

STRATEGIC GRANT PRIORITIES
QUICK GUIDE

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Supplements

What is a supplement and how do I find out about them? NIH offers a variety of administrative supplements, which are additional funds provided to existing grants to support research or research-related activities. These supplements are non-competitive and meant to help researchers extend or expand the scope of their work around NIH initiatives or address unforeseen challenges that arise during their project.

Depending on supplement opportunity guidelines, additional funds might support:

- Addressing new research objectives that are within the scope of the original proposal.
- Additional research staff, including postdoctoral researchers or graduate students.
- Needed research equipment or supplies.
- Enhancing the diversity of the research team through the recruitment of underrepresented minorities, women or individuals with disabilities.
- Training opportunities for research team members.

How do I find out about supplement opportunities? The NIH website hosts information about [active administrative supplement opportunities](#) and requirements for submitting requests.

Is there another mechanism for requesting additional funds? If you wish to request funds in the current budget period to expand the scope of your project or research protocol, a [Competing Revision Application](#) (formerly termed Competitive Supplement) may be the appropriate mechanism.

SUMMARY OF NIH SUPPLEMENTS

Additional supplement opportunities may be available through [Notices of Special Interest \(NOSI\)](#).

RESEARCH SUPPLEMENTS TO PROMOTE DIVERSITY IN HEALTH-RELATED RESEARCH (CLINICAL TRIAL NOT ALLOWED)

The NIH recognizes the benefits of actively cultivating a diverse workforce with different perspectives, creativity and individual enterprise to address complex scientific problems. [This supplement](#) is designed to provide support for research experiences for individuals from diverse backgrounds throughout the continuum from high school to the faculty level. Continuation of this program in the future will depend on the evaluation of the career outcomes of the supported individuals as well as continuing assessments of the diversity of the scientific workforce (see [Notices of Special Interest](#) (NOSIs) for this opportunity).

- The research proposed by the NIH grantee in

the supplement application must be within the original scope of the NIH-supported grant project.

- Institutions are encouraged to identify candidates who will enhance diversity on a national basis. In addition, it is recognized that underrepresentation can vary from setting to setting; individuals from racial or ethnic groups who can be demonstrated convincingly to be underrepresented by the grantee institution should be encouraged to participate in this program.
- Budgets are limited to no more than the amount of the current parent award and must reflect the needs of the proposed project. Direct costs for individual supplements vary from less than \$5,000 to more than \$100,000 depending on the career level of the candidate.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENTS TO EXISTING NIH GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS (CLINICAL TRIAL OPTIONAL)

NIH recognizes that the actual costs of a project may be greater than originally anticipated for a variety of reasons. Funds may be available for administrative supplements to meet increased costs that are within the scope of the approved award but were unforeseen when the new or renewal application or grant progress report for non-competing continuation support was submitted. NOSIs associated with this funding opportunity also may identify opportunities to expand project objectives into areas of interest to the NIH.

Active cross-institute NOSIs include, but are not limited, to:

- [Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry and Re-integration into Health-Related Research Careers.](#)
- [Alzheimer's-Focused Administrative Supplements for NIH Grants that are Not Focused on Alzheimer's Disease.](#)
- [Administrative Supplement for Continuity of Biomedical and Behavioral Research Among First-Time Recipients of NIH Research Project Grant Awards.](#)
- [Administrative Supplements to Support Undergraduate Summer Research Experiences.](#)

If you are interested in applying for an NIH supplement, contact your [departmental research office](#) or the [Strategic Proposal Development Service](#) for support.