

## News, Opportunities and Deadlines for May 2019

# 2nd LBRN-LONI Scientific Computing Bootcamp

Scientific computing is becoming more ubiquitous for all types of research areas. Skills and knowledge that are necessary to take full advantage of the power of computing, however, are often inadequately present in both curricular and extracurricular training. The purpose of this workshop is, by both presentation and hands-on experiences, to help attendants understand the usage of popular scientific computing programming tools and prepare for their future computational study and research career.

## 2nd LBRN-LONI Scientific Computing Bootcamp

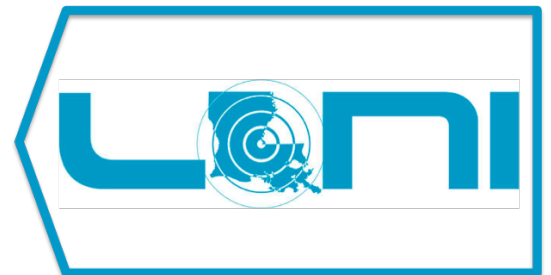
Center for Computation &  
Technology

May 27-29, 2019

8AM – 5PM

DMC 1034

Scientific Computing  
Python  
Data Mining with R  
Deep Learning



## Schedule (Note: This tentative schedule is subject to change.)

May 27: (8:00am - 5:00pm)

- Introduction to Scientific Computing and Python Basics
- Computing Environment Setup and Introduction to Scientific Computing
- Python Basics

May 28: (8:00am - 5:00pm)

- Scientific Computing with Python, Introduction to Deep Learning
- Scientific Computing with Python
- Introduction to Deep Learning

May 29: (8:00am - 5:00pm)

- Introduction to R and Data Mining with R
- Introduction to R
- Data Mining with R

**Seating is LIMITED** - [Register now!](#)



Register

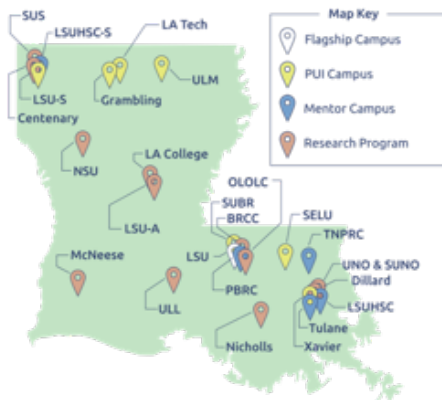
---

## LBRN Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduate and Graduate students

The Louisiana Biomedical Research Network (LBRN) sponsors a summer research program in support of undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty from any Louisiana institute. We

offer qualified participants the opportunity to work in established research laboratories at Louisiana State University, LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, Tulane Medical Center, or Tulane National Primate Research Center. The goal of our program and funding is to support biomedical research through an increase in graduate school admissions in these scientific fields and make Louisiana researchers more competitive in obtaining federal funding for research.

The schedule for undergraduate students covers nine weeks during the summer; the summer program dates are May 20 - July 26, 2019. The schedule for graduate students and faculty is more flexible. It is expected that an agreement be reached between the program participant (undergraduate student, graduate student or funded faculty) and the intended mentor. It is expected that the agreement to mentor an LBRN participant is a mutual one between the intended mentor and the funded participant.



The aim of this network is to enhance the quality of biomedical research conducted throughout the state of Louisiana by increasing access to state of the art research infrastructure.

### What do students say about the LBRN program?

- Overall great view into the research world that is not given at my home institution.
- Gaining research experience and developing new friendships.
- Learning techniques in lab because that will be something I take with me forever.
- It gives students an opportunity to work in a research lab and it also allows them to determine what career path to follow.
- I've learned so much about research. My mentor has been very effective in delivering post-grad information.
- My research experience has reinforced my plans for the future.

**Program Date**  
 May 20 - July 26, 2019

**Awards**

- Undergraduate and Graduate students will receive support of \$4,000 and \$6,000 respectively
- Housing is provided, if needed

**Application Deadline**  
 Friday, February 11, 2019

If you would like to know more about this program, please go to Research Programs at: <https://lbrn.lsu.edu/summer-research-program.html>

If you have any questions, please contact **Alexis M. White** at [lbrn@lsu.edu](mailto:lbrn@lsu.edu)

Louisiana Biomedical Research Network is supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health grant number 5P20 GM103424-15, 3P20 GM103424-1551 and the Louisiana Board of Regents for the purpose of improving the competitiveness of Louisiana biomedical researchers.

**LBRN**  
 Louisiana Biomedical Research Network

**Summer Research Program for Undergraduate and Graduate students**

**May 20—July 26, 2019**

**Phone: 225-578-9683**  
**Email: LBRN@lsu.edu**  
**Web: LBRN.lsu.edu**

### Who are we?

Louisiana Biomedical Research Network was established in September 2001 with funding by NIH, NCRR's IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence Program (Grant P20RR016456) and National Institute of General Medical Sciences (Grant P20GM103424) and Louisiana Board of Regents, the LBRN program is committed to raising the research competitiveness of Louisiana researchers.

### What do we do?

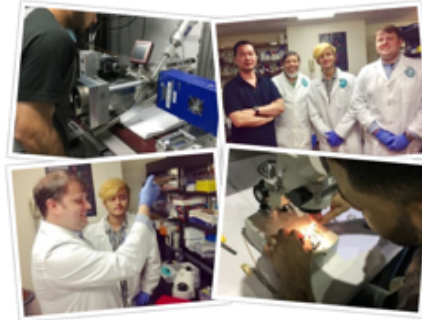
Louisiana State University A&M, in conjunction with the NIH/NIGM, is hosting research opportunities for eligible faculty, graduate and undergraduate students in Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, and Cell and Molecular Biology. Our focus is providing research opportunities to faculty and students from primarily undergraduate institutes in the state of Louisiana. Those interested in working on projects at the interface between the biological and computational sciences are encouraged to apply to this program. Women and members of under-represented minorities are urged to apply.

### Who can apply?

- Full-time undergraduate and graduate students with at least a 3.0 GPA.
- Students enrolled in a College or University in Louisiana (excluding LSU and Tulane).
- Students with research interests in the Biological or Computational Sciences.
- Students who have to completed the appropriate science introductory courses.
- Students interested in attending graduate, medical or professional schools.

### What do you get out of the LBRN program?

- Hands on research experience in the laboratory and/or the field.
- Experience using different types of research instruments and techniques.
- Meet other young investigators from across the state and the country.
- Exposure to a wide range of ongoing research projects.
- Tips on scientific writing and presentation.



### Where will research be done?

- Work will be done in established laboratories at LSU School of Veterinary Science, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, LSUHSC in New Orleans or Shreveport, Tulane Medical Center and Tulane National Primate Research Center. Please contact the LBRN Program Office for details.

### Research Forum

The program culminates in a professional poster session (Summer Undergraduate Research Forum, SURF) where each participant presents the results of their summer project along with participants from multiple REU programs.



### Student Scholar Program

Eligible students will have the opportunity to continue their mentored research during the academic year.

### Future Plans

Participants are encouraged to attend local or regional science meetings to present their research.

### Mailing address

Louisiana Biomedical Research Network  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
Louisiana State University  
VMED 3110, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

## Health Disparities Conference

Louisiana is ranked near the bottom of all states in overall health. Substantial health disparities exist among minority and rural groups of people in incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of disease. Health and well-being disparities exist across racial and ethnic origin, as well as gender, sexual orientation, age, disability status, socioeconomic status, and geographic location. A systematic approach is needed to define major health disparities and well-being issues and generate and implement strategies to address these issues. LSU is committed to improving the health, well being, and longevity of Louisiana citizens through organized research, education and intervention strategies. The Health Disparities and Well-being Conference has three main goals: Outline the health disparities problem, Highlight current LSU and community efforts towards addressing health disparities, Foster collaborations to help develop and implement new

intervention strategies. The Conference is open to all those interested to attend including the public. Registration is now open. Those registered will be receiving boxed lunch free of charge.



**SAVE THE DATE**

**May 3  
2019**

Center for Computation & Technology  
Digital Media Center  
340 East Parker Blvd  
Baton Rouge, LA

**CONFERENCE**

# A STARK DIVIDE

Addressing Health Disparities  
in Louisiana

**LSU** | Office of  
Research & Economic Development

**LSU** | Center for Computation  
& Technology



---

## CFA for Short Term Core Projects



Molecular Cell Biology Research Resources Core (**MCBRC**) and Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, and Computational Biology Core (**BBCC**) are calling for proposals to carry out short term projects in collaboration with the Cores. All LBRN researchers can submit a proposal for a defined project that can be carried out in collaboration with the Core facilities listed in the attached Call for Proposals (CFP) on a competitive basis. Each selected project will be allocated \$1,500 to fully or partially offset Core expenses. More details can be found in the attached CFP.

*[More details can be found in the attached CFP.](#)*

---

## BBC Core Educational Resource



The BBC Core provides introductory educational lecture series on informatics topics that are recorded and streamed. Prior offerings that are available for on demand streaming include;

- An Introduction to Computers and Informatics in the Health Sciences

<http://metagenomics.lsuhscc.edu/lectures/introinformatics/>

- An Introduction to Microbial Community Sequencing and Analysis

<http://metagenomics.lsuhscc.edu/lectures/intromicrobiota/>

On demand streaming links are available by each lecture along with downloadable lecture slides.

---

**LONI HPC Allocation for LBRN**





We are happy to announce that High Performance Computing allocation for supporting LBRN/BBC Core community from the LONI HPC system.

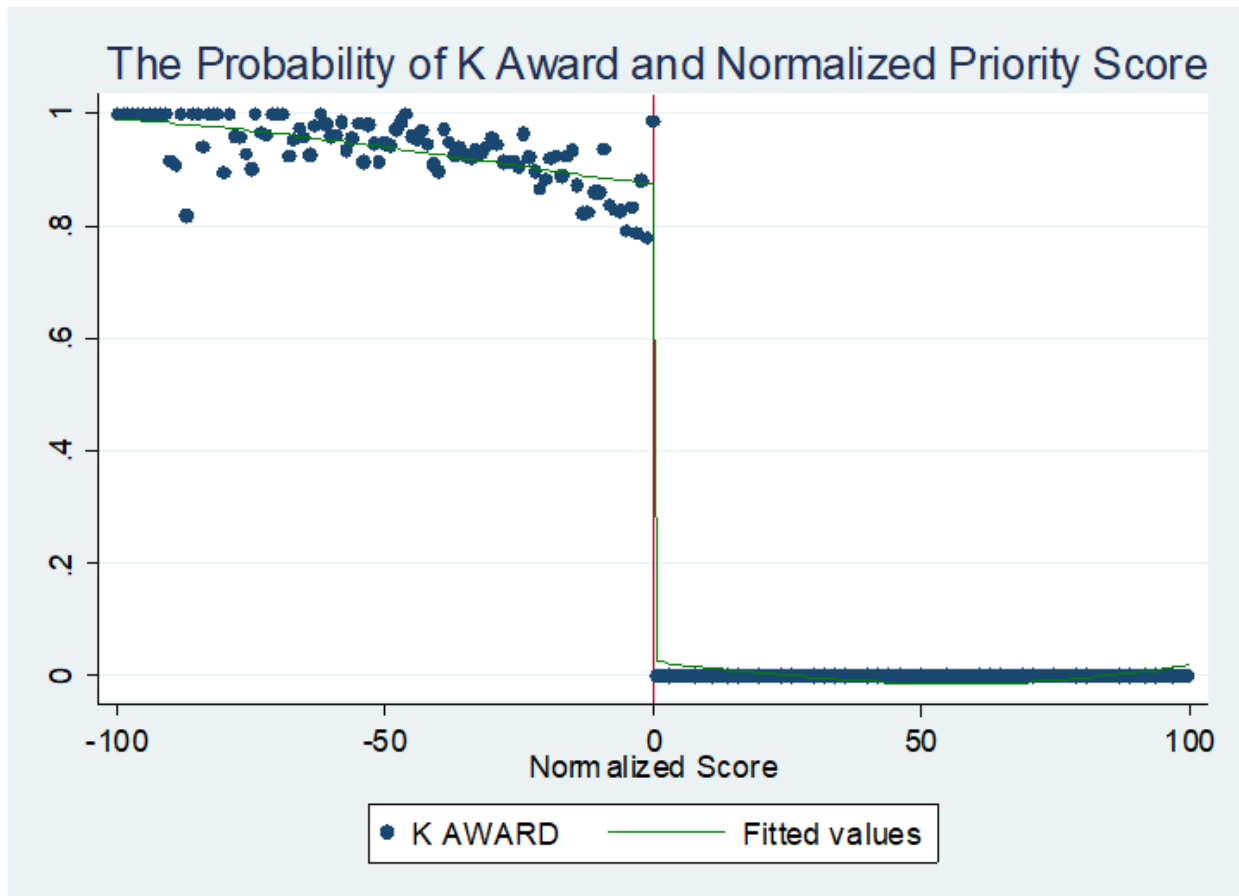
This can be utilized in lieu of individual investigators having to apply for and acquire their own allocations to access the HPC resources. If any of your campus members need access to high performance computing, please have them interface with [Dr. Nayong Kim](#).

---

**[NIH Extramural Nexus \(NIH/OD\)](#)**

- **Association Between Receiving an Individual Mentored Career Development (K) Award and Subsequent Research Support**

NIH's [career development K awards](#) intend to help early career scientists become independent. These awards afford the recipient protected time for research, publishing, and generating new ideas. As part of ongoing efforts to take a data driven approach to managing NIH programs, my colleagues within the NIH [Division of Biomedical Research Workforce](#) (DBRW) in the Office of Extramural Research sought to determine whether K awards might be achieving this goal, and published their findings in [Academic Medicine last December](#).



[...Continue reading](#)

- **How Many Researchers? ...Revisited...the FY 2018**

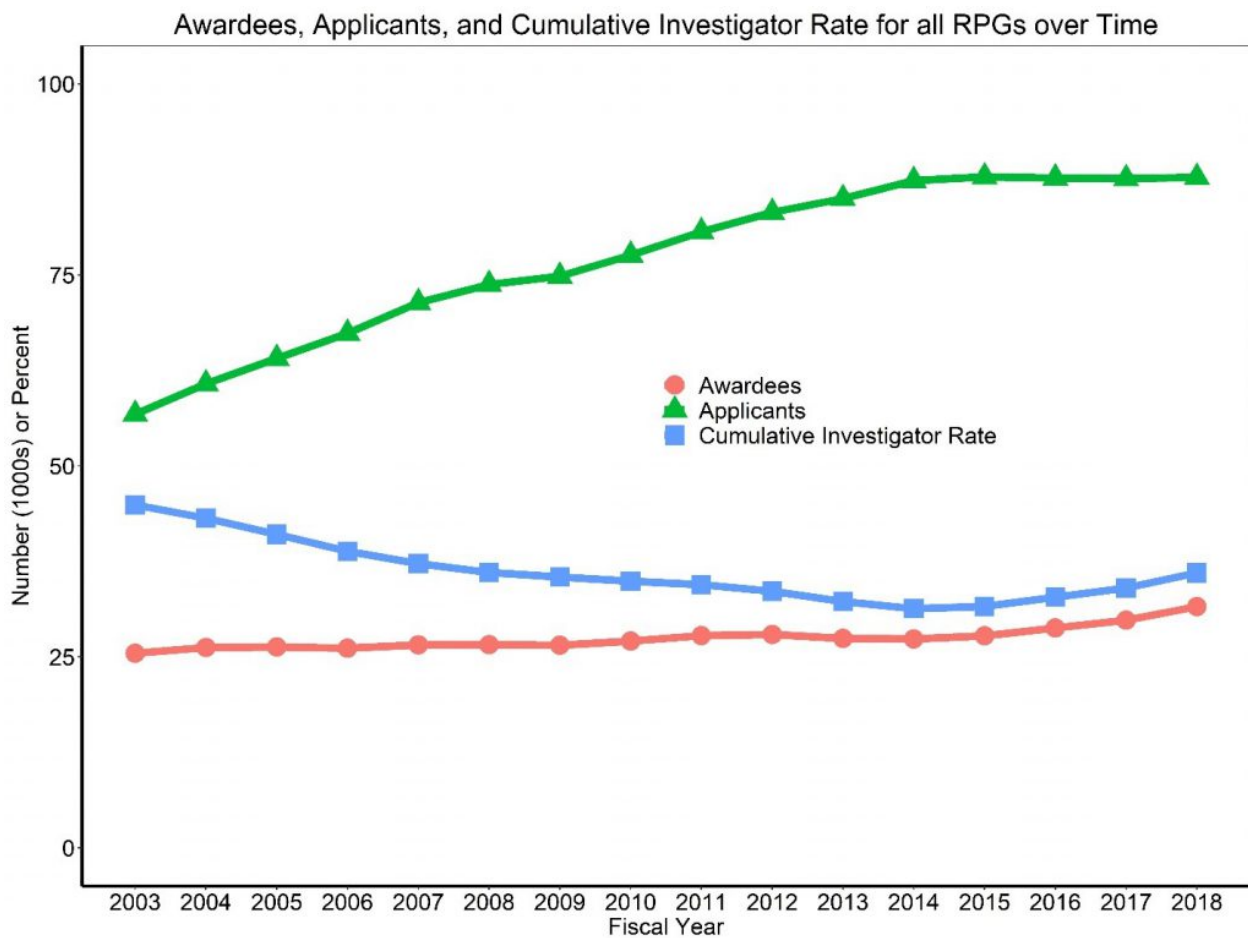
# NIH's Cumulative Investigator Rate

In [March 2018](#), we showed data suggesting that, despite still being in a state of hyper-competition ([as described in this post](#)), the severity may be lessening. The number of unique applicants for NIH research project grants (RPGs) appeared to stabilize after many years of uninterrupted growth. Furthermore, a person-based metric, called the [cumulative investigator rate](#), started to rise in fiscal year (FY) 2015 for RPGs after declines in previous years.

With FY 2018 grants information now available in the [NIH Data Book](#), we wanted to see if this positive trend continued. As in my [March 2018 blog](#), the [FY 2018 cumulative investigator rate data](#) discussed in this post were acquired on all NIH RPGs as well as specifically for [R01-equivalent](#), P01, and R21 grant types for FYs 2003 to 2018.

Investigators designated on awards (referred to as “awardees” in this post) were only counted once per FY. Investigators designated on applications regardless of being funded (referred to as “applicants” here) were counted once in the current FY plus the four preceding FYs. The Cumulative Investigator Rate represents the proportion of these awardees over applicants in a particular FY.

Let's start by looking at the number of RPG applicants and awardees over time (Figure 1). As noted [last year](#), the number of unique applicants over a 5-year window (line with green triangles) gradually increased between FYs 2003 (the end of the NIH doubling) to 2015 from 56,758 to 87,838. The number of applicants then levels off, with 87,768 in FY 2018. Over the same time, the number of unique RPG awardees (line with red circles) gradually increased from 25,479 in FY 2003 to 31,595 in FY 2018. Similar to the uptick seen in FY 2017, the FY 2018 Cumulative Investigator Rate (line with blue squares) continued to rise to 36.0 percent.



As NIH supports a diverse array of RPGs, let's focus now on some common grant types to see what happened in FY 2018. Let's begin with [R01-equivalent grants](#). Please note that the definition of R01-equivalents was expanded in 2018 to include additional grant types as described in our recent [FY 2018 By The Numbers \(success rate\) post](#).

[...Continue reading](#)

## • FY 2019 Salary Limitation for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

Since 1990, Congress has legislatively mandated a limitation on direct salary for individuals under NIH grant and cooperative agreement awards (referred to here as a grant). The mandate appears in The Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 ([Public Law 115-245](#)), signed into law on September 28, 2018, which provides authority for NIH to incur obligations for FY 19.

The Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019, restricts the amount of direct salary to Executive Level II of the Federal Executive pay scale. The Office of Personnel Management has recently released new salary levels for the

Executive Pay Scale. Effective January 6, 2019, the salary limitation for Executive Level II is \$192,300.

For awards issued in those years that were restricted to Executive Level II (see historical record of salary cap link below), including competing awards already issued in FY2019, if adequate funds are available in active awards, and if the salary cap increase is consistent with the institutional base salary, grantees may rebudget funds to accommodate the current Executive Level II salary level. However, no additional funds will be provided to these grant awards.

For a historical record of the salary cap, including effective dates, see: [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/salcap\\_summary.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/salcap_summary.htm)

*[...Continue reading](#)*

## • **CMS Seeks Input on Interoperability and Patient Access Proposed Rule and RFIs**

Medicare and Medicaid claims data are a uniquely valuable, rich source of health information available to the NIH research community for observational and interventional research. [As an example](#), the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have joined forces to link the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End-Results (SEER) data with extensive medical and patient-reported health information. [Another example](#) – researchers have successfully linked data from the Interagency Registry for Mechanically Assisted Circulatory Support with Medicare claims data. [And one more](#) – researchers have explored the potential value of linking Medicare claims data with an NIH-funded clinical trial. What about going a step further – enabling patients greater access to health information and giving them the ability to decide how their data might be used – including as part of ongoing research?

*[...Continue reading](#)*

## • **NIH IRL: Join Us at the NIH Regional Seminar**

I recently mentioned how much I enjoy starting a conversation through the blog with you, the investigators, grants administrators, research staff, and others in the research community. At the NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration, I hold “Open Mike” sessions where I have no slides and no prepared remarks – I let the audience determine the topics

we discuss. I love the opportunity for frank conversations about whatever is on your mind. While I meet with people in the grants community at many different events, the NIH Regional Seminar is one of my favorites because of the opportunity to hear in a common setting of the perspectives and challenges of investigators and research administrators.

[...Continue reading](#)

## • **Sample Grant Applications, Summary Statements, and More**

If you are new to writing grant applications, sometimes seeing how someone else has presented their idea can help as you are developing your own application. With the gracious permission of successful investigators, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) makes available examples of funded R01, R03, R15, R21, SBIR/STTR, K, and F applications, summary statements, sharing plans, leadership plans, and more. When referencing these resources, it is important to remember:

- These applications were developed using the application forms and instructions that were in effect at the time of their submission. Forms and instructions change regularly. Read and carefully follow the instructions in the funding opportunity announcement to which you are responding and the current [application instructions](#) carefully.
- The best way to present your science may differ substantially from the approach taken by those who wrote the example applications. Seek feedback on your draft application from mentors and others.
- Talk to an [NIH program officer](#) in your area of science for advice about the best type of grant program and the Institute or Center that might be interested in your idea.

Check out the NIAID's [Sample Applications and More](#).

## • **NIH Wants Your Input on Increasing Diversity Among Biomedical Research Faculty**

Promoting scientific environments that can encourage and benefit from a full range of talent is necessary in biomedical research today. Because previous approaches focused on individuals have only slowly “moved the needle,” targeting systemic change is the next step for NIH.

The NIH Common Fund is conducting strategic planning for a potential new program exploring ways to create a route of entry and advancement for talent from diverse backgrounds into

independent academic faculty positions. The goal is to employ a cohort model at the faculty level as a catalyst for institutions to create a route of entry and advancement for talent from diverse backgrounds, in the biomedical research enterprise.

NIH is seeking broad input on this approach from academic institutional leadership, biomedical faculty, and interested members of the public. Responses to this RFI will be accepted through May 16, 2019. For details, see the full [Request for Information](#).

## • Redesigned eRA Website Provides New Resources

[A newly revamped eRA website](#) that serves as an informational gateway to applicants, grantees and reviewers was launched April 30. The site provides new and updated ‘how-to’ information on navigating eRA systems like eRA Commons, ASSIST, IAR, xTrain and xTRACT; intuitive navigation; and improved accessibility.

### Key highlights

- Main screenshots of systems added to help figure out process at a glance
- eRA Commons/ASSIST log-in buttons moved to prominent location on upper right-hand corner of home page
- Hover drop-down menus added to menu topics on home page to provide a glimpse of inside content at a glance
- New categories of information and updated ‘how-to’ content

Check out the website and a [video](#) that walks you through the highlights. Please send any questions or comments to [eRACommunications@mail.nih.gov](mailto:eRACommunications@mail.nih.gov).

## • My resubmission of a competing renewal application (Type 2 A1) was not funded. May I submit a new renewal (Type 2 A0)?

No. Only a single resubmission of a competing [new](#), [revision](#), or [renewal](#) application (A0) will be accepted. After a resubmission of a competing renewal (Type 2) application that is not funded, a subsequent new renewal (Type 2 A0) application may not be submitted. The next application submitted on this topic should be submitted as a new application (Type 1 A0) on an appropriate due date for new applications (see [NOT-OD-18-197](#) for exceptions).

For more information on resubmissions of NIH applications, see our [FAQ page](#).

## • Upcoming Change in Federal-wide Unique Entity Identifier Requirements

Currently when applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements, all applicant organizations must have a DUNS number as the Universal Identifier. The General Services Administration (GSA) recently announced that DUNS will be replaced by a new Government-owned unique entity identifier in all systems, including Grants.gov and eRA Commons. The new government unique identifier will be incorporated into the SAM registration process, eliminating the need for applicants to seek external identifiers in order to register.

The transition is ongoing, and more information on this to come as NIH learns more.

For other details, see the full [Guide Notice](#).

---

## NIH LBRN Acknowledgement

So that we can most effectively communicate the scope and results of our funding support, we would like to know when you are planning news announcements about IDeA awards or program activities and achievements...

When you produce such material, please be sure to identify the IDeA program, not just the INBRE, COBRE or sub-program, and to provide context about the program's goals along the lines of:

The University of \_\_\_\_\_ has received \$XXX from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Center of Biomedical Research Excellence. The IDeA program builds research capacities in states that historically have had low levels of NIH funding by supporting basic, clinical and translational research; faculty development; and infrastructure improvements.

In journal articles, news releases, or other materials about your program's activities or achievements, please use funding acknowledgement language such as:

Research reported in this {publication, release} was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of



- In journal articles, oral or poster presentations, news releases, news and feature articles, interviews with reporters and other communications, acknowledge the IDeA program's full or partial support of the research. The citation in scientific publications should use the following format:

*Research reported in this publication was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number P20GM12345.*

- If you wish to acknowledge NIH/NIGMS funding on your Web site or other communication product, you may use wording such as:

*Funded by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institutes of Health.*

or

*Funded by the LBRN (P20GM12345)an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.*

***Please do not use the NIH or NIGMS logo to acknowledge funding, as these logos are only to be used for material produced by NIH and its components.***



---

Copyright © LBRN

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

