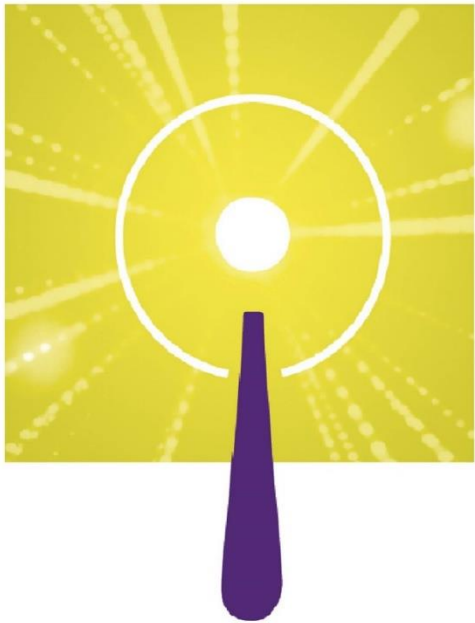


NIH DIRECTOR'S
NEW INNOVATOR
AWARD



NIH Director's New Innovator Award

Webinar for RFA-RM-27-002

Patricia Labosky, Ph.D.
Becky Miller, Ph.D.

Office of the Director, NIH



National Institutes of Health
Office of Strategic Coordination–The Common Fund

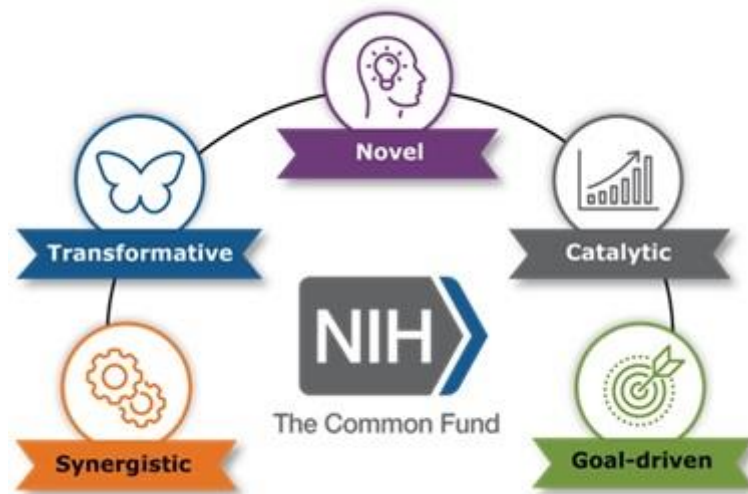
commonfund.nih.gov/newinnovator

NewInnovatorAwards@mail.nih.gov

The NIH Common Fund

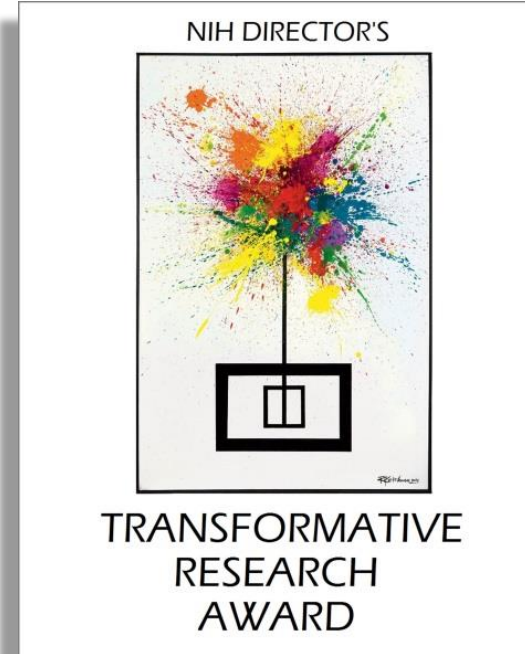
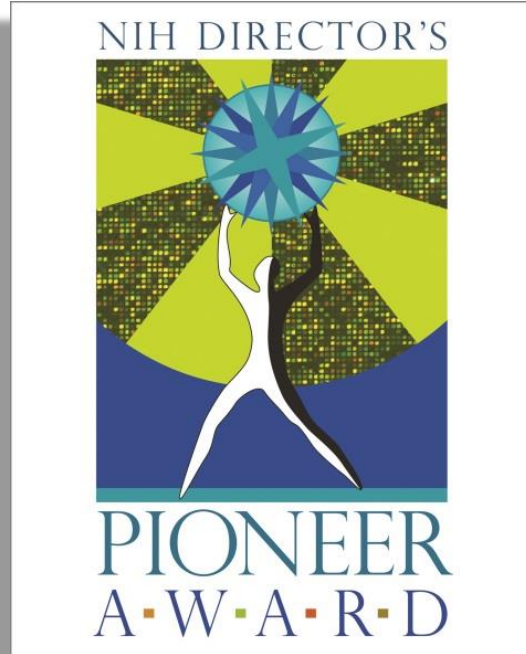
Mission:

To support **bold scientific programs that catalyze discovery** across all biomedical and behavioral research. Investigators and **multiple NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices** collaborate on **innovative research** expected to address high priority challenges for the NIH as a whole and make a **broader impact in the scientific community**.



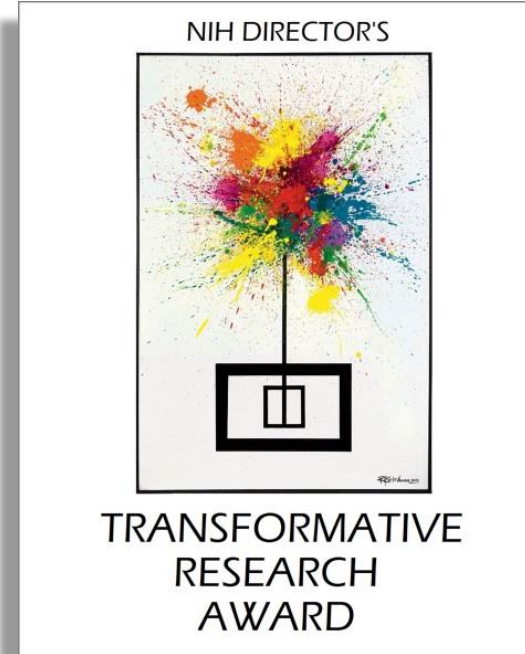
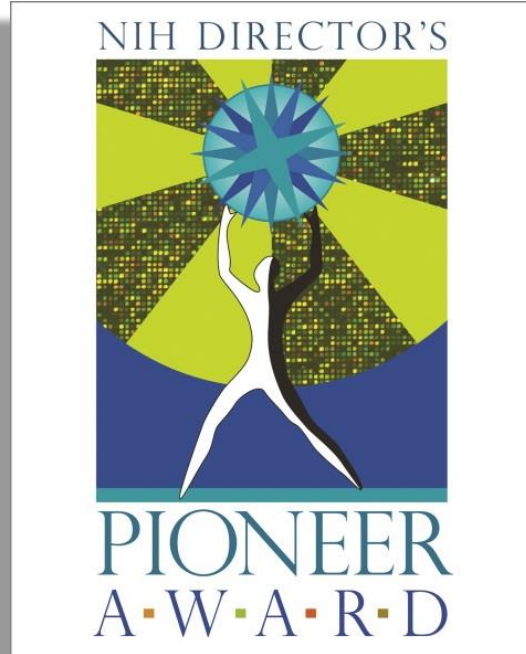
commonfund.nih.gov

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program



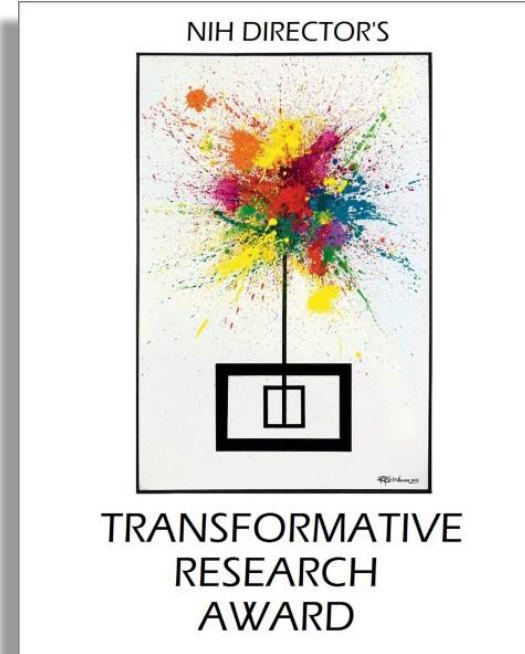
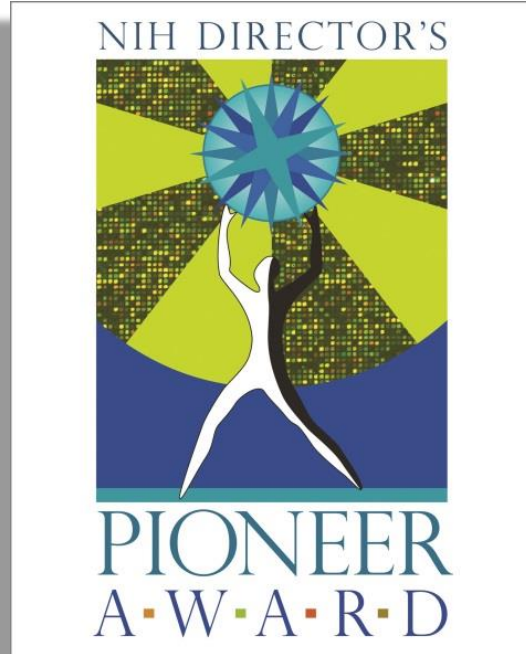
Supporting scientists at all career stages proposing outstanding high-risk, high-impact research

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program



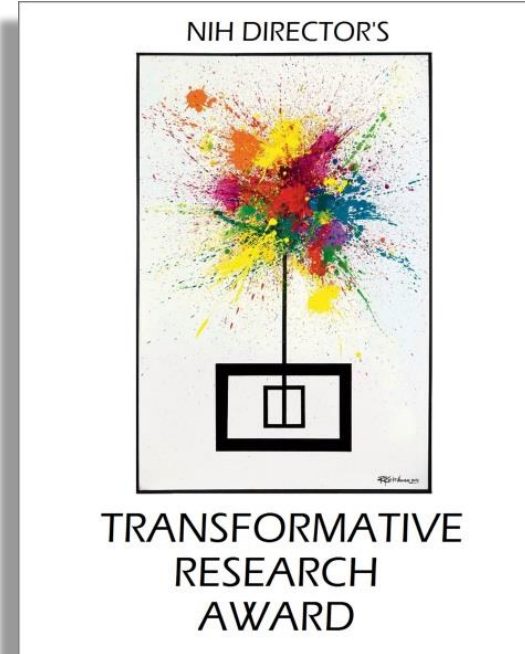
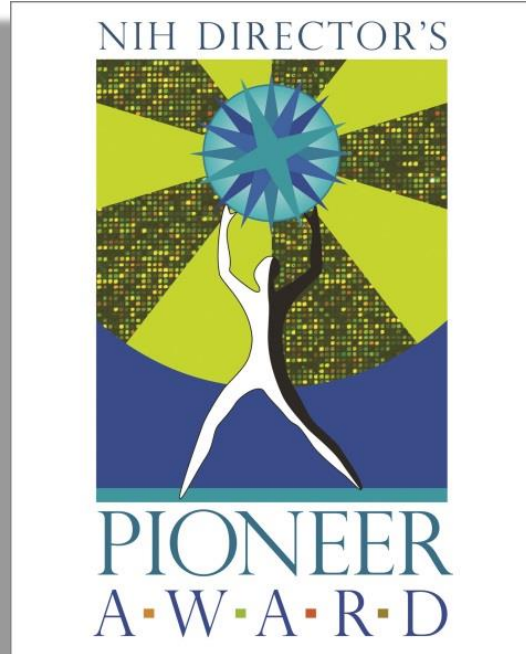
Annual funding opportunities

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program



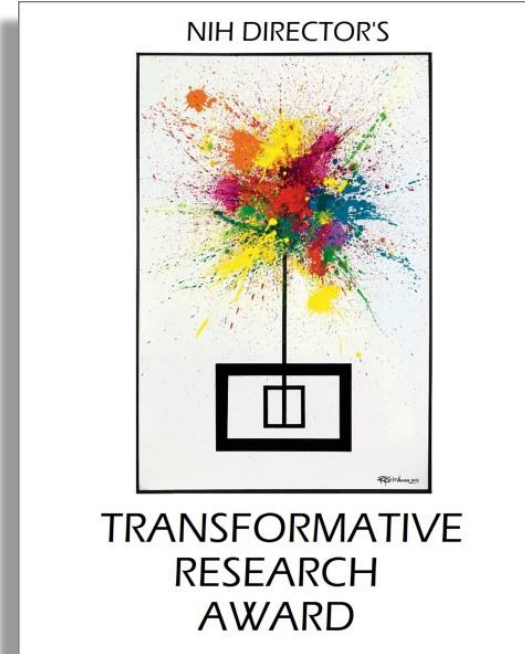
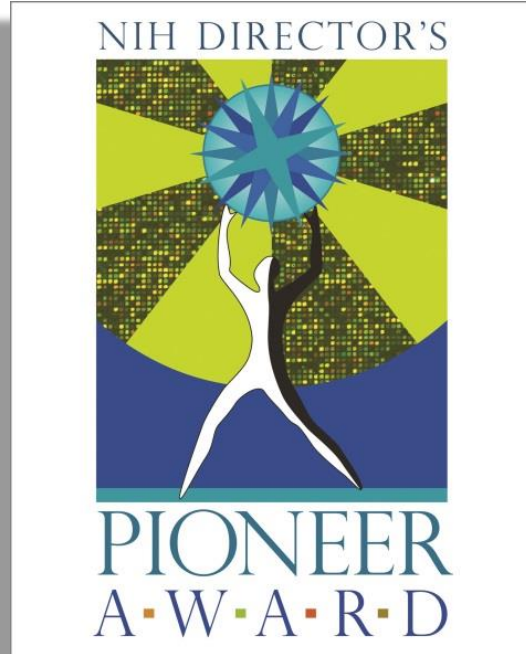
High-risk, high-impact ideas

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program



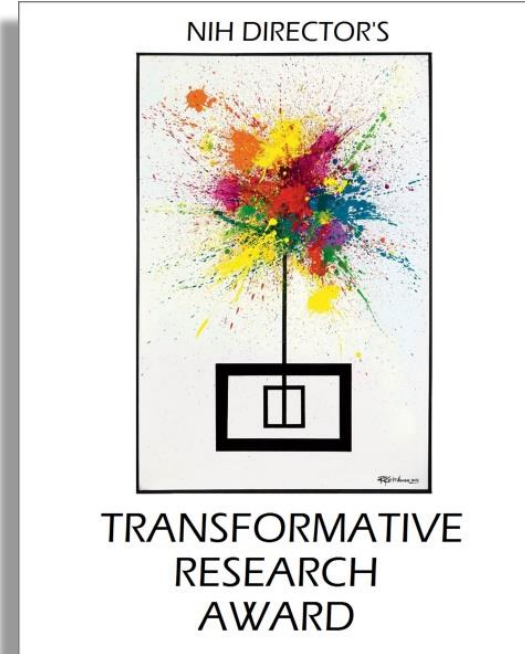
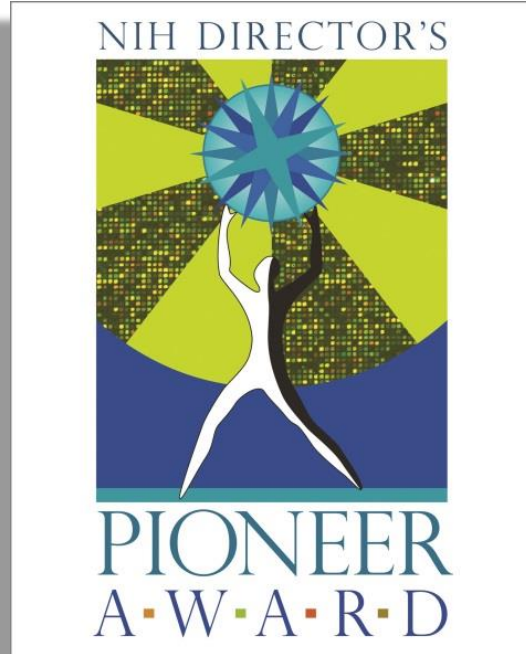
No preliminary data or detailed experimental plan required

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program



Any topic relevant to NIH mission welcome
Behavioral, social, biomedical, applied, and formal sciences,
and basic, translational, or clinical research

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program



Encourage applications from full spectrum of eligible institutions

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program



Supports unusually creative early career investigators proposing innovative, high-impact research

- Started in 2007
- Single PI application only
- Early Stage Investigator (no substantial NIH grant and within 10 years of doctoral degree or clinical training)
- Commit 25% research effort
- Awards of **\$475,000** per year for 5 years
- DP2 activity code

DP2 Application

Follow instructions in SF424 application guide unless specific guidance is provided in the RFA

Specific Aims Page	Do not use
Research Strategy Essay	10 pages (primary component of the application; see later slide for more information)
Biosketch	Only PI's biosketch allowed
Bibliography & References Cited	Do not use; include essential in references in Essay and within 10-page limit
Budget	Do not use
Equipment	Do not use
Letters of support	Do not use
Other components/forms	Use when appropriate, such as Authentication of Key Biol./Chem. Resources; Vertebrate Animals; Human Subjects; Biohazards

Budget Information

- Request \$2,375,000 in total project funds on SF424 (R&R) Form
- No detailed budget information required
- Do not use or submit a budget form
- Funds will be disbursed in annual increments of \$475,000 per year for up to 5 years
- No-cost extensions are allowed

Research Strategy Essay

In 10 pages, use the following headings or subsections:

- ***Project science areas*** – 1 digit code and abbreviation for primary and secondary areas
- ***Project Description*** – Describe scientific importance of topic; overall approach to be taken; preliminary data not required, but accepted; state that to comply with the funding opportunity, a detailed and extensive experimental plan is not being provided; however, provide sufficient evidence that proposal has been deeply considered and will be pursued in a robust and rigorous manner
- ***Innovativeness*** – Provide argument of why proposal is exceptionally innovative
- ***Investigator qualifications*** – Support your claim of innovativeness in prior research
- ***Suitability for the New Innovator Award program*** – Describe why proposal is “HRHR”
- ***Statement of research effort commitment*** – State will commit at least 25% research effort toward project
- ***Bibliography/citations*** – Include critical citations; may be in an abbreviated form as long as identifier is unique

Research Strategy Essay - Points to Consider

- Given review process used, be sure that what you write can be easily appreciated by people well outside the field for exceptional innovation and potential for unusually broad impact
- May be helpful to begin with a description of the landscape of the field and current state-of-the-art or boundaries; provide proper context for proposal and why it is so innovative and potentially impactful
- Ease the reader into the jargon of the field
- Though no data or detailed experimental plan are required, convince the reviewer that you have thought deeply about the project – identify risky aspects, how they will be mitigated, alternate approaches
- Also, convince the reviewer that the research will be performed in a robust and rigorous manner – validate new approaches, provide estimates of numbers of human or animal subjects (if used) and why, include that sex will be considered as a biological variable (if appropriate)

Check out our website

Information & Help

[OVERVIEW](#)

[SLIDESHOW](#)



[APPLICATION & AWARD GUIDE](#)



[FAQS](#)



[WEBINAR](#)



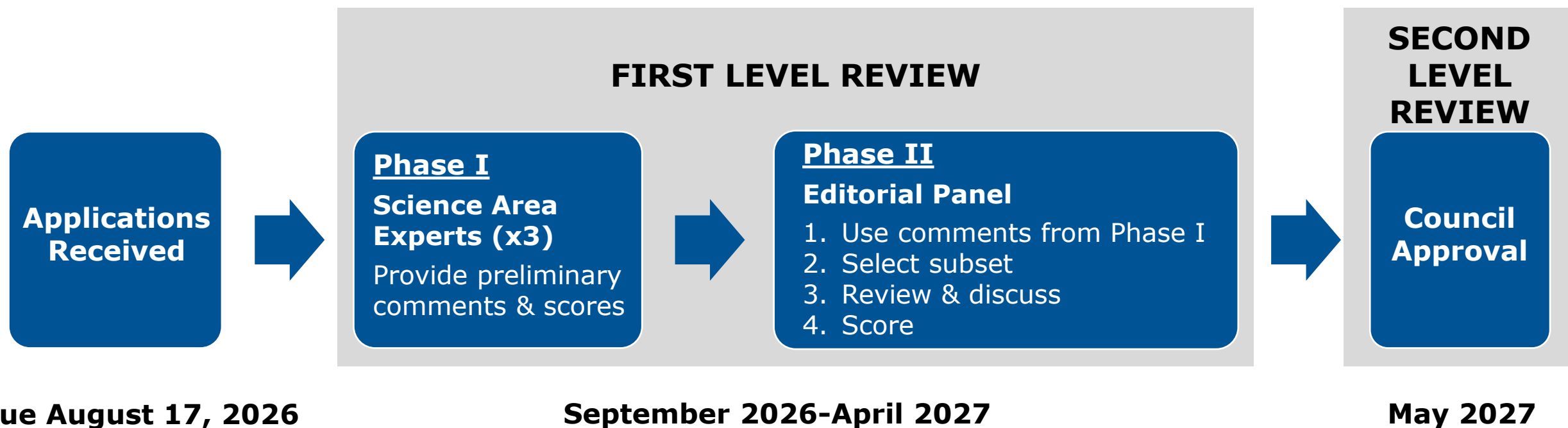
[CLINICAL TRIALS](#)



[HRHR LISTSERV & EMAILS](#)



New Innovator Review Process



Peer-Review Process – Phase I

- Applications will be assigned to one of two (or more) equivalent panels in a Review Branch in the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) – it may not match your area of science – do not worry about this!
- Administrative review will check for completeness and ESI eligibility
- Applications are grouped based on areas of science, as identified by applicant
- Potential conflicts of interest will be considered for each application (e.g., institutional, collaborative, etc.)
- Science area experts (“mail” reviewers) will be recruited to cover all representative areas of science

Peer-Review Process – Phase I

Recruit science
area reviewers



Match
application with
reviewers by
science area



Reviewers
evaluate
applications



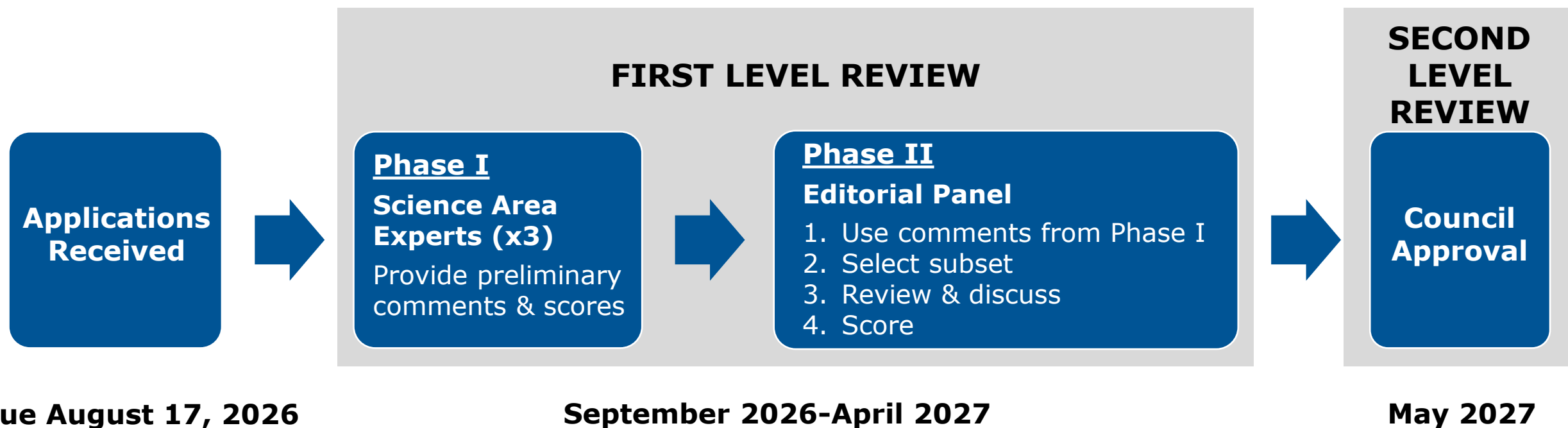
Reviewers score
& write an
evaluation

Each application reviewed
by three reviewers

Evaluation criteria:

- Importance and potential impact of the scientific problem
- Novelty/innovativeness of approach
- Creative potential of PI

New Innovator Review Process



(Same as slide 15)

Selection of “Finalist” Applications for Phase II

- Applications selected for Phase II
 - Based on rank score order from Phase I review
 - Selected by Editorial Panel members based on their evaluation and Phase I scores and impact statements
- ~13-20% of all submitted applications advance to Phase II

Peer-Review Process – Phase II

- Review conducted by Editorial Panel of ~15-20 members
 - Senior members of the scientific community
 - Experts with broad scientific understanding
- Each finalist application assigned to three reviewers
 - Reviewers have access to Phase I critiques
 - All finalist applications are discussed
- Scoring focused on impact & innovation

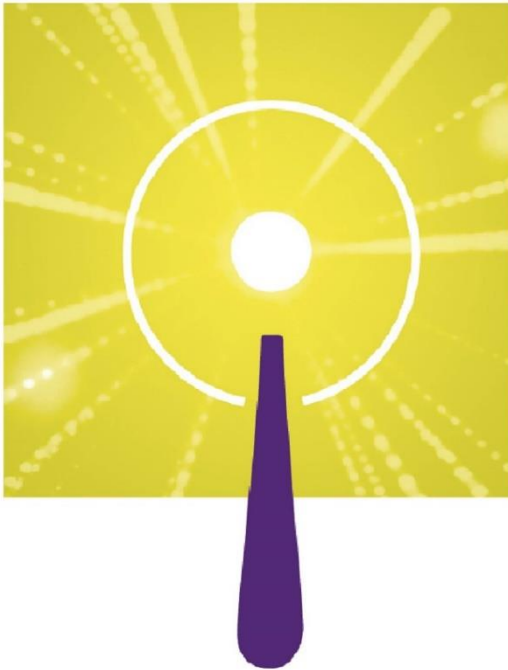
Following the Review

- Applicants receive scores within 3-5 business days in eRA Commons.
 - For *discussed* applications, a final score will be listed.
 - For *not-discussed* applications, no score will be listed; it will say “Not Discussed” or “ND.”
- All applicants receive Summary Statements ~30 days after the meeting.
 - *Discussed* applications receive a resume/summary of the Editorial Panel discussion and a statement of overall impact from the Editorial Panel reviewers.
 - *Not-discussed* applications receive the critiques from Phase I reviewers.

Advisory Council Review

- Council of Councils (OD) performs second level of review
- Assesses the first level of review for fairness and uniformity in the application of review criteria
- Not tasked with reviewing the applications for scientific or technical merit
- Council concurrence needed to make awards

NIH DIRECTOR'S
NEW INNOVATOR
AWARD



commonfund.nih.gov/newinnovator

NewInnovatorAwards@mail.nih.gov

Webinar recording & slides
will be posted on website