine, Philadelphia PA

R25OD010521-01 : 08/27/2012 - 07/31/2017

Investing in the Future: Collaborative Research Experiences for Students and Teachers

Pennsylvania State University Hershey Med Ctr, Hershey PA

R25RR023280-01 A2 : 08/01/2008 - 05/31/2013

If a Starfish Can Grow a New Arm, Why Can't I?

Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative, Pittsburgh PA

R25RR023286 : 03/26/2007 - 02/28/2012

Regenerative Medicine Partnership in Education (Phase I/II)

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh PA

R25RR020403 : 04/01/2006 - 08/31/2010

Partnership in Biomedical Discovery

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA

R25RR020463 : 04/01/2006 - 03/31/2011

Heart of the Matter

Franklin Institute, Philadelphia PA

R25RR018562 : 09/30/2003 - 09/29/2006

Tissue Engineering Show and Educational Partnership

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh PA

R25RR015619 : 09/30/2000 - 08/31/2005

Science Teachers Workshops for Computer Training (1995)

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA

R25RR007642-2 : 04/01/1995 - 03/31/2000

Universe Within

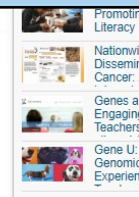
QED Communications Inc, Pittsburgh PA

R25RR007585 : 09/30/1991 - 09/29/1993

Science Teachers Workshops for Computer Training

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA

R25RR007642 : 09/30/1991 - 03/29/1995



Help and Support

✉ Join our Mailing List

📧 Contact the Webmaster

🔍 View FAQ



Inform high school students and early career scientists about highlights in basic biomedical research.



Pennsylvania ▼

Pennsylvania

Planarians and the pharmacology of addiction: an in vivo model for K-12 education

Temple University – Lewis Katz School of Medicine, Philadelphia PA

1R25DA033270-01A1 : 07/15/2014 - 06/30/2018

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A Partnership in Neuroscience Education

Scientastic! Are You Sleeping?

Winner of two **Emmy®** Awards!

Scientastic: Are You Sleeping? | Preview



Project Website(s)

<http://thepartnershipineducation.com>

Project Description

Abstract

Dissemination

Evaluation(s)

Project Description

High-caliber, rigorously-tested STEM teaching tools for the 21st century

Scientastic! Are You Sleeping? is an Emmy® Award-winning show, which blends live-action with 2-D and 3-D animations that incorporates a fictional plot with interviews from actual doctors and scientists, to view at

Project Information

Project ID: R25OD016516

Project Type: formal

Project Status: active

Funding Years:
04/15/2014 - 02/28/2019

State: PA

Institution:

Duquesne University

Department:

Department of Biological Sciences

Address:

Duquesne University Administration
Bldg. 600 Forbes Avenue Room
301A
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Project Contact(s):

Pollock, John, PhD

Role: PI / Project Leader

Phone: 412-855-4043

Email: pollock@duq.edu

Explore SEPA



DNA is Elementary:
Promoting Genetics
Literacy



**Nationwide
Dissemination of Inside
Cancer: A SEPA-Funded
Project**



Genes and Microbes:
Engaging Students and
Teachers in NGSS-
Related Activities



**Gene U: Inquiry-based
Genomics Learning
Experiences for
Teachers**

Help and Support



National Institute of
General Medical Sciences

A Partnership in Neuroscience Education

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Scientastic! Are You Sleeping?

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Help and Support



National Institute of
General Medical Sciences

A Partnership in Neuroscience Education

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Scientastic: Are You Sleeping? | Preview



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301A
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Project Contact(s):

Pollock, John, PhD

Role: PI / Project Leader

Phone: 412-855-4043

Email: pollock@duq.edu

Help and Support



National Institute of
General Medical Sciences

PREPARATION – PART 3

- Assemble team
- Identify partners
- Draft research plan
- Email to schedule a call



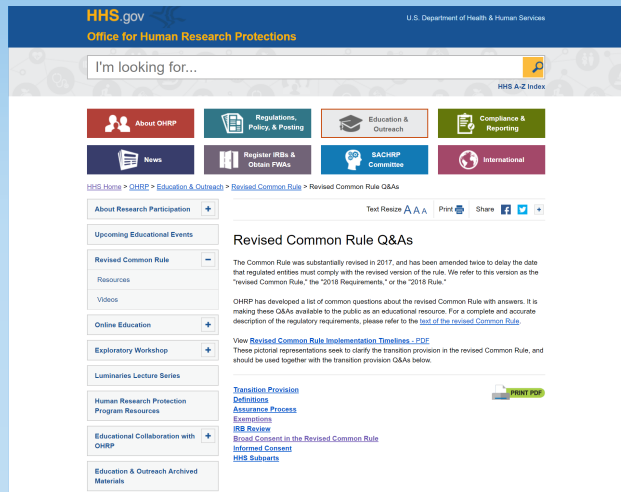
PROGRAM

- Human Subjects
- Inclusion

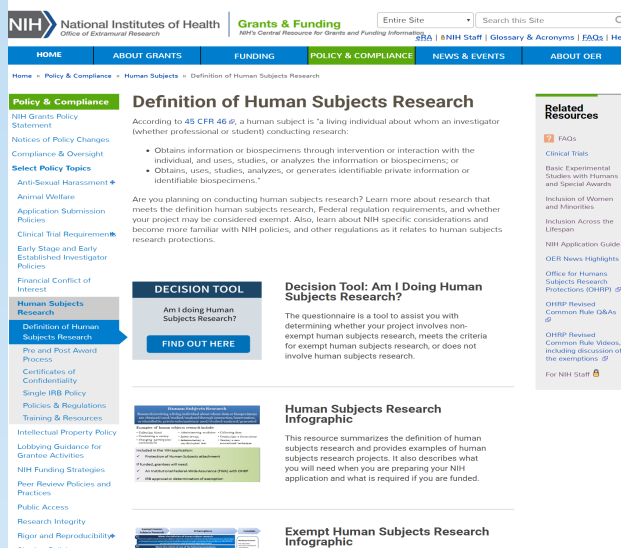
Rashada Alexander, Ph.D



What's New with Human Subjects?

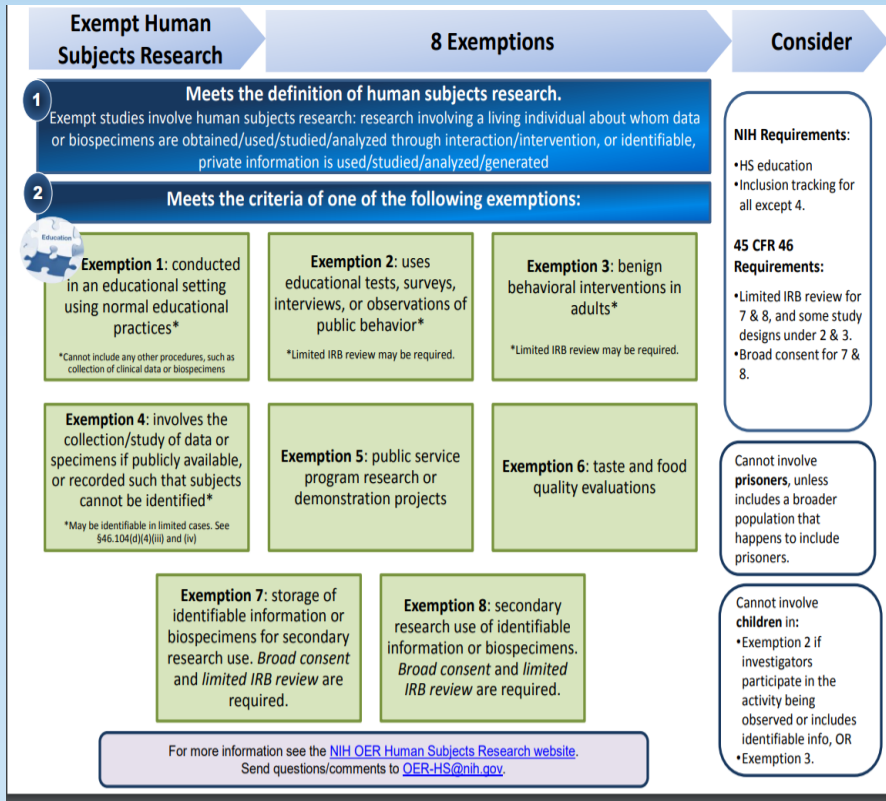


- Revised Common Rule: Changes include IRB Review, consent in the Common Rule, and exemption categories.
- **Expanded exemption categories that cover the work proposed in most SEPA applications.**
- Information to understand the changes:
<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/education-and-outreach/revised-common-rule/revised-common-rule-q-and-a/index.html#collapse-qa-e6>



- Changes to human subjects research-related NIH policies to align with Common Rule changes and the 21st Century Cures Act.
- New Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information forms – Affects all types of human subjects research.
- Resources to help you navigate the changes:
<https://grants.nih.gov/policy/humansubjects/research.htm>

I think I have a project with human subjects. What next?



- The exemptions listed are likely to cover most SEPA projects that do involve human subjects research.
- **If your proposal seems to include work beyond Exemptions 1-8, contact the SEPA Program Director to discuss the work you want to propose and its fit with SEPA's goals.**
- *Note: Expedited IRB review **does not mean** exempt human subjects research.*

Remember:

Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) or a Well-Matched Comparison study evaluation design to evaluate project effectiveness

≠

Clinical Research

Keep in Mind: Definition of Research

- A systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to **generalizable knowledge**.
- Program evaluations that do not involve experimental or non-standard interventions, provide information for and about the setting in which the program is conducted, are considered to be a requirement or standard operating procedure of the program, and are not subject to peer review are not considered research.
- Publishing the results of a program evaluation does not necessarily mean that the program evaluation must be treated as human subjects research.



New PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information Form

- Video walkthrough of new forms:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nz9NWFhYOG8&list=PLOEUwSnjvqBJeHcb4yai7_fDnFZFPEmQK&index=1
- Detailed instructions to fill them out:
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-general-forms-e.pdf>
- Clearly describe the activities in the IRB protocol that will be used to evaluate the program effectiveness.
 - Ex.: “Health-related biomedical or behavioral outcomes will not be evaluated and the proposed human subjects research does not meet the NIH Definition of Clinical Research.”

PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information

OMB Number: 0925-0001
Expiration Date: 03/31/2023

View Burden Statement

Please complete the human subjects section of the Research & Related Other Project Information form prior to completing this form.
The following items are taken from the Research & Related Other Project Information form and displayed here for your reference. Any changes to these fields must be made on the Research & Related Other Project Information form and may impact the data items you are required to complete on this form.

Are Human Subjects Involved? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Is the Project Exempt from Federal regulations? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Exemption number: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8

If No to Human Subjects

Does the proposed research involve human specimens and/or data? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, provide an explanation of why the application does not involve human subjects research.
 Add Attachment **Delete Attachment** **View Attachment**

Skip the rest of the PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information Form.

If Yes to Human Subjects

Add a record for each proposed Human Subject Study by selecting 'Add New Study' or 'Add New Delayed Onset Study' as appropriate. Delayed onset studies are those for which there is no well-defined plan for human subject involvement at the time of submission, per agency policies on Delayed Onset Studies. For delayed onset studies, you will provide the study name and a justification for omission of human subjects study information.

Other Requested Information
 Add Attachment **Delete Attachment** **View Attachment**

Study Record(s)
Click here to extract the Human Subject Study Record Attachment

Attach human subject study records using unique filenames.

☒ 1) Please attach Human Subject Study 1 **Add Attachment** **Delete Attachment** **View Attachment**
Add New Study

Delayed Onset Study(ies)

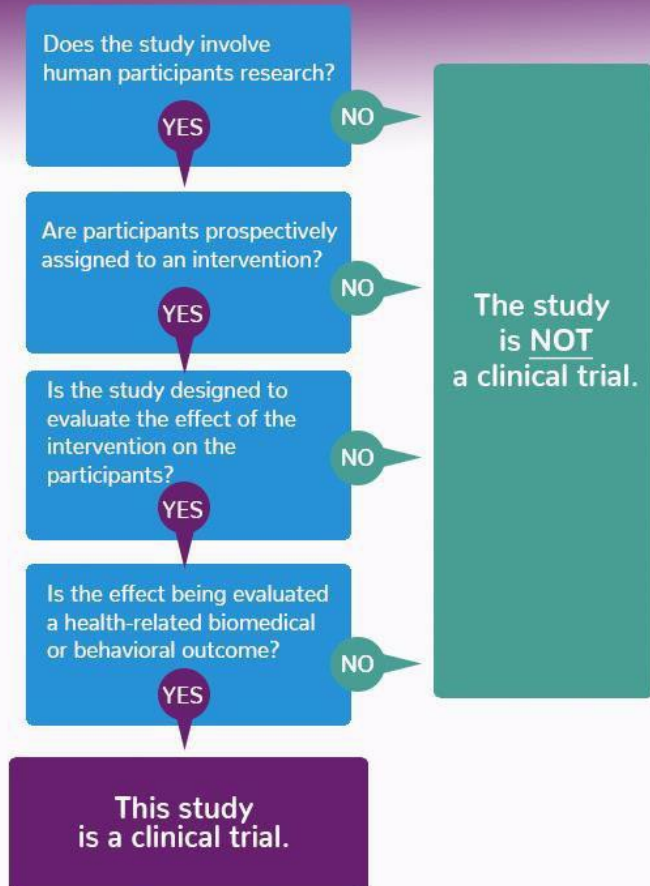
	Study Title	Anticipated Clinical Trial?	Justification
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

Add New Delayed Onset Study



What about Behavioral Interventions in Educational Settings?

Decision Tree for NIH Clinical Trial Definition



NOT CLINICAL TRIALS

- Pay attention to semantics
- Clearly describe outcome measures
- State health-related biomedical or behavioral outcomes will NOT be evaluated

FAQ C.3: What are some examples of outcomes that are not "health related biomedical or behavioral"?

While the vast majority of NIH-funded studies are health related, a few are not. For example, a **study that evaluates if enrollment in a summer internship program alters the student's opinions on their educational pathway** would not be assessing a health-related biomedical or behavioral outcome.



Helpful Hints

- Check with your IRB and institutional business officials (HRPP) prior to submission (early and often).
- Consider the Revised Common Rule changes as you develop your proposal.
- Separate program evaluation from other types of human subjects research.
- Program evaluations are NOT subject to Inclusion Monitoring.
- Program evaluations that use RCT methodology are NOT clinical trials.
- Provide extra detail on wearable devices and what will be done with the information.
 - Educational purposes only
 - Data collection, storage and access
 - Informed consent procedure if applicable
 - IRB evaluation and whether the IRB considers the research human subjects



Resources for Navigating Human Subjects Questions

The screenshot shows the NIH Grants & Funding website. The header includes the NIH logo, the text "National Institutes of Health Office of Extramural Research", and a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with tabs for HOME, ABOUT GRANTS, FUNDING, POLICY & COMPLIANCE (which is highlighted), NEWS & EVENTS, and ABOUT OER. The main content area is titled "Training & Resources - Human Subjects" and includes a sub-header "Policy & Compliance". The page provides information about the Office of Extramural Research (OER) and its resources for human subjects research. It lists various topics such as Anti-Sexual Harassment, Animal Welfare, Application Submission Policies, Clinical Trial Requirements, Early Stage and Early Established Investigator Policies, Financial Conflict of Interest, Human Subjects Research, Intellectual Property Policy, Lobbying Guidance for Grantee Activities, NIH Funding Strategies, Peer Review Policies and Practices, Public Access, and Research Integrity. The page also features a "Related Resources" sidebar with links to FAQs, Clinical Trials, Basic Experimental Studies with Humans and Special Awards, Inclusion of Women and Minorities, Inclusion Across the Lifespan, NIH Application Guide, OER News Highlights, Office for Humans Subjects Research Protections (OHRP), OHRP Revised Common Rule Q&As, and For NIH Staff.

NIH National Institutes of Health
Office of Extramural Research

Grants & Funding
NIH's Central Resource for Grants and Funding Information

Entire Site Search this Site

HOME ABOUT GRANTS FUNDING **POLICY & COMPLIANCE** NEWS & EVENTS ABOUT OER

Home » Policy & Compliance » Human Subjects » Training & Resources - Human Subjects

Policy & Compliance

NIH Grants Policy Statement

Notices of Policy Changes

Compliance & Oversight

Select Policy Topics

Anti-Sexual Harassment

Animal Welfare

Application Submission Policies

Clinical Trial Requirements

Early Stage and Early Established Investigator Policies

Financial Conflict of Interest

Human Subjects Research

Definition of Human Subjects Research

Pre and Post Award Process

Certificates of Confidentiality

Single IRB Policy

Policies & Regulations

Training & Resources

Intellectual Property Policy

Lobbying Guidance for Grantee Activities

NIH Funding Strategies

Peer Review Policies and Practices

Public Access

Research Integrity

Training & Resources - Human Subjects

The Office of Extramural Research (OER) provides training and communication tools such as web-based tutorials, presentations, and other resources to assist you in accessing and understanding information in determining if your research involves human subjects, may be exempt from federal regulations, or is not considered human subjects research.

On this page:

- Education Requirement**, including information about fulfilling the required education in the protection of human research participants.
- Training**, including required training, information for completing applications, training for using the Human Subjects System (HSS), and Single IRB training.
- Resources**, including the course content from the retired PHRP course, the Human Subjects Research and Exempt Human Subjects Research **infographics**, funding opportunity announcements, bioethics information, links to OHRP, and more.

Education Requirement

Protection of Human Subjects Education

Investigators and all key personnel who will be involved in the design or conduct of NIH-funded human subjects research must fulfill the protection of human subjects education requirement. For additional information, please see the [Human Subjects Research FAQs](#). Additional information about the requirement for education on the protection of human subjects policy can be found [here](#).

Training

Assistance Preparing the PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information Form

Find useful resources for filling out the PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form, study records application submission presentations, and annotated form sets.

Human Subjects System (HSS) Overview Video Tutorials and Resources

The HSS system is a shared system that enables grant recipients to electronically report and update their data on human subjects research and clinical trials to NIH; and for NIH agency staff to monitor and manage the study progress.

NIH Single IRB Webinar - October 2017

To prepare investigators, signing officials, research organizations or institutions, and institutional review board (IRB) staff involved in the design, conduct, or review of research involving domestic multi-site non-exempt human subjects studies to understand their roles and responsibilities with the NIH Single IRB policy.

Related Resources

- FAQs
- Clinical Trials
- Basic Experimental Studies with Humans and Special Awards
- Inclusion of Women and Minorities
- Inclusion Across the Lifespan
- NIH Application Guide
- OER News Highlights
- Office for Humans Subjects Research Protections (OHRP)
- OHRP Revised Common Rule Q&As
- For NIH Staff

<https://grants.nih.gov/policy/humansubjects/training-and-resources.htm>

REVIEW

- Review-related issues

Jonathan Arias, Ph.D.



REVIEW CONSIDERATIONS

NIH REVIEW CRITERIA:

Significance

Investigator(s)

Innovation

Approach (Evaluation Plan, Dissemination Plan, Website)

Environment

ADDITIONAL REVIEW CRITERIA:

Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity

Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research

Resource Sharing Plans

Protections for Human Subjects

Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children

Vertebrate Animals

Biohazards

Select Agents

Budget



REVIEW CONSIDERATIONS

SEPA-SPECIFIC REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Application will be withdrawn prior to peer review if any of these SEPA-specific sections of the application are missing:

- *Diversity Recruitment Plan**
- *Plan for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research**
- *Evaluation Plan**
- *Dissemination Plan**

APPENDIX: Do not use the Appendix to circumvent page limits. Follow all instructions for the Appendix as described in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide



Institutional Environment and Commitment

Letters of Support

A letter of institutional commitment must be attached as part of Letters of Support

(see: **"Institutional Environment and Commitment."**)



Letters of Partner Commitment

Letters of commitment from partners and/or collaborators must be attached as part of Letters of Support



GRANTS MANAGEMENT BASICS

Brian Iglesias



Grants Management Basics

- Annual Award Budget: \$250,000 direct costs
- Award Project Period: Up to 5 years
- Indirect Costs are reimbursed at 8% of MTDC
- Only one SEPA application is allowed per institution
- Organizations may be a subcontract on another SEPA award as long as the subcontract does not exceed 20% of the direct costs requested.



Grants Management Basics

Personnel Costs

Individuals designing, directing, and implementing the research education program may request salary and fringe benefits appropriate for the person months devoted to the program. Salaries requested may not exceed the levels commensurate with the institution's policy for similar positions and may not exceed the congressionally mandated cap. (If mentoring interactions and other activities with participants are considered a regular part of an individual's academic duties, then any costs associated with the mentoring and other interactions with participants are not allowable costs from grant funds).

Participant Costs

Not Applicable

Other Program-Related Expenses

Consultant costs, equipment, supplies, travel for key persons, and other program-related expenses may be included in the proposed budget. These expenses must be justified as specifically required by the proposed program and must not duplicate items generally available at the applicant institution.

There is an Annual SEPAP/PI Conference, usually in the Washington, DC area. It is required that the PD/PI(s) attend this meeting. PD/PI(s) are encouraged to bring key personnel, e.g., the project evaluator to the annual conference. Funds to support travel to the annual conference must be requested in the budget. If not used, these funds may not be rebudgeted.

A minimum of ten percent (10%) of the direct costs must be devoted to project evaluation.

Enter costs that previously fit into section “E. Participant/Trainee Other Support Costs” into section “F. Other Direct Costs” in the SF424 R&R application.



Grants Management Basics

Questionable Costs:

- Honorarium – not allowable when it is used to confer distinction on a speaker
- General Supplies – only costs directly related to the grant and/or project are allowable as direct costs
- Meals/Food – only allowable as part of meeting necessary for disseminating information

All costs must be allowable, reasonable, allocable, necessary and be accorded consistent treatment.



Grants Management Basics

Unallowable Costs:

- Stipends are not allowable on R25 awards.
Teachers and students participating in a SEPA project can be compensated for their participation in the project.
- Gifts are unallowable on all NIH awards.
Incentive payments to volunteers or participants in a grant-supported project are allowable.
- Entertainment is not allowable on NIH awards.



Grants Management Basics

- Competing applications with a detailed budget can continue to request cost-of-living/inflationary increases in accordance with institutional policy.
- Under the current budget climate, it is likely that requests associated solely with inflationary increases will be eliminated from the awarded budget for competing awards.
- Requests associated with special needs (e.g., equipment, added personnel or increased effort) will continue to be considered.
- http://grants.nih.gov/grants/financial/fiscal_policy_faq.htm



Grants Management Basics

Best Practices:

- Ensure costs are reasonable, allocable, necessary and consistently treated
- Provide adequate budget justifications to explain the relevance of costs to the proposed SEPA project
- Research proposed costs in advance – check with your Office of Sponsored Programs, or equivalent office, as many institutions have cost policies in place as guides



PROGRAM

Final Thoughts



NIH Scoring System

Scored Review Criteria

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



- APPROACH
 - 3 Specific Aims: SA1, SA2, SA3; SA1.1, SA.1.2
 - Evaluator input
 - Teacher input
 - Logic Model
 - Validated evaluation instruments
 - Control group(s)
 - Potential problems & solutions
 - Literature documentation
- Visual
 - Time & Events
 - Tables, figures, charts
 - Images
- Letters of support



*“what differentiates
this STEM resource
from others out there?”*



Significance:

- Strengths
 - **A well-organized proposal**
 - Scientific premise is sound.
 - **Proposed pedagogical plan for student learning is well supported by research**
 - **Past team and key personnel successes**
- Weaknesses
 - No discussion of the **existing STEM resources**
 - The **applicants claim** that the product will positively impact teachers' effectiveness and content knowledge but **does not offer evidence**
 - **No link to NGSS**, the relevant state science standards, or the national health education standards.
 - **Gender differences** do not appear to be considered.



Innovation:

○ Strengths

- The game as presented **draws on previous successes of the team** members.
- Using **real world examples and scientific data** to engage students in STEM learning.
- **Including students and teachers** – the end users – in the development of the STEM resource
- **While specific elements of application are not innovative, the entire package is an innovative way to teach**

○ Weaknesses

- It is not clear **what differentiates this STEM resource from others** or how it will contribute uniquely to the teacher/student audiences
- It seems the **teacher is not part of the process** during project development
- The proposed product may not provide sufficient **flexibility for use** by many teachers and/or district curricula



Approach:

- Strengths
 - The application is **clearly written**.
 - The **specific aims are clearly articulated**
 - **NGSS** science standards will be incorporated.
 - **Teacher feedback** is planned.
 - Comparisons between groups will include the **biological (sex and age)** and **social (poverty and learning skills)**.
- Weaknesses
 - The approach seems **overly ambitious**
 - Educational **goals are not articulated in a measurable way**
 - **Assessment tools are not validated** and will not provide information for design and implementation
 - **No control** is mentioned against which to evaluate the intervention.
 - The **user** group that is informing the development of the STEM resource **lacks diversity**



Approach:

○ Strengths

- The application is **clearly written**.
- The **specific aims are clearly articulated**
- **NGSS** science standards will be incorporated.
- **Teacher feedback** is planned.
- Comparisons between groups will include the **biological (sex and age)** and **social (poverty and learning skills)**.

○ Weaknesses

- The approach seems **overly ambitious**
- Educational **goals are not articulated in a measurable way**
- **Assessment plan** is a marketing and usability study. It will not provide information for design and implementation
- **No control** is mentioned against which to evaluate the game.
- The **end user group that is informing the development of the product lacks diversity**



Use plain, simple language, short words and brief sentences. Don't let fluff and flowers and verbosity creep in.

Mark Twain





*“This application
was a pleasure
to read”*



QUESTIONS?

