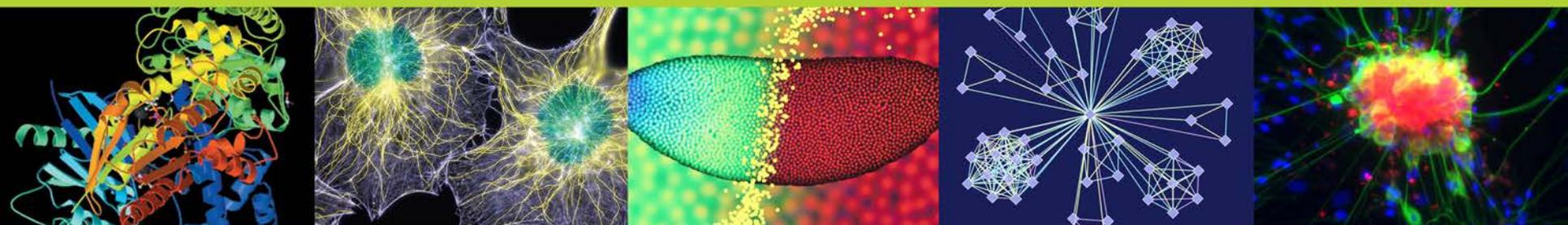


# Maximizing Investigators' Research Awards (MIRA) RFA-GM-17-002 (R35)

Peter Preusch, Lisa Moeller,  
Brian Pike, and Jon Lorsch  
National Institute of  
General Medical Sciences



# Funding Research *Programs* instead of Individual *Projects*

- Increase the **stability of funding** to enhance investigators' willingness to take on ambitious scientific projects and to approach problems creatively.
- Increase **flexibility** for investigators to follow important new research directions as opportunities arise.
- Improve the **distribution of funding** among investigators to increase overall scientific productivity and the chances for important breakthroughs.
- Reduce the time spent by researchers **writing grant applications**, allowing them to spend more time conducting research.
- Reduce the time spent on **reviewing grant applications**.

# Maximizing Investigators' Research Awards

*An experimental funding mechanism*

- Applications focus on the investigator and the overall program of research in their lab
- Significance of past and recent contributions to science and to the scientific community
- Impact of proposed work while deemphasizing details of approach
- Efficiency and efficacy of laboratory funding

# Status of the MIRA Program

- RFA-GM-16-002 for Established PI's
  - 179 applications received on May 20, 2015
  - Reviewed in November for January 2016 Council
  - Awards in progress, thus far 115 awards approved for an average of \$400,000 direct costs
- RFA-GM-16-003 for NewPI/ESIs
  - 400 applications received on Sept 9, 2015
  - Reviewed March for May 2016 Council
  - NIGMS plans up to 70 awards up to \$250,000 d.c.
- Future FOAs to be determined this year

# Maximizing Investigators' Research Award (R35) RFA-GM-17-002

- Receipt Date: May 20, 2016
- Earliest Award Date: April 1, 2017
- Eligibility is limited for this RFA
- Requires 51% of PI's research effort
- A MIRA will replace all current NIGMS funding of the PI's laboratory with a few exceptions
- Applications may request up to \$750,000 d.c. per year for five years. But be realistic!

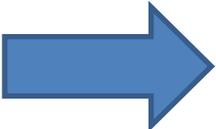
# Maximizing Investigators' Research Award (R35) RFA-GM-17-002 (Application)

- SF424 R&R – All sections, except Specific Aims
- New Format Biosketch ≤ 5 pages
  - Include contributions to the scientific community
- Current and Pending Support
- Detailed Budget and Justification
- Research Strategy ≤ 6 pages
  - Background, Recent Progress, Overview of Future Research
  - Focus on important questions.
- Human Subjects and Vertebrate Animals
- Resource and Data Sharing plans are required
- Letter of Support from Institutional Official

# Maximizing Investigators' Research Award (R35) RFA-GM-17-002 (Review)

- Review by Special Emphasis Panels
- Organized by NIGMS Office of Scientific Review
- Review to focus on overall research program, scientific questions, general strategies, investigator productivity and overall contributions, not experimental details.
- Review Criteria modified, no separate criterion scores, all applications to be discussed.
- Budget Recommendation

Did you receive an NOA for two or more NIGMS-funded competing, non-competing or supplement awards in the FY2014 to FY2015 time window?



Yes

Does the project period of at least one of these grants end in the FY2017, FY2018, or FY2019?



Yes

You are eligible to apply for a MIRA!



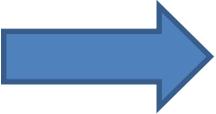
No



No

You are *not* eligible to apply for a MIRA at this time.

Did you receive an NOA for one NIGMS-funded R01 equivalent grant > \$400K/yr TDC (incl. Subcontract F&A costs) in the FY2014 to FY2015 time window?



Yes

Does the project period end in FY2017, 2018, or FY2019?



Yes

You are eligible to apply for a MIRA!



No

You are *not* eligible to apply for a MIRA at this time.



No

You are *not* eligible to apply for a MIRA at this time.

# MIRA Resources

- [RFA-GM-17-002 – NIH Guide Announcement](#)
- NIGMS Feedback Loop
- NIGMS Website – [MIRA Web Page](#)
  - Link to NIH Guide
  - MIRA Answers to Frequently Asked Questions
  - MIRA Eligibility Flowchart
  - Example Biosketch, Support Page (in progress)
  - Webinar archive will be posted
  - Watch for future additions
- Email: [preuschp@nigms.nih.gov](mailto:preuschp@nigms.nih.gov)

**Contact: Peter C. Preusch**  
**301-594-0828**  
**preuschp@nigms.nih.gov**  
**www.nigms.nih.gov**

**You may also want to contact the program director  
assigned to your current NIGMS grant award(s)**

