

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), NIH will devote about \$200 M to fund about 200 awards under its challenge grant program. The NIH Challenge Grant Solicitation for projects in Health and Science Research (RC1) has now been posted:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-09-003.html>

In addition, NIH has provided a standard set of terms for the ARRA awards. There are many reporting requirements that are unique to projects funded by stimulus package resources: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/NIH_HHS_ARRA_Award_Terms.pdf

Stephanie Gray in RSP has tested the challenge program with Cayuse, our grants submission software, and found that NIH submissions can take place in a normal fashion. However, we urge investigators to remember the too frequent delays that occur in submitting to grants.gov. Please allow additional time for your application to be submitted electronically during busy deadline periods.

Here are some key notes from the challenge grant programs:

Opening Date: March 27, 2009 (Earliest date an application may be submitted to Grants.gov)

Application Due Date(s): April 27, 2009

Peer Review Date(s): June/July 2009

Council Review Date(s): August 2009

Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s): September 30, 2009

Purpose. As part of the Recovery Act, the NIH invites, through this limited competition, NIH Challenge Grant (RC1) applications from domestic (United States) institutions/organizations proposing novel research in areas that address specific knowledge gaps, scientific opportunities, new technologies, data generation, or research methods that would benefit from an influx of funds to quickly advance the area in significant ways. This program is designed to support research in scientific areas identified by the Institutes and Centers.

Budget and Project Period. Budget requests should be commensurate with project needs up to a two-year project period. The requested budget may not exceed \$500,000 total costs per year for a maximum of \$1,000,000 total costs over a two-year project period.

RSP is maintaining a website with information about the stimulus package funding: <http://www.rsp.wisc.edu/arra/index.html>. We will try to post information as quickly as it becomes available.