Major Changes for Submitting National Institutes of Health (NIH) Applications on or after Jan. 25, 2010

For all competing applications: New, Renewal, Resubmission and Revision
• Restructured application forms
• New instructions, including shorter page limits

Tips for Success
1) Visit Cayuse424 System (http://osp.osu.edu/cayuse424), select the appropriate FOA, be sure you download Adobe Forms B,
2) Review the requirements carefully and begin writing the Research Strategy section,
3) Submit the electronic and paper applications using the new application forms for due dates on or after January 25.

Restructured Application Forms
The new application format aligns the structure and content of the application with review criteria, focusing applicants and reviewers on the same elements. This alignment helps ensure a more efficient and transparent review process.
Changes to the application forms are as follows:
• Research Plan
  o Specific Aims will include new language about the impact that the results of the proposed research will exert; page limit remains at one page.
  o Research Strategy is a new section that incorporates three previous sections: Background and Significance, Preliminary Studies/Progress Report, and Research Design and Methods.
• Resources
  o The Facilities and Resources section of the application now must contain more detail including a description of how the scientific environment in which the research will be done contributes to the probability of success of the project.
• Biographical Sketch
  o New instructions require a Personal Statement and also provide guidelines for the inclusion of publications.
Shorter Page Limits

The previous grant application is among the longest used by funding agencies and foundations worldwide. The shortened page limits of the new application help accomplish the following:

- Reduced administrative burden on applicants, reviewers and staff.
- Applications focused on the essentials of the science, avoiding information overload.

Changes to the page limits are as follows:

- The page limits for the new Research Strategy section generally will be six or 12 pages, with an additional one page for Specific Aims, according to the chart below. As always, if the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) requires page limits that differ from the application instructions, the FOA page limits should be followed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous Page Limit (Section 2-5 of the Research Plan)</th>
<th>New Page Limit (Research Strategy)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 25</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 25</td>
<td>Follow FOA Instructions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The full table of page limits is available at http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/page_limits.html. For more information, visit Enhancing Peer Review: http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/restructured_applications.html

Support and Resource Links for Application Submissions on or After Jan. 25, 2010

General information about submitting grants to NIH:
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grant_basics.htm

Information about Parent Announcements:

Questions about the content of new forms and instructions:
Sponsored Program Officers: http://osp.osu.edu/spos/

For more information about the Enhancing Peer Review Effort:
http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/