

Research Activities Newsletter

The latest news and announcements



In This Issue

In the News: Congratulations to the following awardees!!!	2
Grant Clinic.....	3
Policy Notices.....	3
General Notices	4
Limited Submission Funding Opportunities	4
Research Opportunities from Past Newsletters	4
Words to Live By	4

In the News: Congratulations to the following awardees!!!



Alison Haney, Assistant Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior (CHHB) is Co-I on a new award from the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School/NIH (PI: Eric Kaczor, Emergency Medicine) for the project entitled *The ANTIDOTE-Institute-Advancing New Toxicology Investigators in Drug Abuse and Original Translational Research Efforts*. The ANTIODTE Institute is the first program of its kind to systematically address educational gaps within medical toxicology training around developing hypothesis-driven research investigations. An important aim of this award is to facilitate and sustain the development of a diverse investigator pipeline in medical toxicology, through training in mentorship skills, knowledge translation, and outreach.



Jessica Kruger, Clinical Associate Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior (CHHB) is PI on two Innovation Awards from SSAAI Health Systems. The first project is entitled, *Collaborating for Prevention: An Interprofessional Curriculum on Vaccines and Chronic Conditions*. The goal of this project is to enhance interprofessional collaboration among health professions students while advancing specialist-driven adult immunization. This award will support the University at Buffalo's (UB) required Interprofessional Education (IPE) curriculum by engaging students in health-related professions through participation in forums that focus on chronic conditions, such as cardiovascular disease, and highlight how vaccines play a critical role in prevention, disease management, and improved patient outcomes.

Dr. Kruger's second award is entitled, *From Blood Pressure to Protection: Embedding Vaccine Education into Mobile Outreach*. This project aims to advance specialist-driven adult immunization by embedding vaccine education into mobile health outreach, including routine blood pressure screenings, targeting medically underserved communities and individuals at elevated cardiovascular risk. The project will leverage the University at Buffalo's Health on Wheels program and the American College of Cardiology (ACC), to focus on preventive care in the work of the mobile units.



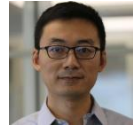
Denise Lillvis, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH) is PI on a new contract from Kaleida Health for the project entitled, *Kaleida Health Research Grant*. This contract will allow Dr. Lillvis to lead and facilitate research projects that contribute to publications for the Golisano (formerly Oishei) Children's Hospital Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center. Dr. Lillvis will work with Pediatric Trauma Center staff to guide and assist with research results development through abstracts, manuscripts, conference presentations, and mentorship of trainees on the presentation of results as well as other research-related activities.



Elizabeth Mietlicki-Baase, Associate Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (ENS), is PI on a continuation award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH for the research project entitled, *Effects of Mesolimbic Amylin Signaling on Macronutrient Intake*. The project continues to assess mechanisms by which the hormone amylin suppresses food intake and body weight by influencing macronutrient intake, with particular focus on its actions in the ventral tegmental area (VTA), a key nucleus in the brain important for feeding and other motivated behaviors.



Lina Mu, Professor and **Meng Wang**, Associate Professor, both of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH), in partnership with the Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network, are PIs on a new award from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, for the project entitled, *Application of Low-cost Device in Improving Household Air Quality Among Pregnant Women in Underserved Communities*. This project will study how air pollution can impact the health of pregnant women and their children.



Grant Clinic

NIH Guidance on the Difference between Highlighted Topics and Funding Opportunities

Please take a moment to read the overview and learn how NIH Highlighted Topics differ from Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs). There are significant distinctions that you should understand when planning a project for your next application. Please also note two new tools that can be utilized as you explore funding opportunities.

[What Are the Differences Between Highlighted Topics and Funding Opportunities? | Grants & Funding](#)

Please also note two new tools that can be utilized as you explore funding opportunities.

[New Tool to Explore NIH Grant Opportunities | Grants & Funding](#)

Policy Notices

[NOT-OD-26-017](#)

Research Security Training Requirements for NIH

This notice notifies the extramural community of the NIH implementation of the Research Security Training (RST) requirements outlined in the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 ([P.L. 117-167](#)). In accordance with Section 10634 of Act, each covered individual (for NIH this is defined as [senior/key personnel](#)) listed on an NIH grant application must certify that they have completed RST within 12 months of the date of application submission. NIH does not collect Current and Pending (Other) Support at the time of application based on our Just-in-Time policy. Therefore, NIH will collect the individual certification at the time of the application submission, through the Biographical Sketch in SciENcv. **Effective Date:** At this time, the research security training requirement is optional. Completion of RST and the individual and institutional certifications will be effective for applications submitted for due dates on or after May 25, 2026. Click on the Notice link for additional information.



[NOT-OD-26-018](#)

NIH's Implementation of Common Forms for Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support for Due Dates on or after January 25, 2026

The Common Form is now being implemented! In an effort to support strong collaboration between Federal research agencies, NIH is adopting the Common Forms for Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support as per the White House Office of Science and

Technology Policy (OSTP) memorandum on [Policy Regarding Use of Common Disclosure Forms](#). This Guide Notice provides details for the Common Forms, NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement, and instructions required for application due dates and Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) submissions on or after January 25, 2026. **NIH anticipates finalizing the templates in SciENcv for Common Forms, the NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement and associated instructions the week of December 15, 2025. Note: NIH will enforce the use of the Common Forms via eRA system validations immediately as a warning when the wrong form is used.** By February 6, 2026, the warning will be elevated into an error preventing submission of the incorrect or uncertified forms. Failure to utilize the correct forms during the timeframes specified in the table below will cause NIH to withdraw your application from consideration.

[NOT-OD-26-019](#)

Updated Application Policies: NIH Administrative Burden Reduction Effort – Removal of Requirements for Letter of Intent and Unsolicited Applications Requesting \$500,000 or More in Direct Costs

This Notice alerts the extramural research community of two important updates related to application submission policies.

Letters of Intent – Effective immediately NIH will no longer request or accept [Letters of Intent \(LOIs\)](#) as part of the application process. NIH has occasionally requested LOIs within Section IV of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)



to help Institute, Center, and Office (ICO) staff estimate the potential peer review workload and recruit reviewers. An LOI was never required, binding, nor considered during the peer review process.

Given NIH's [centralization of peer review processes to improve efficiency and strengthen integrity](#) through the [Center for Scientific Review \(CSR\)](#), the LOI is no longer serving the same purpose to estimate ICO workload. To further increase efficiency and minimize applicant burden, NIH is removing the LOI from the application process.

LOIs that have been submitted will not be acknowledged nor reviewed by the respective ICO or CSR. Potential applicants are encouraged to review NOFO instructions carefully as they are subject to change.

Unsolicited Applications Requesting \$500,000 or More in Direct Costs – Effective immediately, NIH will no longer [require](#) applicants requesting \$500,000 or more in direct costs (excluding consortium F&A costs) in any one budget period to contact the funding Institute or Center (IC) before application submission. In line with this change, applicants are no longer required to include a cover letter identifying the Program Official contact which notes that the IC has agreed to accept assignment of the application.

All active NOFOs containing this requirement are superseded by this Notice and will be updated going forward. In addition, the NIH Application Guide and Grants Policy Statement will be updated in their next iteration to remove this requirement.

General Notices

Limited Submission Funding Opportunities

Only one application per institution is allowed for the following FOAs and prior approval from the OVPR is required to be the sole applicant. If interested in applying, please provide the OVPR with notification 60 days prior to the deadline to ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu before proceeding with the application.

[Limited Submission Funding Opportunities](#)

Prior Research Opportunities can be found on the SPHHP RAS website and by clicking the link below:

[Research Opportunities from Past Newsletters](#)

Words to Live By

“The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.”

- Psychologist/Philosopher William James

For more information on RAS services, visit our website at sphhp.buffalo.edu/ras

