

July 2020 Newsletter
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NIH COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS AND GRANTEES

Guidance for various aspects of research and grant application processes, as well as FAQs and COVID-19 funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 UPDATES HISTORY WEBPAGE

Relevant updates for applicants and grantees by date can be found [here](#).

FAQ DOCUMENT ON COVID-19 FLEXIBILITIES

Policies and programs affecting the grants process can be found [here](#).

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: NIDA STRATEGIC PLAN

As part of the strategic planning process, NIDA has issued a Request for Information (RFI) for feedback on an initial outline of their FY 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. Comments will be accepted at NIDAstrategicPlan@nida.nih.gov through August 7, 2020. Read the RFI [here](#).

NIH POSTS COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR PREPARING FALL 2020 APPLICATIONS

On July 8, the NIH Office of the Director released new guidance for preparing grant applications with fall 2020 due dates, the earliest being September 25. The guidance states that NIH grant applications should not include COVID-19 contingency plans and that reviewers will be instructed to disregard situations due to COVID-19. Read more [here](#).

FINAL 42 CFR PART 2 RULE RELEASED

On July 13, HHS [announced](#) the release of a final rule implementing changes to the 42 CFR Part 2 privacy protections for addiction treatment. A list of changes in the final rule is available [here](#).

DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS HIT ALL-TIME RECORD

The U.S. experienced a record number of drug overdose deaths in 2019, according to newly released federal data, and addiction specialists warn the coronavirus pandemic has only worsened the crisis. Read more [here](#).

FDA ISSUES DRAFT GUIDANCE ON MARIJUANA RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

On July 21, the FDA issued draft guidance outlining the agency's view on topics related to developing cannabis and cannabis-derived products. Read more [here](#).

AMA OPIOID TASK FORCE PROGRESS REPORT

The number of overdoses related to prescription drugs is declining, but overdoses related to other kinds of opioids, stimulants, heroin and cocaine are all up sharply, according to a report from the American Medical Association's Opioid Task Force. Read more [here](#).

FDA REQUIRES LABELING CHANGES FOR OPIOIDS

The FDA announced on July 23 that they will require drug makers to include naloxone co-prescribing information in labeling for all opioids and opioid use disorder medications, including buprenorphine, methadone and naltrexone. Read more [here](#).

NIDA REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

NIDA has issued a RFI to solicit input from researchers and health care providers on “Advancing Biomarker Research and Implementation to Personalize Health Services Delivery for Tobacco Use Disorder.” Responses are due on October 1, 2020 and must be submitted to: NIDAbiomarker@nih.gov. The RFI can be found [here](#).

HOUSE PASSES FISCAL 2020 LABOR HHS BILL

On July 31, the House of Representatives passed a second FY2021 minibus spending package, including the FY 2021 Labor-HHS-Education spending bill. The bill includes \$47 billion in funding for NIH, including \$5 billion in emergency supplemental spending. Read more [here](#).