

Transcript – A Brief Overview of IAR

Transcript Disclaimer:

This transcript is NOT a certified transcript, and thus is not a legal document and is not for use in a court of law. The information contained within this document is for general information purposes only.

Welcome to this overview of the Internet Assisted Review module, known as IAR.

Research grants are considered for funding by NIH and its partner agencies based upon the peer review of applications conducted by scientists.

The Internet Assisted Review system provides reviewers a tool to electronically view grant applications, submit critiques, and score the applications they are reviewing, as well as perform other review related activities.

Before reviewing the applications in detail, reviewers need to attend to policy concerns. IAR is the place to sign a confidentiality agreement. This is used to indicate whether they are or are not a federally registered lobbyist. Federally registered lobbyists cannot serve on a review panel and will be locked out of the meetings. Non-lobbyists need to complete the form in order to be granted access to the meeting materials. Also, within (IAR), reviewers will indicate if they have any Conflicts of Interests with the applications they are reviewing, or the other reviewers.

While in the IAR system, reviewers can access their Personal Profile to take care of the personal information related to the review, such as ensuring a proper email address is on file to receive review related correspondence; or signing up for reviewer reimbursements.

IAR is accessed via eRA Commons. Once logged in, reviewers click on the apps icon, in the upper left corner, and select Internet Assisted Review from the menu option to access IAR. Reviewers must have a Commons account to use IAR. Note that reviewers cannot access applications in IAR until they are invited to a meeting by the scientific review officer, or SRO.

If a reviewer already has an account as a principal investigator, or PI, he or she will be assigned the IAR role when invited to the meeting.

If the reviewer is new to eRA Commons, the meeting invitation will walk them through the process of setting up a new account.

If the person has previously served as a reviewer, he or she, can use their existing eRA Commons account.

Reviewers review the grant applications for scientific and technical merit, write a critique on each and score the applications. The critique is uploaded into IAR as a Word document and the numerical scores

entered at that time. Some meetings use of an online critique screen, where review criteria for the applications are conveniently available on screen and the critique and scores are entered online.

We realize that this is a lot of information to absorb, so we have several resources to help you along the way. If you need technical assistance with IAR, please contact your SRO, or the eRA Service Desk.

Resources

- Information for Reviewers
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/review.htm>
- Videos for Reviewers
 - Navigating Internet Assisted Review (IAR)
<https://era.nih.gov/era-training/era-videos.htm#reviewers>
 - IAR Virtual Meeting Videos
<https://era.nih.gov/era-training/era-videos.htm#IARvirtualmeeting>
- eRA Service Desk
<https://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html>

We very much appreciate your service as a reviewer. This concludes this overview of the Internet Assisted Review module, IAR. Thank you for watching.