VA Intramural Research Award Program Panel Discussion

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Guidance Documents – Under Services

- Each service published their own RFAs

- Services differed in their pre-authorization requirements:
  - HSRD required Intent to Submit (ITS) through ART for all RFAs
  - RRD required pre-applications for all RFAs
  - BLRD and CSRD required LOIs for some RFAs but not others

- RFAs defined both the research topics the service was interested in supporting as well as the details of the award (budget, duration, review criteria, application requirements).

Guidance Documents – Under Portfolios

- All RFAs are cross-portfolio. The RFAs define the Award Type, Budget, Duration, Review Criteria, and application requirements but do not define specific research topics.

- All Broad Portfolios (BPs), Actively Managed Portfolios (AMPS), and Programs publish their own Notices of Special Interest (NOSIs).
  - NOSIs define the research topics the BP, AMP, or Program is soliciting
  - Each NOSI lists the cross-portfolio RFAs that can be applied to through that NOSI.

- The Scientific Review Groups (SRGs) have not changed. They convene on the same schedule. Purview statements have been combined into a single document with minor tweaks.

Decisions needed when submitting an ISRM application

- Which NOSI should you apply through? (Identify research topic)
  - Which portfolio are you applying to? (Some NOSIs are cross-portfolio, for example Women's Health)
- Which RFA/award type is appropriate for your project? (Mentored, independent, clinical trial, etc.)
- Which SRG do I want my application review on? (Check SRG purviews)
  - Perhaps the most important decision
  - Defines what cycles you can apply. (Some SRGs convene Winter/Summer others convene Spring/Fall)
- ORD makes final decisions on purviews – feedback will be given in pre-app approval notification.

Application Process

1	2	3	4	5	6
Identify a Research Topic	**Find a Relevant Notice of Special Interest (NOSI)**	**Select a Request for Applications (RFA)**	**Identify the Scientific Review Group (SRG)**	**Submit a Pre-Application**	**Submit a Full Research Application**

- Align your research idea with one of the VA-ORD's Broad Portfolios (BPs), Actively Managed Portfolios (AMPs), or Programs.

- NOSIs describe research topics of interest.

- Choose a NOSI that aligns with your research topic.

- Each NOSI lists the RFAs that can be applied to.

- Choose an RFA that fits your research mechanism (e.g., I01, I21).

- Determine the appropriate SRG based on your research topic and the RFA's guidelines.

- Consider the SRG's review cycles when planning your submission.

- Submit a pre-application to get initial feedback on your research idea.

- Include any necessary waiver requests.

- If your pre-application is approved, submit a full research application following the guidelines outlined in the RFA

Reminders & Updates

- Revised NOSIs and RFAs will be published in early January. Use these revisions for February 1 pre-application submissions.

- Starting in the Winter 2025 round, grant numbers for resubmissions and renewals will be updated to the "RD" IC code (from BX/CX/HX/RX). Do not be alarmed when you see grant numbes changing.

- Remember different RFAs have different pre-application deadlines (CTs, CDA, RCS, and Translational studies are 3 months earlier)

- ALL applications, <u>including resubmissions</u>, require a pre-application.

Questions & Answers