

# Guided Tour of K Awards

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**Disclosure Information**  
**Sergei Radaev, PhD**

**No Relevant Disclosures**

# Topics to cover

- What is the Timing and Schedule?
- Who are the Members of the Review Panel?
- How are Grants Discussed/Decisions Made?
- How Does the Scoring Process Work/Each Section Scored?
- Understanding and Making the Best Use of Feedback Received from Review Panels?
- How to Plot the Best Course of Action Whether a Grant Application Is or Is Not Funded?

# What is the Timing and Schedule?

# NIH Peer Review Process

Division of Receipt and Referral (CSR)



Initial Peer Review (IC or CSR)



Second Level of Review (Council)



Funding decisions (IC director)



Award

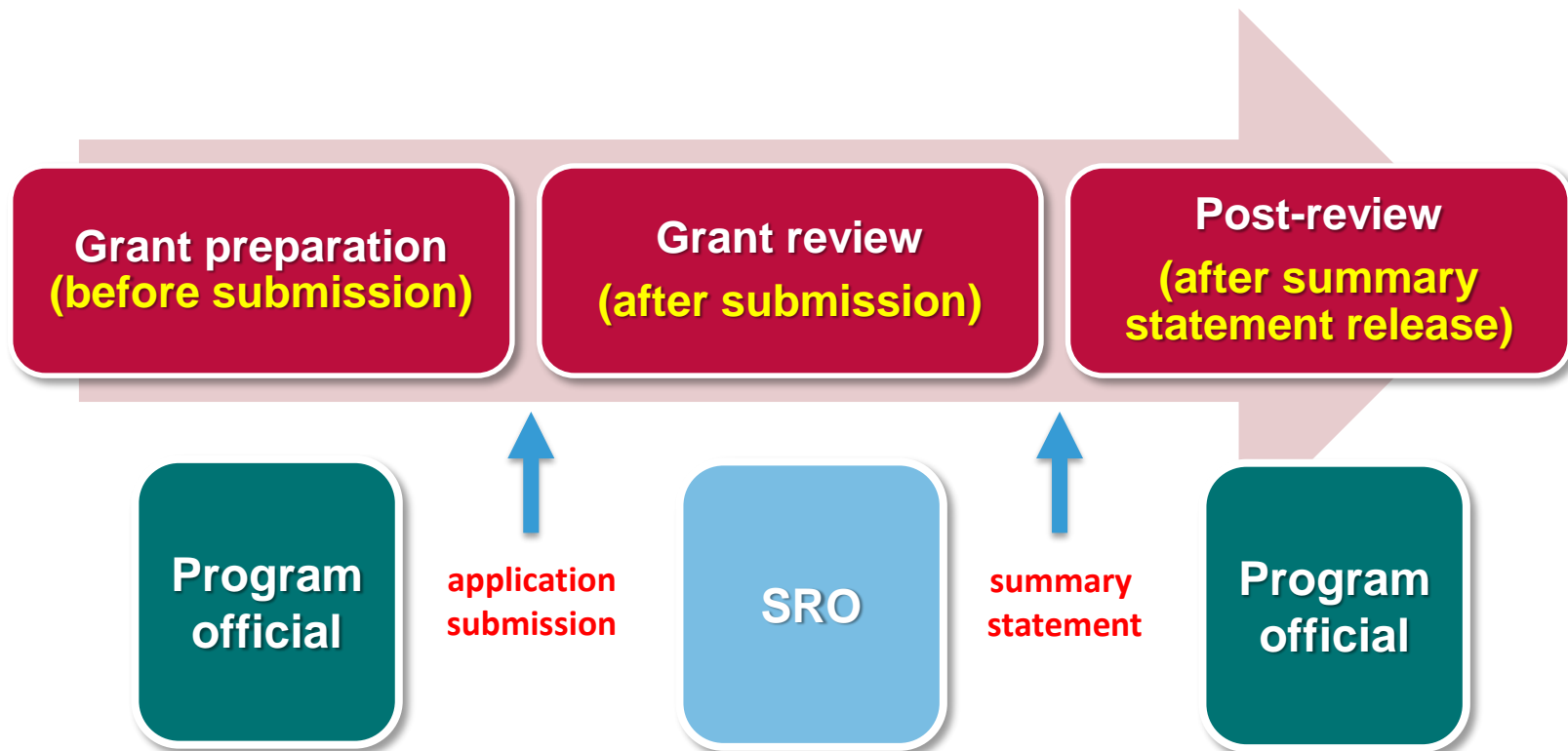
# Standard Due Dates for K-application Submission

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/standard-due-dates.htm>

Mechanisms	Cycle I Due Date	Cycle II Due Date	Cycle III Due Date
<b><u>New</u> K grant applications</b>	February 12	June 12	October 12
<b><u>Resubmission</u> K grant applications</b>	March 12	July 12	November 12
<b>Scientific Merit Review (IRG)</b>	June - July	October - November	February - March
<b>Advisory Council Review</b>	September - October	January - February	May - June
<b>Earliest Project Start Date</b>	December*	April	July

*\* - Awarding components may not always be able to honor the requested start date of an application*

# Points of contact during the lifecycle of a grant



## Contacting **Program Official** before application submission

- Help in clarifying eligibility questions/issues
- Confirm whether your project is a good fit for the NIH IC, e.g., NCI
- General advise on how to prepare your application
- Discuss important points to consider



# NIH Peer Review Process

Division of Receipt and Referral (CSR)



Initial Peer Review (IC or CSR)



Second Level of Review (Council)



Funding decisions (IC director)



Award

For K grants  
initial peer  
review is  
usually done  
by NIH ICs



## Assignment Request Form and Cover Letter

- You can request an NIH IC or a specific study section
- Identify scientific **areas of expertise** needed to review your application
- List individuals who should not review your application and why (e.g., potential conflict)

**Even if you don't request a specific NIH IC or study section, DRR will assign your application to the appropriate IC/study section**

Funding Opportunity Number:

Funding Opportunity Title:

**Awarding Component Assignment Request** *(optional)*

If you have a preference for an Awarding Component (e.g., NIH Institute/Center) assignment, please use the link below to identify the most appropriate assignment then enter the short abbreviation (e.g., NCI for National Cancer Institute) in "Assign to/Do Not Assign To Awarding Component" sections below. Your first choice should be in column 1. All requests will be considered; however, locus of review is predetermined for some applications and assignment requests cannot always be honored.

Information about Awarding Components can be found here: [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs\\_assignment\\_information.htm#AwardingComponents](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs_assignment_information.htm#AwardingComponents)

**Request NIH IC**  
**(e.g., NCI)**



	1	2	3
Assign to Awarding Component:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Do Not Assign to Awarding Component:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Study Section Assignment Request** *(optional)*

If you have a preference for a study section assignment, please use the link below to identify the most appropriate study section then enter the short abbreviation for that study section in "Assign to/Do not Assign to Study Section" sections below. Your first choice should be in column 1. All requests will be considered; however, locus of review is predetermined for some applications and assignment requests cannot always be honored.

For example, you would enter "CAMP" if you wish to request assignment to the Cancer Molecular Pathobiology study section or enter "ZRG1 HDM-R" if you wish to request assignment to the Healthcare Delivery and Methodologies SBIR/STTR panel for informatics. Be careful to accurately capture all formatting (e.g., spaces, hyphens) when you type in the request.

Information about Study Sections can be found here: [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs\\_assignment\\_information.htm#StudySection](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs_assignment_information.htm#StudySection)

**Request Study section**  
**(e.g., NCI-I)**



	1	2	3
Assign to Study Section:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Do Not Assign to Study Section:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Identify conflicts**

**List Individuals who should not review your application and why** *(optional)**Only 1000 characters allowed*

**Suggest expertise required**  
**to review your application**

**Identify Scientific areas of expertise needed to review your application** *(optional)**Note: Please do not provide names of individuals*


	1	2	3	4	5
Expertise:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

# Find a Study Section

CSR Internet - Study Sec

Secure | https://public.csr.nih.gov/studysections/pages/default.aspx

Apps | Will\_Faq | FAQs | Research Train | PA-16-193: NIH Path | Resubmission-FAQs | Clinical Trial Commu

 Center for Scientific Review

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Integrated Review GroupsStandingSmall Business and Technology TransferFellowshipSpecial Emphasis

CSR Home > Study Sections

## Study Sections

### Find a Study Section

Applications are reviewed in Study Sections (Scientific Review Group, SRG). Integrated Review Groups (IRGs) are clusters of Study Sections based on scientific discipline.

#### APPLICATION ASSIGNMENT REQUESTS

Applicants may submit requests for both awarding component (NIH Institute/Center for other PHS Operating Division such as CDC, FDA) and review group assignments. Some e-Tools available to guide thinking include:

<b>NIH RePORTER</b>	Use Keyword Searches or Matchmaker to identify awarding components that have funded similar science
<b>CSR Assisted Referral Tool</b>	Use ART to identify CSR study sections that might be appropriate for review of your application

Use the Assignment Request Form (optional form in application packets) to convey any assignment requests to the Division of Receipt and Referral, Center for Scientific Review. **Do not use a cover letter for this information.** See **NOT-OD-16-008** for more information about how to use this form.


#### Integrated Review Groups (IRGs)

### Policy Changes

- » Submission Flexibilities Available to Institutions Impacted by Hurricane Maria
- » Reminder: NIH Natural Disaster Policy - Hurricane Irma
- » Notice of Assistance Available to Institutions Impacted by Hurricane Harvey
- » Reminder: NIH Natural Disaster Policy - Hurricane Harvey
- » More ...

### FAQs

- » For Applicants
- » For Reviewers

 NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

## Scientific Review Officer (**SRO**) manages Initial Peer Review

- Assembles panel of reviewers with appropriate expertise
- Manages Conflicts of Interest
- Assigns applications to reviewers
- Manages initial peer review meeting
- Prepares and **releases summary statements**

# Who are the Members of the Review Panel?

# How reviewers are selected?

- Recognized authorities in their field and active scientists
- Standing committee maintains diversity with respect to the geographic distribution, gender, race and ethnicity of the membership
- Reviewers must be dedicated to high quality, fair reviews.
- Each scientific area reviewed by the study section needs appropriate expert representation
- **Study sections that review multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary applications have a greater need for scientists who have broader expertise or who have demonstrated the capacity to appreciate and evaluate areas of science outside their immediate area of expertise**

## NCI study sections that review cancer-focused K-grants

NCI-I - Transition to Independence



NCI-J - Career Development



If there is a conflict with the review panel the application will be reviewed by a Special Emphasis Panel (SEP)

NCI-I: 22 regular members + *ad hocs*  
reviews ~100+ applications

NCI-J: 18 regular members + *ad hocs*  
reviews ~70+ applications




# Find a Study Section

CSR Internet - Study Sec

Secure | https://public.csr.nih.gov/studysections/pages/default.aspx

Apps | Will\_Faq | FAQs | Research Train | PA-16-193: NIH Path | Resubmission-FAQs | Clinical Trial Commu

 Center for Scientific Review

NIH Program Resources | Staff Directory | Contact | Press Kit

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Integrated Review GroupsStandingSmall Business and Technology TransferFellowshipSpecial Emphasis

CSR Home > Study Sections

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- » More ...

FAQs

- » For Applicants
- » For Reviewers

 NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

<http://www.cancer.gov/grants-training/training/funding>



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[Home](#) > [Grants & Training](#) > [Training](#)

TRAINING

Cancer Training at NCI +

Funding for Cancer Training

NCI F30 Award

NCI F31 Award

NCI F32 Award

NCI F33 Award

NCI F99 Award

NCI K07 Award

NCI K08 Award

NCI K12 Award

NCI K22 Award

NCI K99 Award

NCI R25 Award

NCI T32 Award

Evaluation of the Career Development (K) Awards Program

Building a Diverse Workforce +

## Funding for Extramural Cancer Training by the Cancer Training Branch

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) supports fellowships, research career development awards, and training/education research in all areas of cancer research, including cancer prevention, control, behavioral sciences, population sciences, and translational research, at universities and institutions across the country. The Cancer Training Branch manages the training and education awards listed below.

**\*New\*** Download the PDF "The Grants Process, Lifecycle of a Grant"

[Find Recent NIH Policy Statements and Notices](#)

Name	Award Type	Program Director(s)	Discipline(s)	Career Stage
All opportunities require U.S. citizenship or permanent residency except the F99/K00 and K99/R00 awards, which are open to non-U.S. citizens.				
<a href="#">F30- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for</a>	Fellowship	<a href="#">Dr. Mark Damico</a>	• All Cancer Research	• Predoctoral MD/PhD



1-800-4-CANCER Live Chat Publications Dictionary

ABOUT CANCER

CANCER TYPES

RESEARCH

GRANTS & TRAINING

NEWS & EVENTS

ABOUT NCI

search



Home > Grants & Training > Training > Funding for Cancer Training



## TRAINING

Cancer Training at NCI +

### Funding for Cancer Training

NCI F30 Award

NCI F31 Award

NCI F32 Award

NCI F33 Award

NCI F99 Award

NCI K07 Award

NCI K08 Award

NCI K12 Award

NCI K22 Award

**NCI K99 Award**

NCI R25 Award

NCI T32 Award

Evaluation of the Career Development (K) Awards

## The Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00)

The NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) helps outstanding postdoctoral researchers complete needed mentored training and transition in a timely manner to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions.

NCI will accept K99/R00 applications in all areas of cancer research.

Reference the [Program Announcement](#) or contact the [program staff](#) for more information.

### ON THIS PAGE

- [Applicant Eligibility](#)
- [Budget](#)
- [How to Apply](#)
- [NCI Special Notes](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [NCI Staff Contacts](#)

### Applicant Eligibility

## Resources

- [Program Announcement](#)
- [Current List of K99/R00 Awards](#)
- [Link to Main Peer Review Group NCI-I](#)
- [K99/R00 FAQ](#)
- [Transition Info/Forms](#)

## NCI Staff Contacts

For additional information regarding policies and/or guidance in preparing an application for the K99/R00 Award, contact:

- Branch Phone: 240-276-5630
- Dr. Michael Schmidt  
Program Director  
Email: [mschmidt@mail.nih.gov](mailto:mschmidt@mail.nih.gov)
- Dr. Sergei Radaev  
Program Director  
Email: [sradaev@mail.nih.gov](mailto:sradaev@mail.nih.gov)

For information regarding fiscal and/or budget issues, contact:

- Grant Management Contact  
Marianne Galczynski  
Email: [marianne.galczynski@nih.gov](mailto:marianne.galczynski@nih.gov)
- Phone: 240-276-5588

For information regarding referral and review issues, contact:

- [Referral Officer](#)

## STUDY SECTION ROSTER INFORMATION

To view other meetings from NCI choose calendar year: 2017

Study Section	Membership Roster	Committee Name	SRO (E-MAIL)	Meeting Rosters
NCI I	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	SUBCOMMITTEE I - TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE	<a href="#">TANG, DELIA</a>	<a href="#">10/18/17</a> <a href="#">06/14/17</a> <a href="#">02/16/17</a>

Last Update: 10/27/17

## Subcommittee I - Transition to Independence

(Terms end 6/30 of the designated year)

ROSTER

*End of term*

### CHAIRPERSON

BOUTON, AMY H, PHD (18)  
PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR GRADUATE AND MEDICAL SCIENTIST PROGRAMS  
DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND  
CANCER BIOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA, 22908

AKPORIAYE, EMMANUEL T., PHD (19)  
ADJUNCT FULL MEMBER  
EARLE A. CHILES RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
PROVIDENCE PORTLAND CANCER CENTER  
FOUNDER, VEANA THERAPEUTICS  
PORTLAND, OR, 97213

ARBAB, ALI SYED, MD, PHD (19)  
PROFESSOR, LEADER OF TUMOR ANGIOGENESIS INITIATIVE; DIRECTOR OF CORE IMAGING FACILITY FOR SMALL ANIMALS  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY  
COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY  
AUGUSTA, GA, 30912

BLACK, JENNIFER D., PHD (18)  
PROFESSOR; CO-LEADER, GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER PROGRAM  
EPPLEY INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN CANCER  
AND ALLIED DISEASES  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER  
OMAHA, NE, 68198

CHAN, REBECCA J., MD, PHD (19)  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PEDIATRICS  
DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS AND OF MEDICAL  
AND MOLECULAR GENETICS  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN, 46202

CLARKE, JENNIFER L., PHD (19)  
PROFESSOR  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS  
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DIRECTOR, QUANTITATIVE LIFE SCIENCES INITIATIVE  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA - LINCOLN  
LINCOLN, NE, 685886207

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Last Update: 10/27/17

## SUBCOMMITTEE I - TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE

NCH  
10/18/17 - 10/19/17  
Meeting Roster

**Notice of NIH Policy to All Applicants:** Meeting rosters are provided for information purposes only. Applicant investigators and institutional officials must not communicate directly with study section members about an application before or after the review. Failure to observe this policy will create a serious breach of integrity in the peer review process, and may lead to actions outlined in [NOT-OD-14-073](#) and [NOT-OD-15-106](#), including removal of the application from immediate review.

### CHAIRPERSON

BOUTON, AMY H. PHD  
PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR GRADUATE AND MEDICAL SCIENTIST PROGRAMS  
DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND  
CANCER BIOLOGY  
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CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA, 22908

### MEMBERS

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DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY  
COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY  
AUGUSTA, GA, 30912

BAKKENIST, CHRISTOPHER J., PHD \*  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND VICE CHAIR  
DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY  
HILLMAN CANCER CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
PITTSBURGH, PA, 15213

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OMAHA, NE, 68102

*Ad hoc reviewer*

Up to 40+% of NCI-I panel  
can be *ad hocs* !!!

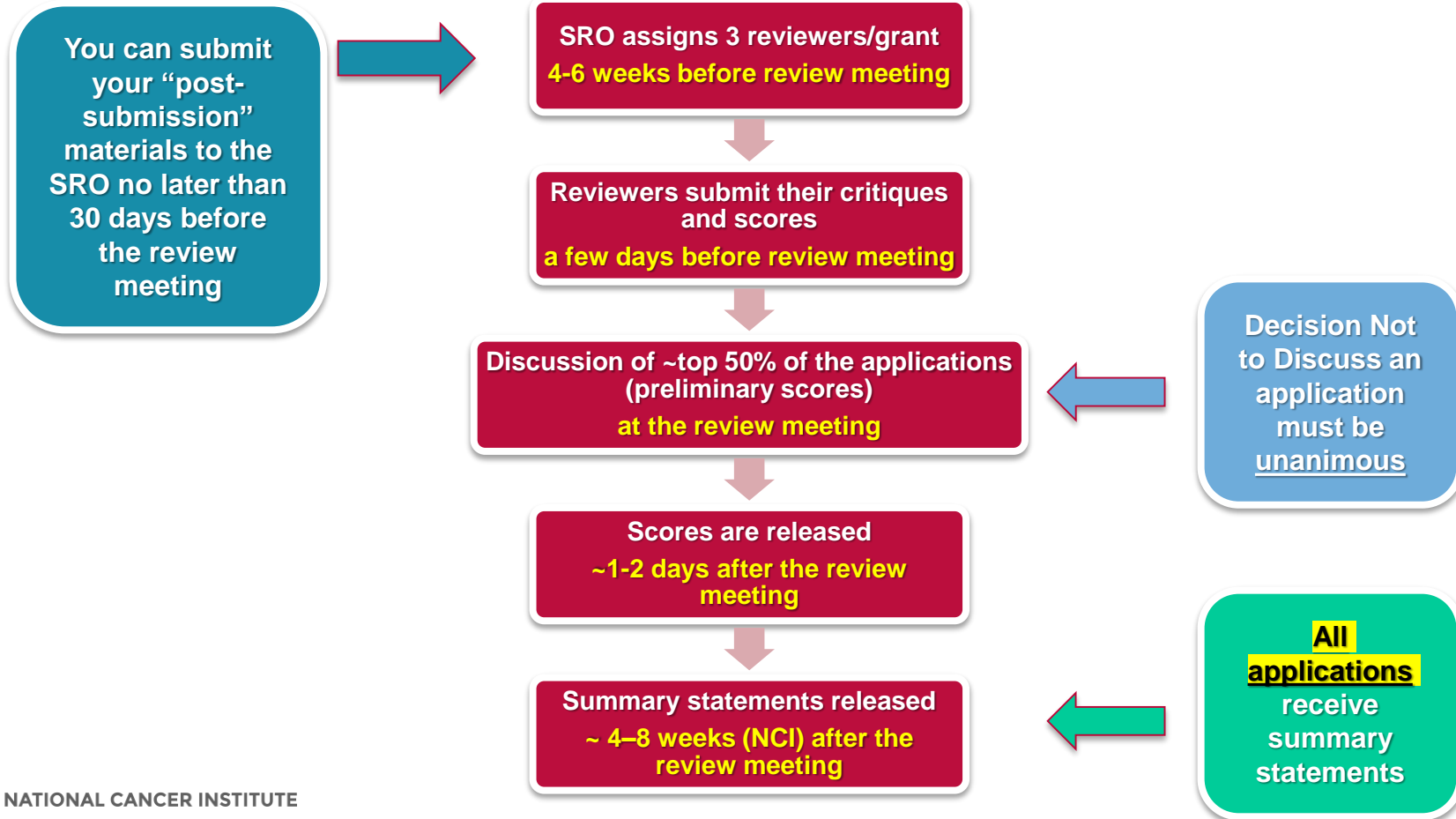




**How are Grants Discussed/Decisions Taken?**

**How Does the Scoring Process Work/Each Section Scored?**

## Details of the Initial Peer Review Process



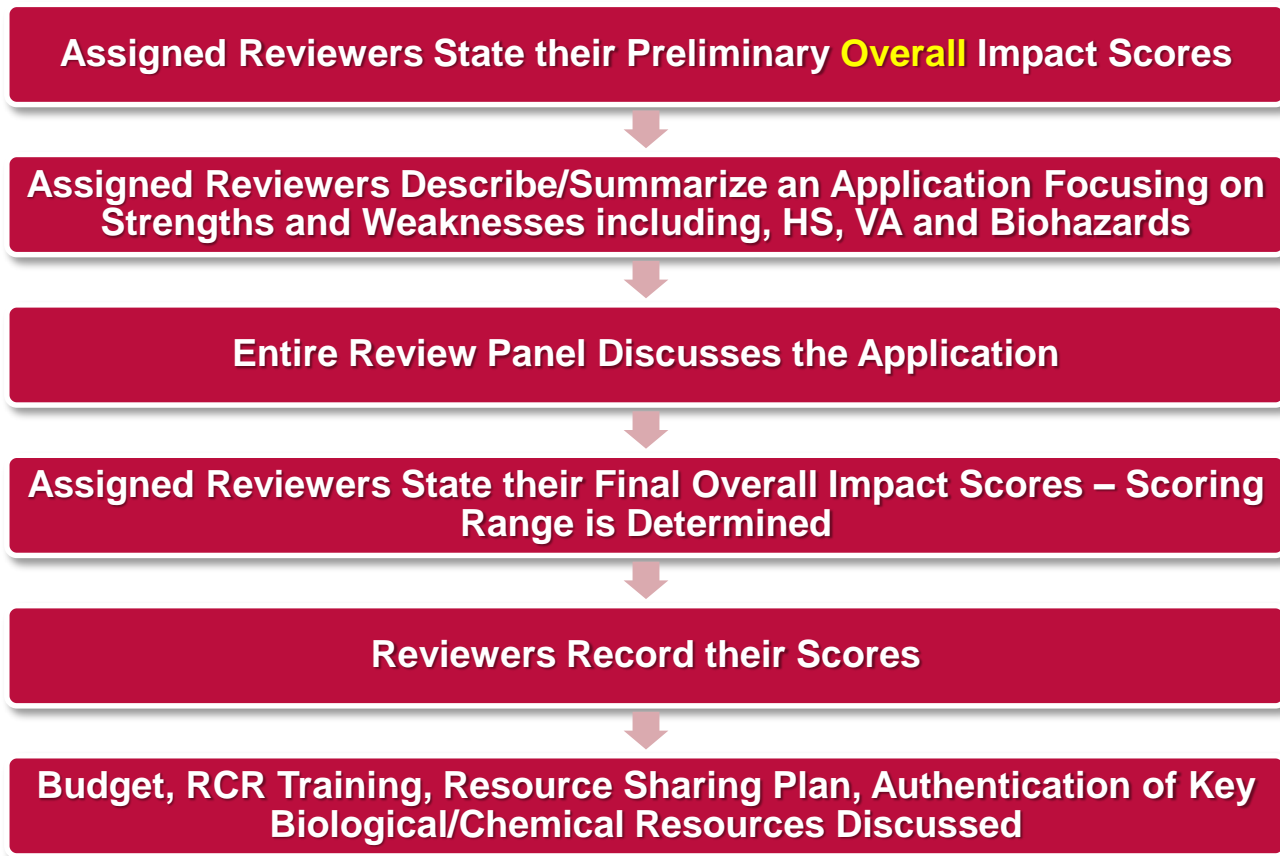
## Initial Peer Review Meeting



NCI-I: 22 regular members + *ad hoc* reviewers; reviews ~100+ applications

NCI-J: 18 regular members + *ad hoc* reviewers; reviews ~70+ applications

## Review Process for **Scored/Discussed** Applications



Some Reviewers might Score Outside the Range

## Scoring/Summary Statements

This scoring system is used for both overall impact score and criterion scores

Overall Impact or Criterion Strength	Score	Descriptor
High	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding
	3	Excellent
Medium	4	Very Good
	5	Good
	6	Satisfactory
Low	7	Fair
	8	Marginal
	9	Poor

**Program  
Officer**



**PROGRAM CONTACT:**  
**SERGEI RADAEV**  
240-276-5630  
[sradaev@mail.nih.gov](mailto:sradaev@mail.nih.gov)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT**  
(Privileged Communication)

*Release Date:* 07/05/2017  
*Revised Date:*

---

*Application Number:* 1 K99 CA012345-01

Principal Investigator

GOOD, FELLOW

Applicant Organization: HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

*Review Group:* NCI-I  
Subcommittee I - Transition to Independence

*Meeting Date:* 06/14/2017  
*Council:* OCT 2017  
*Requested Start:* 10/01/2017

*RFA/PA:* PA16-193  
*PCC:* AHTR

---

*Project Title:* Analysis of something important

*SRG Action:* Impact Score:15  
*Next Steps:* Visit [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/next\\_steps.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/next_steps.htm)

*Human Subjects:* 10-No human subjects involved  
*Animal Subjects:* 30-Vertebrate animals involved - no SRG concerns noted



**Check this out**

**Impact  
Score**



## Scoring/Summary Statements

(Once summary statement is released *Program Official* once again becomes your point of contact )

SRG Action:	Impact Score:35
Next Steps:	Visit <a href="http://grants.nih.gov/grants/next_steps.htm">http://grants.nih.gov/grants/next_steps.htm</a>
Human Subjects:	30-Human subjects involved - Certified, no SRG concerns
Animal Subjects:	30-Vertebrate animals involved - no SRG concerns noted
Gender:	1A-Both genders scientifically acceptable
Minority:	1A-Minorities and non-minorities, scientifically acceptable
Children:	1A-Both Children and Adults, scientifically acceptable
	Clinical Research - not NIH-defined Phase III Trial



SRG Action:	++
Next Steps:	Visit <a href="http://grants.nih.gov/grants/next_steps.htm">http://grants.nih.gov/grants/next_steps.htm</a>
Human Subjects:	1 - no human subjects involved
Animal Subjects:	3 - vertebrate animals involved - no SRG concerns noted



An average of individual overall  
impact scores of **all panel members**  
**present during the discussion**  
multiplied by 10

Not Discussed

## Scoring/Summary Statements

### CRITIQUE 1

Candidate:  
Career Development Plan/Career Goals /Plan to Provide Mentoring:  
Research Plan:  
Mentor(s), Co-Mentor(s), Consultant(s), Collaborator(s):  
Environment Commitment to the Candidate:

4  
4  
3  
2  
1



The overall impact score of an assigned reviewer is based on the criterion scores + additional review criteria: HS, VA, and Biohazards

An **overall** impact score for this reviewer could be anywhere between 1 and 4

Keep in mind that some reviewers forget to update their scores and critiques after the discussion



# **Understanding and Making the Best Use of Feedback Received from Review Panels?**

## **How to Plot the Best Course of Action Whether a Grant Application Is or Is Not Funded?**

*Just a reminder: **SRO** prepares and releases your summary statements*

*Check your eRA Commons account !!!*

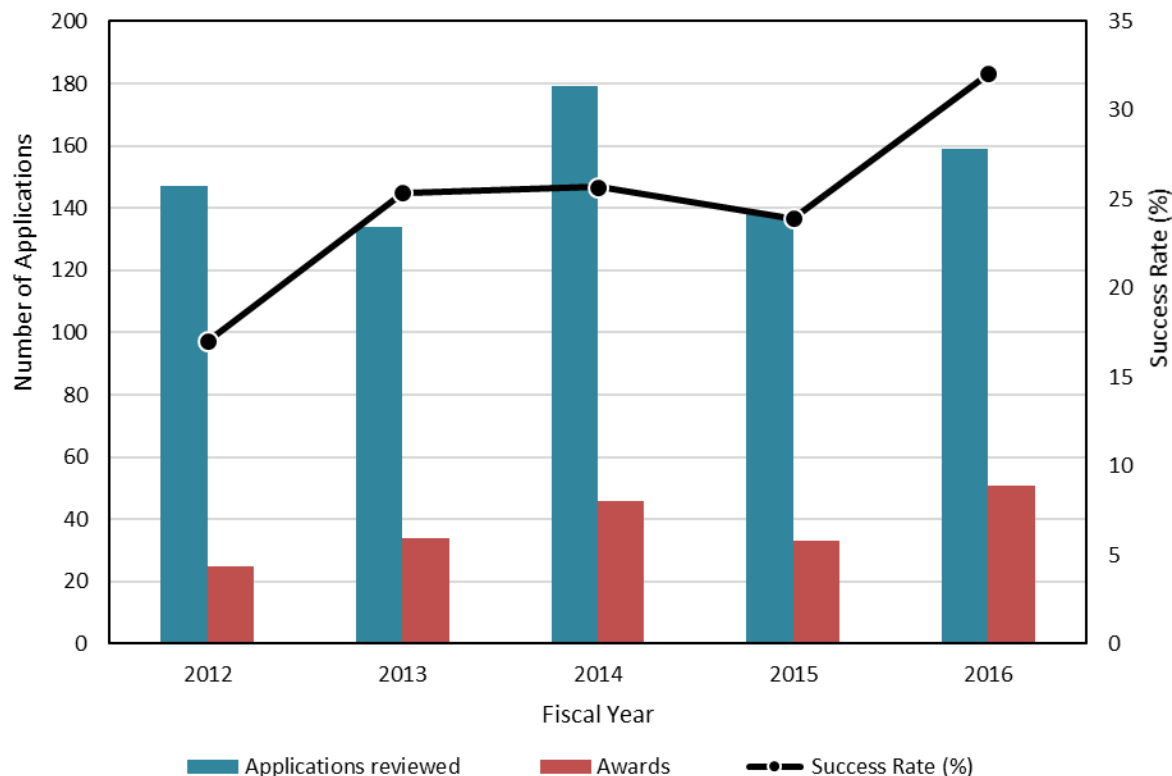
*After carefully reading and discussing your summary statements with your mentor(s),  
you can contact your **Program Official***

## Discussing Summary Statements with **Program Official**

- The likelihood of NIH funding of the application: based on the impact score/percentile, funding situation, other factors
- Further discussion of the reviewers' comments
- Whether to submit a new application or resubmit an application
- What to address in your next submission
- Acceptable bases for appealing the peer review process

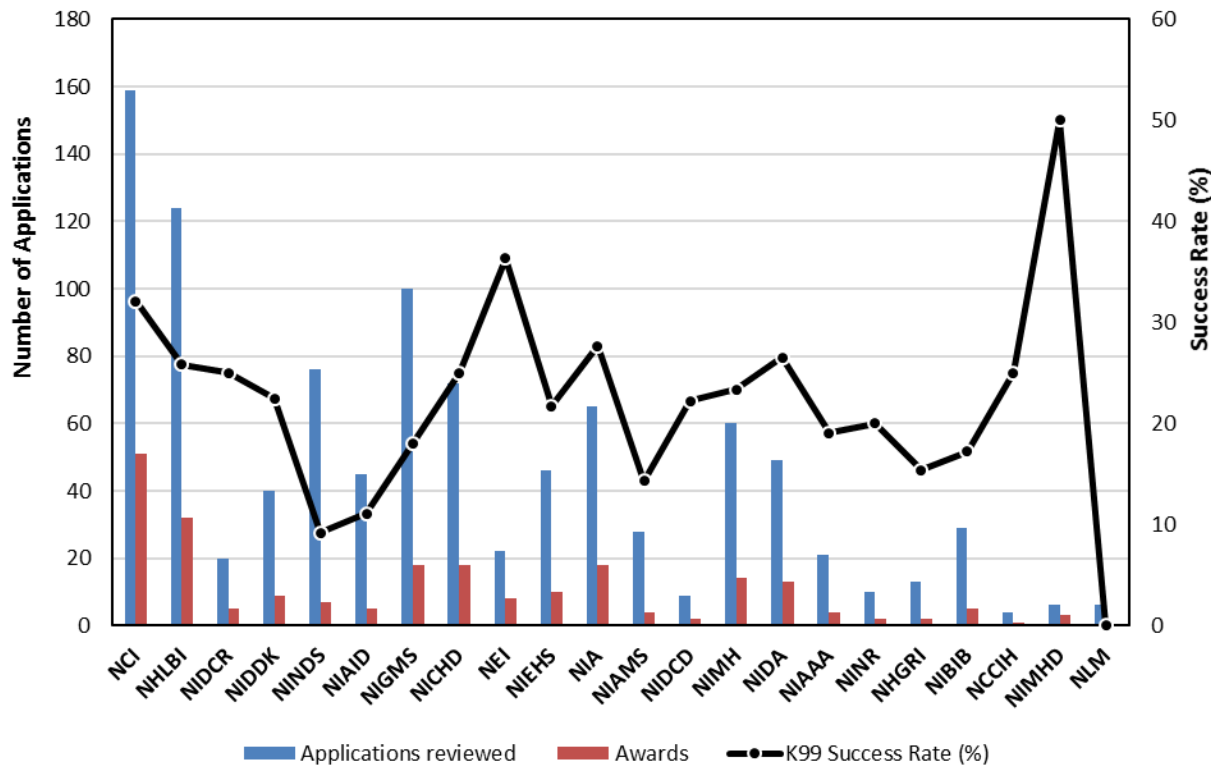
# NCI K99/R00 Success Rates

[https://report.nih.gov/success\\_rates/](https://report.nih.gov/success_rates/)



# K99/R00 success rates by NIH IC (2016)

[https://report.nih.gov/success\\_rates/](https://report.nih.gov/success_rates/)



# NCI Program Contacts (K99/R00)

Sergei Radaev, PhD

E-mail: [sradaev@mail.nih.gov](mailto:sradaev@mail.nih.gov)

Michael Schmidt, PhD

E-mail: [mschmidt@mail.nih.gov](mailto:mschmidt@mail.nih.gov)

**When you contact us for the first time, it is usually a good idea to include your biosketch and a draft of your specific aims into your email**



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