

NIH's Implementation of Research Performance Progress Report

What is the purpose?

Progress reports are required annually to document grantee accomplishments and compliance with terms of award. They describe scientific progress, identify significant changes, report on personnel, and describe plans for the subsequent budget period or year.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has mandated that federal agencies implement a federal-wide research performance progress report (RPPR) for submission of required annual or other interim performance reporting on grants and cooperative agreement awards to standardize recipient reporting on federally-funded research projects.

When will the RPPR be available to grantees?

RPPR is currently required for all NIH grantees for SNAP and Fellowship awards. RPPR is also available as an open pilot for all Type 5 Non-SNAP Progress reports and starting on October 17, 2014, it will be required for all Type 5 Non-SNAP awards. Additionally, RPPR is required for multi-funded (MYF) awards as of January 31, 2014. The MYF RPPR is available as a link in the Action column of the Status table in Commons.

SNAP and Fellowship progress reports submitted in another format will not be processed by the NIH and will require submission in the RPPR format.

What are the benefits of RPPR?

Here is a list of the features and benefits of RPPR:

- Because RPPR is integrated with eRA Commons, much of the information is pre-populated from NIH systems for the grantee, including PD/PI information, grant number, project title and period, performance sites, and personnel (except in the first year of RPPR use for progress reports not previously submitted through eRA Commons) Publications of the PD/PI's, if linked to his/her Commons account from MY NCBI (as is required for NIH), are displayed for easy association with the progress report.
- RPPR addresses NIH specific policies such as required human subjects education, inclusion enrollment reporting, use of human embryonic stem cells, etc.
- The format of the report is user friendly. Users answer questions using a checkbox, by entering text or uploading a PDF, or selecting "Nothing to Report".
- A request can be made to grantees for additional information for the progress report that can be submitted via eRA Commons.
 - ◇ An Institute can request additional material seeking clarification on an issue from a grantee, following submission of the progress report.
 - ◇ An Institute can also request verification that the grantee is in compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy, which requires grantees to make available to the public any publications that arose from federally-funded grants (within 12 months of publication).
- Other features of the RPPR include:
 - ◇ A specific location to report award-related competitive revisions/administrative supplements.
 - ◇ Automated indication of compliance with the Public Access Policy
 - ◇ Other support is only required if there has been a change
 - ◇ A link to the Notice of Award

Resources for NIH's Implementation of RPPR

Here are some helpful links:

RPPR web page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/>

RPPR Instructional Guide: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/rppr_instruction_guide.pdf

RPPR Training Materials: http://era.nih.gov/era_training/rppr.cfm

Most recent RPPR Guide Notice: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-14-092.html>

NSF's RPPR page: <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/rppr/index.jsp>