FOAM User Guide

February 1, 2018
CONTACT US

Document Comments:

We value your feedback on this document.

How are we doing? The Communications & Documentation Team of the electronic Research Administration (eRA) is dedicated to serving our community and welcomes your feedback to assist us in improving our user guides. Please send comments about the user guide to this address: eRACommunications@mail.nih.gov.

For general questions about this module and associated business processes:

Please contact your IC Coordinator. A list of IC Coordinators is available here: http://inside.era.nih.gov/techrep_list.cfm.

Troubleshooting support: Contact the eRA Help Desk:

Toll-free: 1-866-504-9552
Phone: 301-402-7469
TTY: 301-451-5939
Web: https://grants.nih.gov/support (Preferred method of contact)
Email: commons@od.nih.gov (for Commons Support)
Email: helpdesk@od.nih.gov (for IMPAC II Support)
Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

No data shown in illustrations represents any real account, project, or individual. Any resemblance to actual accounts, projects, or individuals is purely coincidental.
1 Latest Updates

Updates and new features in the Funding Opportunity Announcement Module (FOAM)

Feb 1, 2018

- The FOA **Lead Author** field defaults to the user who is creating the FOA. See [Create FOA](#).
- Tasks can now be set to Not Started regardless of any dependencies (previously, a task that was dependent on an In Progress task could not be set back to Not Started).
- The [Save as Model](#) screen displays the associated Phase Flow and FOA Type.
- ACF and CDC users can only add one publishing rule to an [FOA template](#), and the only available attribute for the rule is FOA Type.
- FOAM Admins can now manage task list models in the [Manage Task List Model](#) screen.

Jan 4, 2018

- Inline Comments: When you comment on a data element you can now you can attach the comment to a specific line or place in the text. When you export the FOA Content to Word, the comment will be linked to the text it refers to. See [FOA Content](#).
- Delete multiple tasks from the [Task List](#).
- FOA content that is editable is highlighted in the [Word export of FOA content](#).
- The FOA Title now appears on all FOA tabs when you hover the mouse over the announcement number:

![Image of FOA Title on FOA tabs]

And note that the FOA Title field is limited to 250 characters.

Nov 16, 2017

And note that the FOA Title field is limited to 250 characters.
- Add tables to rich-text fields in the FOA Content tab.
- New 'Organization Restricted' FOA attachment type that can only be viewed by users from the FOA's organization. See Attachments tab
- in the FOAs List screen, when you select 'Shared Interest' in the Agency Tasks filter, the Shared Interest Start Date column is displayed, showing the date when the Shared Interest task was set to In Progress.
- Export the FOAs list in Excel format.
- New data logic in the Create FOA screen: To create a FOA, you must first populate and lock the Organization, FOA Type, and Activity Code fields: Only after they are set and locked will all of the other fields and the complete range of configuration options be displayed.
- Similar logic is used when you edit a FOA in the Key Attributes screen.

Nov 2, 2017

- Track receipt dates by council round for the FOA. See NIH Guide tab
- Generate Review Schedule report.
- Organizational divisions are now listed by abbreviation instead of by code in the FOAs screen and the Phase-Category report.
- New icons in My Inbox and the Task List screen.

Oct 13, 2017

- Generate the HHS Forecast Export Report. See Report Parameters
- Copy FOA. See FOAs

Grants.Gov Opportunity ID: Enter opportunity ID to link the FOA to the published FOA on Grants.gov. See FOA Key Attributes

- Notice of Intent to Publish FOAs are now marked as cancelled if the associated FOA is not published within 12 months. See FOA Key Attributes

Sept 28, 2017
FOAM USER Guide

- Create "Notice" FOA types:
  - Notice of Intent to Publish
  - Notice of Change to Funding Opportunity
  - Notice of Information
  - Request for Information
  - Request for Proposals
  - Policy Notice
    See FOA Key Attributes

- New Division Referral Liaison and IC Approving Official user roles
- New post-completion task actions: Shared Interest Period completion, Set Notice FON. See Task Actions

Sept 8, 2017

- Manage task list models at the Agency or IC level.
- New FOA Exception Requests tab
- Filter and sort preferences are now saved for duration of the current session. See My Inbox, FOA List
- New Post-completion task actions. For details see Task Actions:
  - Approve/Disapprove Limited Competition Exception
  - Approve/Disapprove Page Limit Exception
  - Lock/Unlock Attachments
  - Notify Guide Liaison and Guide Director on Agency Task completion

Aug 10, 2017

- Add components to create complex FOAs. See Multi-component tab
- Agency Admins and eRA FOAM Admins can manage, complete and delete all agency-level tasks. See Task Lists
- Post-completion action to propagate dependent due dates after task completion. See Task Actions tab
- Users with the FOAM_ADMIN role are required to use a model for their task lists. See Create Task List
- Filter FOAs list by issuing component. See FOAs

July 26, 2017
Workflow and look-and-feel changes to these screens:

- Add Task
- Create Task List
- FOAs
- FOA Key Attributes tab
- FOA NIH Guide tab
- FOA Shared Interest tab
- My Inbox

June 26, 2017

- FOAM integration with the NIH Guide Publishing System (GPS). See FOA Key Attributes tab: NIH Guide

May 8, 2017

- Export Phase-Category report to PDF. See Report Details
- Options to propagate dependent due dates when updating a single task due date. See Task Detail
- Workdays are used to calculate deltas between due dates. See Task List
- A new eRA FOAM Admin role to help with support the system. See FOAM User Roles

January 26, 2017

Initial Publication — eRA is excited to announce the launch of a new Funding Opportunity Announcement Module (FOAM), which will enable Guide liaisons to collaborate with others in their ICs to develop funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) for submission to the Guide Publishing System (GPS). The system gives staff the ability to internally plan and track the FOA lifecycle and create FOAs. Future development will allow for multi-level review, revision and approval of FOAs along with supporting direct submission of FOAs to the Guide Publishing System.
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1 Overview of FOAM

The Funding Opportunity Announcement Module (FOAM) is designed to help the ICs at NIH and our agency partners in developing, reviewing, approving and publishing Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs).

Features:

- The ability to establish, track, visualize, and monitor the FOA lifecycle, including critical business process events and deadline dates.
- Configurable, reusable task workflows by IC.
- The ability to Define task details including due dates, milestones, expiration dates, privileges, assignments, dependencies, and phases.
- Customizable and editable content that provides a platform for online collaboration for developing defined content that conforms to built-in agency-level FOA templates.
- Provides graphic display capability to visually display data.

Benefits:

- Streamlines the process of creating a FOA.
- Adds graphic display capability and other visual representations of data for FOAs, such as a display of milestones to monitor
- Improves tracking and reporting by marking critical business process events and deadline dates.
- Enables online collaboration with colleagues to develop and share data content.
- Enables parallel reviews, comments and change tracking, along with the capability to upload and save documents.
- Sends notifications to users based on events such as: FOA review/approval required; FOA reviewed/approved; milestone approaching; milestone missed.

Who can use FOAM?

- Program Officials and others involved with the FOA development process.
- FOA coordinators and NIH Guide Liaisons need the FOAM_ADMIN role. Other contributors receive access when assigned FOA tasks.
- OEP Policy Reviewers

1.1 FOAM User Roles

The following user roles are available for FOAM:
**NOTE:** In this table, the **FOAM Role** column lists the role name as it appears in FOAM; the **AMS Role Name** is the name used in the Account Management System.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOAM Role</th>
<th>AMS Role Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AREA SME</td>
<td>FOAM_AREA_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the AREA subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Trial SME</td>
<td>FOAM_CLINICAL_TRIAL_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Clinical Trial subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications SME</td>
<td>FOAM_COMMUNICATIONS_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for Communications subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences SME</td>
<td>FOAM_CONFERENCES_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Conferences subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Agreements SME</td>
<td>FOAM_COOPERATIVE_AGREEMENT_SME</td>
<td>Checks the Cooperative Agreements subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR Receipt Date Approver</td>
<td>CSR_RECEIPT_DATE_APPROVER</td>
<td>Responsible for approving the CSR Receipt date for FOAs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Sharing SME</td>
<td>FOAM_DATA_SHARING_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Data Sharing subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division Referral Liaison</td>
<td>FOAM_DIVISION_REFERRAL_LIAISON</td>
<td>Coordinates FOA referral activities within the division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERA SME</td>
<td>FOAM_ERA_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the eRA subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation SME</td>
<td>FOAM_EVALUATION_SME</td>
<td>The Evaluation SME role checks the FOA for the Evaluation subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM Admin</td>
<td>FOAM_ADMIN</td>
<td>Sets up and manages FOA records for their agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM Agency Admin</td>
<td>FOAM_AGENCY_ADMIN</td>
<td>Assists a GrantSolutions Agency partner with FOAM configuration. Admin user at the agency level with ability to set up Agency task lists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM GS</td>
<td>FOAM_GS_ADMIN</td>
<td>GrantSolutions admin user. Manages FOAs and task</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*FOAM User Roles*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOAM Role</th>
<th>AMS Role Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admin</td>
<td></td>
<td>lists for their Agency. Manages the publication of the FOA to Grants.gov and GrantSolutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM Opportunity Template Role</td>
<td>FOAM_ OPPORTUNITY_TEMPLATE_ROLE</td>
<td>GrantSolutions template editor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM Policy Reviewer</td>
<td>FOAM_POLICY_REVIEWER</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for policy compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM Publisher</td>
<td>FOAM_PUBLISHER</td>
<td>Can release FOA for publication to grants.gov and NIH guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM Template Editor Role</td>
<td>FOAM_TEMPLATE_EDITOR_ROLE</td>
<td>Manages document templates for their ICs: Can create/edit template key attributes and publish/unpublish templates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guide Management Analyst</td>
<td>FOAM_GUIDE_MANAGEMENT_ANALYST</td>
<td>Reviews the FOA for compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Subjects SME</td>
<td>FOAM_HUMAN_SUBJECTS_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for a Human Subjects subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC Approving Official</td>
<td>IC Approving Official</td>
<td>Approves limited competition and page limit exception requests for your IC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OER Leadership</td>
<td>FOAM_OER_Leadership</td>
<td>Makes executive decisions on FOAs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPERA Grants Policy SME</td>
<td>FOAM_OPERA_GRANTS_POLICY_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the OPERA Grants Policy subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPERA RFI SME</td>
<td>FOAM_OPERA_RFI_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the OPERA RFI subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Control Officer</td>
<td>FOAM_QUALITY_CONTROLLER</td>
<td>Reviews the FOA prior to publication in FOAM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipt &amp; Referral SME</td>
<td>FOAM_RECEIPT_REFERRAL_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Receipt &amp; Referral subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral</td>
<td>FOAM_REFERRAL_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for referral compliance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## FOAM User Roles

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<tr>
<th>FOAM Role</th>
<th>AMS Role Name</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clearance</td>
<td>CLEARANCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Training SME</td>
<td>FOAM_RESEARCH_TRAILING_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Research Training subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Business SME</td>
<td>FOAM_SMALL_BUSINESS_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Small Business subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce Diversity SME</td>
<td>FOAM_WORKFORCE_DIVERSITY_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Workforce Diversity subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Task-based privileges

In addition to defined FOAM user roles, all eRA users can be assigned to tasks on individual FOAs. Users who are assigned to tasks are able to perform the following actions:

- View the FOA’s key attributes, task list, and transaction history.
- Complete the assigned task once progress has been started on it.
- Comment on the task.
- Edit FOA content while the task is in progress if the task grants them *Edit FOA* privilege.
- Comment on the FOA content while the task is in progress if the task grants them *Review FOA* privilege.
- While the assigned task is in progress, can add attachments to the FOA and edit attachment descriptions.
- Delete attachments they have uploaded.

For more information on task privileges, see Task Detail.
2 Accessing FOAM

Use one of these methods to access FOAM from the eRA intranet:

- Select FOAM from the System Launch drop-down menu, shown here:

![System Launch menu](image1)

- Or: Locate FOAM in the eRA Modules and Services section and click the Launch link, as shown here:

![FOAM launch](image2)

- Or: If you're already logged in to the eRA application suite, click the FOA tab on the menubar at the top of the screen.

- Or: Navigate your browser to [https://public.era.nih.gov/foam/](https://public.era.nih.gov/foam/)

When you take one of these actions, the Login screen opens, shown here.
Enter your agency user name and password or use your PIV card and PIN number.

Upon successful authentication, the system opens the FOAM My Inbox screen.
2 FOAM User Roles and Privileges

The following user roles are available for FOAM:

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<td>FOAM Admin</td>
<td>FOAM_ADMIN</td>
<td>Sets up and manages FOA records for their agencies</td>
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<td>FOAM Agency</td>
<td>FOAM_AGENCY</td>
<td>Assists a GrantSolutions Agency partner with FOAM configuration. Admin user at the agency level</td>
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<td>with ability to set up Agency task lists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM GS Admin</td>
<td>FOAM_GS_ADMIN</td>
<td>GrantSolutions admin user. Manages FOAs and task lists for their Agency. Manages the publication of the FOA to Grants.gov and GrantSolutions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOAM Opportunity Template Role</td>
<td>FOAM_OPPORTUNITY_TEMPLATE_ROLE</td>
<td>GrantSolutions template editor.</td>
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<td>IC Approving Official</td>
<td>IC Approving Official</td>
<td>Approves limited competition and page limit exception requests for your IC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OER Leadership</td>
<td>FOAM_OER_Leadership</td>
<td>Makes executive decisions on FOAs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPERA Grants Policy SME</td>
<td>FOAM_OPERA_GRANTS_POLICY_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the OPERA Grants Policy subject matter compliance.</td>
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<td>FOAM_OPERA_RFI_SME</td>
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<td>Quality Control Officer</td>
<td>FOAM_QUALITY_CONTROLLER</td>
<td>Reviews the FOA prior to publication in FOAM.</td>
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<td>FOAM_RECEIPT_REFERRAL_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Receipt &amp; Referral subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral Clearance</td>
<td>FOAM_REFERRAL_CLEARANCE</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for referral compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Training SME</td>
<td>FOAM_RESEARCH_TRAINING_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Research Training subject matter compliance.</td>
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<td>Workforce Diversity SME</td>
<td>FOAM_WORKFORCE_DIVERSITY_SME</td>
<td>Checks the FOA for the Workforce Diversity subject matter compliance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.1 Task-based Privileges

In addition to defined FOAM user roles, all eRA users can be assigned to tasks on individual FOAs.

And tasks can be used to give system privileges to the task assignee while the task is in progress.

Depending on the role of the user who's configuring the task, some or all of the following privileges are available to be granted to task assignees:

**FOAM Task Privileges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Privilege</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edit Key Attributes</td>
<td>Allows assignee to edit the key attributes of the FOA - Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edit FOA Content</td>
<td>Allows assignee to edit FOA content Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edit Publication Setup</td>
<td>Allows assignee to edit the publication to grants.gov tab- Available to GS Admin role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Allows to comment on the FOA content and reply to existing comments -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### FOAM Task Privileges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Privilege</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comments</td>
<td>Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Assignee</td>
<td>Allows adding other assignees to the task - Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delete Assignee</td>
<td>Allows deleting other assignees from the task - Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address Comments</td>
<td>Allows marking comments as addressed - Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accept/Reject Edits</td>
<td>Allows accepting or rejecting updates to the FOA content - Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish Forecast Record</td>
<td>Allows publishing the forecast to grants.gov - Available to GS Admin role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish Opportunity</td>
<td>Allows publishing the opportunity to grants.gov - Available to GS Admin role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edit Policy Language</td>
<td>Allows assignee to edit the policy language on the FOA content - Available to Agency Admin role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edit Due Date</td>
<td>Allows updating the due date for a task - Available to all Admin roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish to GMM</td>
<td>Allows publishing the opportunity to the Grants Management Module - Available to GS Admin role</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For instructions on assigning task privileges, see [Task Detail](#).
3 My Inbox

*My Inbox* is the opening screen when you access FOAM. You can also click the *My Inbox* tab in the top nav bar to open your inbox, as shown below.

And use the other links in the top nav bar to navigate to the other main FOAM screens:

- **FOAs** — Create and manage FOAs
- **Reports** — Create and manage Reports
- **Document Templates** — Create and manage Document Templates

Your Inbox displays the pending FOA tasks that have been assigned to you, as shown here:

**Filter and Sort:**

By default the inbox shows only your pending tasks (*In Progress* or *Not Started* status) — when you complete a task, it is removed from your inbox.

But you can use the **Filter** drop-down menus to choose which task statuses you want to display in this session, and whether to show tasks for only yourself or for all users. Click to open the menus and use the checkboxes to select, then click **Apply Filter** as shown here:
To sort the results, click the up or down arrows in the column headers: The new sort order will be used for the rest of the session.

### 3.1 Actions

- Click a task name to open the [Task Detail](#) screen and review or complete the task.
- Click a comment icon 📝 to add a comment.
- Look for the agency icon: 🌐 to quickly spot agency tasks,
- Click a FON/FOA # to open the [FOA Key Attributes](#) screen.
- Or select one of these actions from the Task Actions menu, shown here:

![Task Actions](image)

Note: The choices available in this menu depend on your user role and the status of the task, but you may see some or all of the following actions:

- **Start Progress** — This is the first step for working on a task: The task must be in progress before you can complete it,¹ add comments, or perform actions for which the task grants you permission, such as adding assignees or editing task content. See [Task Detail](#) for more information.
- **Not Started** — Change an in-progress task back to Not Started state. (available to FOAM_ADMIN users only)
- **Complete** — Click to mark the task complete in the [Task Completion](#) screen. If the completed task is a phase gate, the FOA moves to the next phase.
- **History** — View all past activity on the task in the [Task History](#) screen.
- **Comment** — Add a comment about the task in the [Comments](#) screen.
- **Delete Task** — Permanently delete the task. (available to FOAM_ADMIN users only)

¹ Except: FOAM Admins can complete tasks that are Not Started as long as they do not have any uncompleted mandatory dependencies.
4 Task List tab

Task Lists (also called timelines) are ordered workflows of the tasks required to build the FOA.

Click the Task List tab in the FOA screen to create and manage task lists for the FOA:

- If the FOA has an existing task list, clicking the Task List tab opens the Task List screen, as shown below.

- If the FOA does not yet have a task list, clicking the Task List tab opens the Create Task List screen instead.

Use the Task List screen to create and manage FOA task lists.

You can create multiple versions of a task list to consider different timeline options for developing the FOA or to compare a reference version of the timeline to the actual conditions. The task list that is currently being used to track the FOA development process is called the “active” task list.

See below for instructions on working with task lists.
4.1 Working with the Task List

Click the Task List drop-down menu to select which task list to display. If an active task list exists, it is selected by default.

The **Active** button is present on active task lists, and the **Inactive** button is present on inactive tasks list. These buttons toggle the active/inactive status of the task list:

- Click the **Inactive** button to make an inactive task list active: that is, to make it the official task list in use now to guide the FOA development process.
- Click the **Active** button to deactivate an active list. Note: You cannot deactivate a task list that has an agency task in progress.
- **Note:** Once the task list becomes active, work can be performed on its tasks and the first mandatory task on the list is set to *In Progress*.
- **Note:** If another task list was active, when a new task list becomes active, the previous task list is set to inactive and all its tasks are set to *Not Started*.

Click the **graph** button to open a **graph view** showing the progress of the tasks in this task list. (**Note:** Only available if the task list includes at least one milestone task)

Click **Add Task** to open the **Task Detail** screen and add a new task to the task list. To delete one or more tasks, use the checkboxes at the left to select the tasks, then click **Delete Selected Tasks**.

Click the **Actions** button to select one of these actions in the Actions menu:
NOTE: The actions available in this menu depend on your user role and the status of the task list. Some or all of the following actions may be available:

- **Create Reference Version** — Click to create a reference version (a snapshot) of the active task list to use for auditing purposes. *(Note: This action only available to the admin user)*
- **Create Task List** — Click to generate a new task list. *(Note: This action only available to admin users)*
- **Save as model** — Click to save the task list you're viewing as a model to use when creating future task lists with the **Create Task List** action. *(Note: This action only available to admin users)* See [Save as Model](#) for information on creating a new task list based on a model.
- **Compare Task Lists** — Click to select two task lists to compare. *(Note: only available if more than one version of the task list exists)*

**Filter and sort**

- Open the Filter Options menu to select the task types you want to see, as shown here:

  ![Filter Options](image)

  - Or type text in the *Filter* box to see only tasks that have the filter text in some field.
  - Click the arrows at the top of the columns to sort the task grid by that property.

### 4.2 Working with individual tasks

You can perform the following actions on the tasks in the task grid:

- Click the task name to view or edit the task in the *Task Detail* screen.
- The flag icon indicates milestone tasks. Roll over the icon to see which task phase it's in, as shown here:
- The link icon indicates dependent tasks. Roll over it to see the task this task depends on, as shown here:

- Click the comment icon to add a comment in the Task Comments screen. (Note: When you add a comment on a task, the task assignee receives a notification.)

- Other icons identify optional tasks: , agency tasks: , and tasks set to autostart when the task they're dependent on is completed:

- The Assigned to column lists the task assignee. If there's more than one assigned person or role, a bubble in the field tells you how many. Roll over it to see them, as shown here:

- Select from the following actions in the Actions menu at the right side of the grid, shown here:

**NOTE:** The actions available for a task depend on your user role and the current task status. Some or all of the following actions may be available for a given task:
- **Not Started** — Sets the task status to Not Started. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Start progress** — Sets the task status to In Progress. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Complete** — Sets the task status to Completed. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Submit for Policy Review** — Submit to OEP for policy review. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Delete task** — Deletes the current task. **Note:** not available for in-progress, completed, or expired tasks.
- **Comment** — Click to add a comment in the Task Comments screen.
- **History** — Click to open the Task History screen.

**NOTE:** For "Agency" task types, users with the Agency Admin or eRA FOAM Admin user role can act on the task (Start it, set it to Not Started, Delete it or Complete it) even if the task is not assigned to them.

### 4.3 Task List tab

Task Lists (also called timelines) are ordered workflows of the tasks required to build the FOA.

Click the Task List tab in the FOA screen to create and manage task lists for the FOA:

- If the FOA has an existing task list, clicking the Task List tab opens the Task List screen, as shown below.

- If the FOA does not yet have a task list, clicking the Task List tab opens the Create Task List screen instead.

Use the Task List screen to create and manage FOA task lists.

You can create multiple versions of a task list to consider different timeline options for developing the FOA or to compare a reference version of the timeline to the actual conditions. The task list that is currently being used to track the FOA development process is called the “active” task list.

See below for instructions on working with task lists.
Working with the Task List

Click the Task List drop-down menu to select which task list to display. If an active task list exists, it is selected by default.

The Active button is present on active task lists, and the Inactive button is present on inactive tasks list. These buttons toggle the active/inactive status of the task list:

- Click the Inactive button to make an inactive task list active: that is, to make it the official task list in use now to guide the FOA development process.
- Click the Active button to deactivate an active list. Note: You cannot deactivate a task list that has an agency task in progress.
- Note: Once the task list becomes active, work can be performed on its tasks and the first mandatory task on the list is set to In Progress.
- Note: If another task list was active, when a new task list becomes active, the previous task list is set to inactive and all its tasks are set to Not Started.
Click the **graph** button to open a **graph view** showing the progress of the tasks in this task list. *(Note: Only available if the task list includes at least one milestone task)*

Click **Add Task** to open the **Task Detail** screen and add a new task to the task list.

To delete one or more tasks, use the checkboxes at the left to select the tasks, then click **Delete**

**Selected Tasks:**

Click the **Actions** button to select one of these actions in the Actions menu:

- **Create Reference Version** — Click to create a reference version (a snapshot) of the active task list to use for auditing purposes. *(Note: This action only available to the admin user)*
- **Create Task List** — Click to generate a new task list. *(Note: This action only available to admin users)*
- **Save as model** — Click to save the task list you're viewing as a model to use when creating future task lists with the **Create Task List** action. *(Note: This action only available to admin users)* See [Save as Model](#) for information on creating a new task list based on a model.
- **Compare Task Lists** — Click to select two task lists to compare. *(Note: only available if more than one version of the task list exists)*
4.3.0.1 Filter and sort

- Open the Filter Options menu to select the task types you want to see, as shown here:

![Filter Options menu]

- Or type text in the Filter box to see only tasks that have the filter text in some field.
- Click the arrows at the top of the columns to sort the task grid by that property.

Working with individual tasks

You can perform the following actions on the tasks in the task grid:

- Click the task name to view or edit the task in the Task Detail screen.
- The flag icon indicates milestone tasks. Roll over the icon to see which task phase it's in, as shown here:

![Milestone Phase I]

- The link icon indicates dependent tasks. Roll over it to see the task this task depends on, as shown here:

![Depends on]

- Click the comment icon to add a comment in the Task Comments screen. (Note: When you add a comment on a task, the task assignee receives a notification.)

- Other icons identify optional tasks: , agency tasks: , and tasks set to autostart when the task they're dependent on is completed:
• The Assigned to column lists the task assignee. If there's more than one assigned person or role, a bubble in the field tells you how many. Roll over it to see them, as shown here:

• Select from the following actions in the Actions menu at the right side of the grid, shown here:

![Actions Menu]

**NOTE:** The actions available for a task depend on your user role and the current task status. Some or all of the following actions may be available for a given task:

- **Not Started** — Sets the task status to Not Started. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Start progress** — Sets the task status to In Progress. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Complete** — Sets the task status to Completed. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Submit for Policy Review** — Submit to OEP for policy review. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Delete task** — Deletes the current task. **Note:** not available for in-progress, completed, or expired tasks.
- **Comment** — Click to add a comment in the Task Comments screen.
- **History** — Click to open the Task History screen.
NOTE: For "Agency" task types, users with the Agency Admin or eRA FOAM Admin user role can act on the task (Start it, set it to Not Started, Delete it or Complete it) even if the task is not assigned to them.

4.4 Task Detail: Overview tab

When you click the Add Task button in the Task List screen, the Task Detail: Overview tab opens, as shown here:

Use this screen to add a task to the task list.

See also these other Task Detail tabs:

- Task Checklist tab
- Task Actions tab

Use these fields in the Overview tab to define task properties:

- **Task Name** — Enter the name of the task
- **Due Date** — Enter a due date for the task.
- **Status Date** — This field shows the date of the last update
• **Phase** — Select the phase of the task.

• **Milestone** — Check this box if the task is a milestone and should be displayed on the graph and in reports.

• **Task List Options** — Select one or more of these options for handling due dates:
  
  ○ *expire on due date* — Make task expire automatically if it is not completed by the due date.
  
  ○ *update dependent (subsequent) due dates* — If this task's due date changes, adjust the due dates of tasks that are dependent on it (subsequent tasks).

  ○ *update dependent-on (previous) due dates* — If this task's due date changes, adjust the due dates of tasks that it is dependent on (previous tasks).

• **Phase Gate** — Check this box if the task is a phase gate (that is, the task that completes the selected phase and kicks off the next phase).

• **Task Types** — Click to open the drop-down menu and assign one or more task types. The following task types are available:

  ○ *Agency* — Designates OEP actions. Note: For Agency tasks, users with the Agency Admin or eRA FOAM Admin user role can act on the task (Start it, set it to Not Started, Delete it or Complete it) even if the task is not assigned to them. And IC users cannot access these tasks at all.

  ○ *Optional* — Tasks that may not need to be executed for the FOA and can be filtered out from a Task List view. Note: Once an optional task is initiated, it is no longer considered optional.

  ○ *Shared Interest* — When a Shared Interest task is initiated, the Shared Interest tab becomes available for other organizations to add their participation.

• **Privileges** — Use this field to give the assignee privileges for making changes to the task. Click to see instructions:

Click the **Privileges** field to open drop-down menu and select one or more of the following privileges:

  ○ Edit Key Attributes
  
  ○ Edit FOA Content
  
  ○ Edit Publication Setup
  
  ○ Review Comments
  
  ○ Accept/Reject Edits
- Address Comments
- Add Assignee
- Delete Assignee
- Publish Forecast Record
- Publish Opportunity
- Review
- Edit Policy Language — Can update policy language data elements (which are otherwise non-editable except by Agency Admin and eRA FOAM Admin).
- Edit Due Date
- Publish to GMM

Click privileges one-by-one to select them and add them to the list, as shown below. You can add as many as you want.

![Privileges]

Click on a privilege a second time to remove it from the list.

- **Task Completion Requirements** — Select validations to perform before the task can be completed:
  When the user tries to mark the task complete, the system issues an error if any of the required items have not been completed.

  - Validate Grants.gov Synopsis
  - Validate Grants.gov Application Package(s)
  - Validate Published Forecast
  - Validate Published Opportunity
- Validate GMM Publication
- Validate FOA Content
- Validate Key Attributes
- Validate NIH Guide Attributes — For "Notice" FOA types, validate the Key Attributes required for OEP review. For other FOA types, validate all key attributes.
- Shared Interest Period — This requirement is available if the task includes Edit FOA Content privilege.

- **Assigned To:** Who is responsible for completing this task? Use the next two fields to specify: You can assign the task to a specific person and/or to any user who has a given user role.
  - *Assigned to Role* — Select FOA or eRA roles responsible for completing the task.
  - *Assigned to Person* — Select user(s) responsible for completing the task: Click the magnifying glass icon to open a pop-up Person Search window, as shown below. Perform your search and select a person to close the pop-up window.

- **Dependent On** — Use to create task dependencies: Click to open a drop-down menu and select the tasks that must be completed before this task can be started.
  
  **Note:** If you make your task dependent on an optional task, the assignee does not have to wait for the optional task to be completed: He or she can start anytime as long as all non-optional tasks have been completed.

- **Start task on completion of dependencies** — check to start the task automatically once all tasks it depends on are completed.

- **Category** — the category of the task used for reporting.
- **Task Description** — Description of the task. This can be used to provide instructions to the assignee of what needs to be done for this task.

### Saving the Task

At any point in this process, you can click the Save button to save your changes.

When you are finished configuring the task, click **Save and Close** to save your changes and close the window.

#### 4.5 Task Detail

All users can access this screen to view detailed information about tasks.

Admin users can also use this screen to add or edit tasks: When you click a task name or the click the Add Task button in the Task List screen, the Task Detail Overview tab opens, as shown here:

See also these other Task Detail tabs:

- Task Checklist tab
- Task Actions tab

Use these fields in the Overview tab to define task properties:
- **Task Name** — Enter the name of the task
- **Due Date** — Enter a due date for the task.
- **Status Date** — This field shows the date of the last update
- **Phase** — Select the phase of the task.
- **Milestone** — Check this box if the task is a milestone and should be displayed on the graph and in reports.
- **Task List Options** — Select one or more of these options for handling due dates:
  - *Expire on due date* — Make task expire automatically if it is not completed by the due date.
  - *Update dependent (subsequent) due dates* — If this task’s due date changes, adjust the due dates of tasks that are dependent on it (subsequent tasks).
  - *Update dependent-on (previous) due dates* — If this task’s due date changes, adjust the due dates of tasks that it is dependent on (previous tasks).
- **Phase Gate** — Check this box if the task is a phase gate (that is, the task that completes the selected phase and kicks off the next phase).
- **Task Types** — Click to open the drop-down menu and assign one or more task types. The following task types are available:
  - *Agency* — Designates OEP actions. Note: For Agency tasks, users with the Agency Admin or eRA FOAM Admin user role can act on the task (Start it, set it to Not Started, Delete it or Complete it) even if the task is not assigned to them. And IC users cannot access these tasks at all.
  - *Optional* — Tasks that may not need to be executed for the FOA and can be filtered out from a Task List view. Note: Once an optional task is initiated, it is no longer considered optional.
  - *Shared Interest* — When a Shared Interest task is initiated, the [Shared Interest](#) tab becomes available for other organizations to add their participation.
- **Privileges** — Use this field to give the assignee privileges for making changes to the task. Click to see instructions:

Click the **Privileges** field to open drop-down menu and select one or more of the following privileges:

- Edit Key Attributes
Edit FOA Content
○ Edit Publication Setup
○ Review Comments
○ Accept/Reject Edits
○ Address Comments
○ Add Assignee
○ Delete Assignee
○ Publish Forecast Record
○ Publish Opportunity
○ Review
○ Edit Policy Language — Can update policy language data elements (which are otherwise non-editable except by Agency Admin and eRA FOAM Admin).
○ Edit Due Date
○ Publish to GMM

Click privileges one-by-one to select them and add them to the list, as shown below. You can add as many as you want.

Click on a privilege a second time to remove it from the list.

- Task Completion Requirements — Select validations to perform before the task can be completed:
  When the user tries to mark the task complete, the system issues an error if any of the required items have not been completed.
- Validate Grants.gov Synopsis
- Validate Grants.gov Application Package(s)
- Validate Published Forecast
- Validate Published Opportunity
- Validate GMM Publication
- Validate FOA Content
- Validate Key Attributes
- Validate NIH Guide Attributes — For "Notice" FOA types, validate the Key Attributes required for OEP review. For other FOA types, validate all key attributes.
- Shared Interest Period — This requirement is available if the task includes Edit FOA Content privilege.

- **Assigned To:** Who is responsible for completing this task? Use the next two fields to specify: You can assign the task to a specific person and/or to any user who has a given user role.
  - **Assigned to Role** — Select FOA or eRA roles responsible for completing the task.
  - **Assigned to Person** — Select user(s) responsible for completing the task: Click the magnifying glass icon to open a pop-up Person Search window, as shown below. Perform your search and select a person to close the pop-up window.

![Person Search](image)

- **Dependent On** — Use to create task dependencies: Click to open a drop-down menu and select the tasks that must be completed before this task can be started.

  **Note:** If you make your task dependent on an optional task, the assignee does not have to wait for the optional task to be completed: He or she can start anytime as long as all non-
optional tasks have been completed.

- **Start task on completion of dependencies** — check to start the task automatically once all tasks it depends on are completed.
- **Category** — the category of the task used for reporting.
- **Task Description** — Description of the task. This can be used to provide instructions to the assignee of what needs to be done for this task.

**Saving the Task**

At any point in this process, you can click the **Save** button to save your changes.

When you are finished configuring the task, click **Save and Close** to save your changes and close the window.

### 4.6 Task Detail: Task Actions tab

This screen opens when you click the Task Detail screen's **Task Actions** tab.

Use it to add a defined action to the present task.

See also these other Task Detail tabs:

- **Overview tab**
- **Task Checklist tab**

To add a Task Action, complete these four fields:

1. **Task Action Name**
2. **Current Task Status** — Select Completed, Expired, Not Started, On Hold, or Bypassed.

3. **Next Task** — If you wish, you can override the task order defined by the task list and select a different future task to be the next required task after this task is completed. See Next Task Configuration below for instructions.

4. **Post-completion Action(s)** — Select system actions to be performed immediately after the task is completed. You can select the following actions:

   - Approve/Disapprove Limited Competition Exception – Approval puts the digital signature of the OEP Director under the Limited Competition exception, and allows the PDF of the exception memo to be generated. (see Exception Requests tab)
   - Approve/Disapprove Page Limit Exception – Approval puts the digital signature of the OEP Director under the Page Limit exception, and allows the PDF of the exception memo to be generated. (see Exception Requests tab)
   - IC Limited Competition Approval – Puts the digital signature of the IC Approving Official under the Limited Competition exception. (see Exception Requests tab)
   - IC Page Limit Exception Approval – Puts the digital signature of the IC Approving Official under the Page Limit exception. (see Exception Requests tab)
   - Lock/Unlock FOA Content – Prevent or enable editing of FOA elements.
   - Notify of Task Completion – Send email notification to the Guide Liaison and Guide Director that the task has been completed.
   - Propagate Dependent Due Dates – Reset dependent task due dates to maintain the configured number of workdays between task due dates.
   - Shared Interest Period completion — Require *Shared Interest* tasks to be in progress for at least 14 days before they can be completed. (*Note:* NIH only. And does not apply to Notice or Supplement FOA types: Shared interest tasks on these FOAs can be completed right away.)

Plus these actions for Agency Admins and eRA FOAM Admins only:

   - Set PA FON — Manually set the FON for *PA* FOAs
   - Set RFA FON — Manually set the FON for *RFA* FOAs
   - Set Notice FON — Manually set the FON for *Notice* FOAs.

**Note:** Only one Page Limit-related post-completion action and one Limited Competition post-completion action can be selected for a task.
**Next Task configuration:**

If you wish, you can use the **Next Task** field shown above to override the task order defined by the task list and to select a different future task to be the next required task after the present task is completed.

When you select a **Next Task** in this field, two additional fields are added to the bottom of the grid, as shown below.

Complete these two fields to configure the next-task requirement:

- **Next Task Status** — Set the status of the selected Next Task: Select Completed, Expired, Not Started, On Hold, or Bypassed
- **Intermediate Task(s) Status** — And also choose a status to apply to any tasks that come between the present task and the selected Next Task in the original task list order.

When you're finished, click **Save** to save your changes or click **Save and Close** to save the action and close the window, or click **Cancel** to cancel, or click **Delete Action** to delete.

When you save a new action, it appears as the last task in the Task Actions tab, as shown below:

You can edit it as described above or click Delete Action to delete it.
4.7 Task Detail: Task Checklist tab

When you click Task Checklist in the Task Detail screen, the Task Detail: Task Checklist tab opens, as shown here:

Use this screen to create a checklist for the task, and add checklist items to record progress on the steps that are necessary to complete the task.

See also these other Task Detail tabs:

- Overview tab
- Task Actions tab

The Task Checklist tab contains this control:

**Enter New Task Checklist** — You can add checklist items to record progress on the steps that are necessary to complete the task. Follow these steps:

1. Click **Add Task Checklist item** to open the task editing tool, as shown here:

2. Type the task item in the text field and click the check button to save it.
3. Saved checklist items appear in the Task Checklist display, as shown here:
4. Click the **Required** box to make an item mandatory, leave blank for optional items. 
   Click the trash icon to delete an item.

5. Click **Save** to save your changes or click **Save and Close** to save the checklist and close the window.

### 4.8 Save as Model

This screen opens when you select the **Save as model** action in the Task List screen. Use it to save a task list as a model that your IC can use as the basis for future task lists.

1. To save the model, enter information as described in the table below, then click **Submit**.
2. FOAM returns you to the Task List screen.

**Save as Model screen**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create New,</td>
<td>Choose to create a new model or overwrite an existing model.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Save as Model screen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overwrite existing</td>
<td>• If you're creating a new model, enter a unique name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• If you're rewriting an existing model, select the model from the list.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task List Model Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Enter a description of the model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Task</td>
<td>Select a task to use as the benchmark to calculate the due dates for all the other tasks in the list. See the business rules below for more information on these due dates. Note: if you're overwriting an existing model, that model’s target task is selected by default.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase Flow</td>
<td>Read only: This field lists the phase flow of the original FOA that will also be associated with the new task list model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOA Type</td>
<td>Read only: This field lists the original FOA Type that will also be associated with the new task list model.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The next time you create a new task list for a FOA, you will have the option of basing it on the model you created.

**Business rules for task list creation from a model:**

- Each task in the new task list contains the same properties as the corresponding task in the model list: name, assignments, milestone indicator, dependencies, phase, and phase gate indicator. (See [Task Detail](#) for more information on these task properties.
- The due date for each task is calculated in reference to the task you select in the Target Task field:
  - FOAM notes the time difference between the due date of the task in the model list and the due date of the model's target task;
  - then it takes this time difference and adds or subtracts it to the due date of the Target task you select in this screen:
  - If a task in the model list was due two days after that list's target task, it will also be due two days after the target task in the new task list.

See [Create Task List](#) for more information on creating a new task list based on a model.
4.9  Task Completion

When you click the Complete action for a task in My Inbox, or a task list, the Task Completion screen opens, as shown here:

Use this screen to complete any remaining elements of the task, and send notifications to the users responsible for the next task(s):

**Task Checklist**

The task checklist lists items that should be completed as part of the task. Any items marked by a red asterisk must be checked off before the task can be completed.

**Upcoming Tasks**

This section lists all dependent tasks: After you complete this task, the dependent tasks can also be completed.

**4.9.0.1 Message**

To send a custom message, enter it in the Message field.

The message will go to all listed task assignees.

To add additional recipient(s) click Add Email and enter an email address or click Add User and search for the user in the Person Search screen, shown here.
When you finish these steps, then click **Complete Task** to mark the task complete and send the notifications.

**Note:** When you add a message on completion of a dependent task, it is added as a comment on the dependent task. If there is no dependency, it is added as a comment on the task being completed.
5 FOAs

The FOA screen opens when you click the FOA tab, as shown below.

Use this screen to access existing FOAs and create new ones for your IC.

Filter and Sort

- Use the three drop-down fields to select the FOA statuses, types of Agency Tasks, or FOA Types you want to display during the current session (you can select multiple properties in each field), then click Apply Filter to display only FOAs that match one or more of the selected properties.
  (Note: You can also filter by Issuing Component, and OEP users can filter by Area of Review.)
- Or type a text string in the Filter field to show only FOAs that match the text.
- To sort the results, click the up or down arrow in a column header: The new sort order will be used for the rest of the session.

5.1 Working in this screen

- Click Create FOA to create a new FOA in the Create FOA screen.

- Click the Excel icon to export the contents of the list in Excel format.

- Click the FON to view and edit FOA details in the FOA Key Attributes tab.

- Or click the arrow icon in the Actions column to select an action from the Actions menu, as shown here. Note The choices available in this menu depend on your user role and the status of the FOA:
Copy FOA — Copy the selected FOA and save the record as a new FOA so you can tailor it to suit your needs.
When you select this action, the system assigns a temporary FOA # and Title and opens the cloned FOA in a new window. Change the FOA # and title if you wish, and edit the other Key Attributes as needed. Note: For the details of the copy operation, see Copy FOA.

Delete FOA — Permanently delete the FOA.

Create NOITP — Create a Notice of Intent to Publish FOA for this FOA. When you select this action for a FOA, the FOA Key Attributes tab opens, displaying a new FOA linked to the selected FOA, with the FOA Type set to Notice of Intent to Publish.

For instructions on configuring the new FOA, see FOA Key Attributes tab.

Note: The NOITP FOA will include a link back to the original, and the original FOA likewise will include a link to the NOITP FOA.

5.2 Create FOA

This screen opens when you click the Create FOA button on the FOA List screen.

Follow the instructions below to create a new FOA.

1. To configure the FOA, you must first populate the fields in the General Information area: Organization and FOA Type, and, if you wish, Activity Code, and then click the Next button to lock your selections.
2. Only after these fields are set and locked will all of the other fields and the complete range of configuration options be displayed, as shown below:

Also note that once the General Information fields are locked, the **Next** button is replaced by an **Unlock** button. Click this if you need to change the General Information fields, and then lock them again to load the rest of the configuration fields.

![FOA User Interface](image_url)
3. When the fully populated screen displays, set these other attributes to configure the FOA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FON</td>
<td>Enter a unique identifier for this FOA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOA Type</td>
<td>Select the type of FOA: PA, PAR, PAS, RFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Enter the title of this FOA (Up to 250 characters).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> The FOA Title is visible on all FOA tabs when you hover the mouse over the announcement number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Select the organization that is issuing this FOA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> If you have FOA authoring permissions at more than one organization, use the drop-down menu to select the primary issuing organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division</td>
<td>Select the division within the issuing organization, if applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase Flow</td>
<td>Select the phase flow to use with this FOA, if applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issuing Component</td>
<td>Select the issuing component within the organization, if applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issuing Agency</td>
<td>Select the issuing agency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Select the phase within the phase flow, if applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Code</td>
<td>If you already know the activity code for the FOA, you can select it now.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated Document</td>
<td>Select the template to use for the content editing of the FOA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current status of the FOA: Not Started, In Progress, Published, Archived, On Hold, or Cancelled.

Create FOA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Note:</td>
<td>The Status automatically changes to “In Progress” when the first FOA task is started.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note:</td>
<td>Notice of Intent to Publish FOAs are marked as cancelled if associated FOA is not published within 12 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Author</td>
<td>This field defaults to the current user.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To select a different lead author, click the magnifying glass icon to open a pop-up Person Search window, as shown below. Perform your search in this window and select a person to close the pop-up and return to the Create FOA screen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRO</td>
<td>Select the Scientific Review Official for this FOA: Begin typing the name and FOAM will attempt to match it to users who have the SRO role — when the correct name appears, click to select it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Specialist</td>
<td>Select the Grants Specialist for this FOA: Begin typing the name and FOAM will attempt to match it to users who have the GMS or GMO role — when the correct name appears, click to select it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>If you want, describe the purpose of this FOA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Create FOA

4. When you finish entering data in this screen, click **Save** to create the FOA.

![Person Search](image-url)
5.3 FOA Key Attributes tab: Overview

FOAM Admins and users who have been assigned a task with 'Edit Key Attributes' privilege can use the FOA Key Attributes tab to configure properties that identify the FOA and control some aspects of its publication.

When you click the Key Attributes tab in the menubar, it opens by default to the Overview sub tab, as shown here.

NIH users can also click the NIH Guide tab to manage the information about the FOA that will be published in the NIH Guide.

See below for instructions on editing the properties in the Overview tab.
1. To edit FOA key attributes, you must first click the **Unlock** button. Then, make any changes you need to make to the fields in the **General Information** area: **Organization**, **FOA Type**, and **Activity Code**.

2. Then click the **Lock** Button, as shown here:
3. **Note:** Only after the *General Information* fields are set and locked will all of the other fields and the complete range of configuration options be displayed, as shown here:
4. When the fully populated screen displays, set these other attributes to configure the FOA:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FON</td>
<td>The unique identifier of the FOA; If you don't enter a value, FOAM generates an identifier, which you can change if you want.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| FOA Type   | Choose FOA type:  
  ○ PA  
  ○ PAR  
  ○ PAS  
  ○ RFA  
  ○ Notice of Change to Funding Opportunity  
  ○ Notice of Information  
  ○ Request for Information  
  ○ Request for Proposals  
  ○ Policy Notice  
  ○ Notice of Intent to Publish (Note: Use the Create NOITP button to create a Notice of Intent to Publish.) |
| Title      | Title of the FOA (Up to 250 characters)  
  Note: The FOA Title is visible on all FOA tabs when you hover the mouse over the announcement number.                                      |
| Download as XML | Click the download button at the top of the screen as shown below, to download an XML version of the Key Attributes.                                      |
| Create NOITP | This button is available for Admin users only. Click to create a Notice of Intent to Publish for the FOA you are viewing.  
  When you click this button, a new FOA Key Attributes window opens, with a the FOA Type field set to Notice of Intent to Publish and the title set to and the Title set to "Notice of Intent to Publish<title of associated FOA>"  
  Also the screen will have no Create NOITP button: In its place will be a link |
FOAM USER Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>back to the associated FOA, as shown here:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Record ID: FON/FOA # FOA Type" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Associated FOA: FOAM-1753" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use the other fields in the screen to define the NOITP, then click Save.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> When the NOITP is created, the title, purpose, lead author, organization, and issuing component will be pre-populated from the FOA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose</strong></td>
<td>Purpose of the FOA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>the organization issuing the FOA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Division</strong></td>
<td>The division within the issuing organization, if applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phase Flow</strong></td>
<td>The phase flow of the FOA, if applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phase</strong></td>
<td>The FOA's phase within the phase flow, if applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issuing Component</strong></td>
<td>The office or other component within the issuing organization, if applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issuing Agency</strong></td>
<td>The issuing agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activity code</strong></td>
<td>The activity code associated with the FOA; Begin typing the code or select it from the drop-down menu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associated document template</strong></td>
<td>Select the document template to use for this FOA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> You can change the template on an existing FOA, but you should proceed cautiously:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When you change the template on an FOA, the policy language from the old template is overwritten, and any data elements in the old template that are not also in the new template are removed:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>So if you have already added content to any data elements in the FOA, you should confirm that those data elements also exist in the new template: otherwise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synopsis</td>
<td>Select a synopsis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Author</td>
<td>This field defaults to the user who created the FOA. To select a different lead author, click the magnifying glass icon to open a pop-up Person Search window, as shown below. Perform your search and select a person to close the pop-up window and return to this screen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRO</td>
<td>Select the Scientific Review Official for this FOA: Begin typing the name and FOAM will attempt to match it to users who have the SRO role — when the correct name appears, click to select it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Specialist</td>
<td>Select the Grants Specialist for this FOA: Begin typing the name and FOAM will attempt to match it to users who have the GMS or GMO role — when the correct name appears, click to select it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Current status of the FOA: Not Started, In Progress, Published, Archived, On Hold, or Cancelled. Note: The Status automatically changes to “In Progress” when the first FOA task is started. Note: Notice of Intent to Publish FOAs are marked as cancelled if associated FOA is not published within 12 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication Date</td>
<td>For NIH FOAs, select the date of publication in the NIH Guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH Guide</td>
<td>When an NIH FOA is published, the Status field is set to Published and an NIH Guide Publication link appears next to the Publication Date field, as shown above: Click this link to view the FOA in the NIH Guide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guide Publication</td>
<td>FOA is Published and the FOA type is one of the notice types, display Guide Link read only field - link to the published FOA in the NIH Guide. The link is constructed based on the FOA# and type: &quot;<a href="https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/%22FOA">https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/&quot;FOA</a> #&quot;.html&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants.Gov Opportunity ID</td>
<td>Enter the Opportunity ID in order to create a link in this FOA to the published FOA on Grants.gov.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. When you finish configuring these fields, click **Save**.

**Other FOA Tabs**

Click the links in the top nav bar to open these other tabs for the FOA:

- **Task List** — Create and manage FOA task lists
- **FOA Content** — See an overview of all FOA content
- **Review** — View and respond to reviewer comments
- **Attachments** — Use to attach documents to the FOA and to manage such attachments.
- **Transaction History** — See all transactions that have been performed on the FOA

### 5.4 FOA Key Attributes tab: NIH Guide

FOAM Admins and users who have been assigned a task with 'Edit Key Attributes' privilege can use the **Key Attributes: NIH Guide** tab to configure properties that are used by OEP to review the FOA.

Note: This tab is not available for 'Notice' FOA types.
This screen contains the fields described below.

Edit these fields as needed and click >Save or Save and Close to save your changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Announcement</td>
<td>Is this a parent announcement?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New/Reissue</td>
<td>Is this a new FOA or a reissue of a previously published FOA?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOA Classification allowing for a reduced holding period</td>
<td>Does this FOA have one of the classifications that allows the holding period to be reduced? Check only if the FOA falls under one of the following classifications: Genes and Environment Initiative (GEI), Genome Wide Association Studies (GWAS), Neuroscience BluePrint, Common Fund, Superfund, OppNet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Trial Related</td>
<td>Is this FOA related to a clinical trial? Select <em>Not Allowed, Optional, Required</em> or <em>Required (Infrastructure)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Concept Clearance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Select month when this FOA was cleared by the advisory council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Enter year when this FOA was cleared by the advisory council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Advisory Council Providing Clearance</td>
<td>Select The advisory council that provided the clearance for the concept.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Review</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>Specify how this FOA encourages diversity:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ <em>Diversity-targeting</em> (primary purpose to increase diversity),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ <em>Diversity-related</em> (requires a plan for enhancement of diversity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ <em>Not applicable</em> (neither, but FOA encourages diverse applicants)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBIR Direct Phase II</td>
<td>Is this FOA an SBIR/STTR in Direct phase 2?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost Sharing</td>
<td>For NOITP records, this field is present so you can indicate whether cost sharing is taking place in the target FOA. This property is also displayed in the <a href="#">HHS Forecast Export report</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Key Dates</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Due Dates Apply</td>
<td>Select Yes or No: Do Standard Due Dates Apply? And use the calendar pickers to set the other key dates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Application Due Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expiration Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council</td>
<td>Enter key receipt dates for council rounds that will be listed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Receipt</td>
<td>the Review Schedule report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewal/Resubmission/Revision Receipt</td>
<td>To do so, click Add a new council round to add a council round date row to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the grid, as shown below. Then use the calendar pickers to set the relevant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS Receipt</td>
<td>dates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Merit Review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earliest Start</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Add Council Dates:**

If necessary, click the plus or minus icons to add or remove council round date rows from the grid.

**Note:** You can add up to 12 council rounds, but each round can only be used once.

### 5.5 Exception Requests

This screen opens when you click the Exception Requests tab, as shown below.

FOAM Admins and users who have been assigned a task with 'Edit Key Attributes' privilege can use this screen to request and approve exceptions to certain IC and OEP policy standards.

IC and OEP officials use it to approve or disapprove these requests.

See below for instructions.

**Note:** This tab is not available for 'Notice' FOA types.
### Requesting Exceptions

FOAM Admins, put a check in the *Requested* column to request one or more of these exception types:
• Project Period Greater Than 5 Years
• Project Period less than 5 years, but greater than the Activity Code limit (LT5Y)
• Project Cost
• Limited Competition
• Page Limit

Instructions:

1. When you check the Requested box for Limited Competition or Page Limit exceptions, two text fields appear below them: Rationale and Justification for Exception, and Appropriate IC Review, as shown above. The text you enter in these fields is used by the Guide staff to evaluate and approve your request.
2. When you check the Requested box for Project Period less than 5 years, but greater than the Activity Code limit or Project Cost, a text area appears where you can enter the justification for the exception.
3. click Save at any time to save your changes. Click Save and Close when you're finished: When you save an exception request, it is routed to OEP for approval.

Approving/Disapproving Requests

Users with approval authority can use the Approved and Disapproved checkboxes to resolve requests.

Note: Limited Competition and Page Limit exceptions have three possible approval outcomes driven by the corresponding post-completion actions:

1. IC Approval – puts the digital signature of the IC Approving Official under the corresponding exception.
2. OEP Approve exception – puts the digital signature of the OEP Director under the corresponding exception, and allows the PDF of the exception memo to be generated.
3. OEP Disapprove exception

5.5.0.1 Generate Memo

When a Page Limit Exception or Limited Competition Exception is approved by OEP Director, a Generate Memo button appears below the exception, as shown here:

Click the button to generate a PDF of the exception memo. A dialog box will open giving you the option to open or save the PDF.
5.6 Multi-component tab

This screen opens when you click the Multi-component tab, as shown below.

Use this screen to add components to create complex multi-component FOAs.

See below for instructions.

**Note:** This tab is available for FOAs with the following activity codes: G12, OT3, P01, P20, P2C, P30, P40, P41, P42, P50, P51, P60, PM1, PN1, PN2, S06, U10, U19, U2C, U41, U42, U45, U54, U55, U56, U84, U90, UC7, UG4, UM2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Select the type of component:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin Core</td>
<td>○ Overall –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Development</td>
<td>○ Admin Core –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex Component</td>
<td>○ Career Development –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core</td>
<td>○ Complex Component –</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This screen contains the columns described below.

**Actions**

- To add a component, select the desired *Component Type* from the drop-down menu and set the other column values in that row as needed.
- To add more components click the **Add Component** button to add additional component rows to the grid.
- To delete a component, click the trash icon.
- Click **Save** at any time to save your changes. When you're finished, click **Save and Close**.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ FOA-Specific –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ Individual Career Development –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ Institutional Career Development –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ NRSA Training –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ Project –</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** You can add multiple FOA-Specific components, but only one instance of each of the other component types. And you also must enter a project description for each FOA-specific component.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Strategy Page Limit</th>
<th>Select the page limit for Research Strategy attachments to submitted grant applications (default = 6).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Instances</td>
<td>Enter 0 or positive integer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Instances</td>
<td>Enter positive integer or leave blank for no maximum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions</td>
<td>Click the trash icon to delete a component.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.7 Task List tab

Task Lists (also called timelines) are ordered workflows of the tasks required to build the FOA. Click the **Task List** tab in the [FOA screen](#) to create and manage task lists for the FOA:

- If the FOA has an existing task list, clicking the **Task List** tab opens the Task List screen, as shown below.

- If the FOA does not yet have a task list, clicking the **Task List** tab opens the [Create Task List](#) screen instead.

Use the **Task List** screen to create and manage FOA task lists.

You can create multiple versions of a task list to consider different timeline options for developing the FOA or to compare a reference version of the timeline to the actual conditions. The task list that is currently being used to track the FOA development process is called the “active” task list.

See below for instructions on working with task lists.
Working with the Task List

Click the Task List drop-down menu to select which task list to display. If an active task list exists, it is selected by default.

The Active button is present on active task lists, and the Inactive button is present on inactive tasks list. These buttons toggle the active/inactive status of the task list:

- Click the Inactive button to make an inactive task list active: that is, to make it the official task list in use now to guide the FOA development process.
- Click the Active button to deactivate an active list. Note: You cannot deactivate a task list that has an agency task in progress.
- **Note:** Once the task list becomes active, work can be performed on its tasks and the first mandatory task on the list is set to In Progress.
- **Note:** If another task list was active, when a new task list becomes active, the previous task list is set to inactive and all its tasks are set to Not Started.
Click the graph button to open a graph view showing the progress of the tasks in this task list. (Note: Only available if the task list includes at least one milestone task)

Click Add Task to open the Task Detail screen and add a new task to the task list. To delete one or more tasks, use the checkboxes at the left to select the tasks, then click Delete Selected Tasks.

Click the Actions button to select one of these actions in the Actions menu:

- Create Reference Version — Click to create a reference version (a snapshot) of the active task list to use for auditing purposes. (Note: This action only available to the admin user)
- Create Task List — Click to generate a new task list. (Note: This action only available to admin users)
- Save as Model — Click to save the task list you're viewing as a model to use when creating future task lists with the Create Task List action. (Note: This action only available to admin users). See Save as Model for information on creating a new task list based on a model.
- Compare Task Lists — Click to select two task lists to compare. (Note: only available if more than one version of the task list exists)
5.7.0.1 Filter and sort

- Open the Filter Options menu to select the task types you want to see, as shown here:

- Or type text in the Filter box to see only tasks that have the filter text in some field.
- Click the arrows at the top of the columns to sort the task grid by that property.

Working with individual tasks

You can perform the following actions on the tasks in the task grid:

- Click the task name to view or edit the task in the Task Detail screen.
- The flag icon indicates milestone tasks. Roll over the icon to see which task phase it's in, as shown here:

- The link icon indicates dependent tasks. Roll over it to see the task this task depends on, as shown here:

- Click the comment icon to add a comment in the Task Comments screen. (Note: When you add a comment on a task, the task assignee receives a notification.)

- Other icons identify optional tasks: , agency tasks: , and tasks set to autostart when the task they're dependent on is completed:
• The *Assigned to* column lists the task assignee. If there's more than one assigned person or role, a bubble in the field tells you how many. Roll over it to see them, as shown here:

![Roles: Evaluation SME, Grants Specialist, Lead Author, Users: ALEK SAME](image)

• Select from the following actions in the *Actions* menu at the right side of the grid, shown here:

![Actions menu](image)

**NOTE:** The actions available for a task depend on your user role and the current task status. Some or all of the following actions may be available for a given task:

- **Not Started** — Sets the task status to Not Started. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Start progress** — Sets the task status to In Progress. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Complete** — Sets the task status to Completed. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Submit for Policy Review** — Submit to OEP for policy review. **Note:** only available for tasks on the active task list (and only available to users with the FOAM_ADMIN role).
- **Delete task** — Deletes the current task. **Note:** not available for in-progress, completed, or expired tasks.
- **Comment** — Click to add a comment in the *Task Comments* screen.
- **History** — Click to open the *Task History* screen.
NOTE: For "Agency" task types, users with the Agency Admin or eRA FOAM Admin user role can act on the task (Start it, set it to Not Started, Delete it or Complete it) even if the task is not assigned to them.

5.8 FOA Content tab

The FOA content tab, shown below, displays all the content of the FOA.

All users with access to a FOA can review the FOA content, and users who have the FOA Admin role, or who have been granted editing privileges by an FOA task that is in progress, can edit FOA content.
Sections

The FOA is divided into multiple sections based on the document template associated with it. See Document Templates for more information.

IMPORTANT: Note that you must complete all required fields (fields marked with an asterisk *) in every section of the FOA before submitting it to OEP for review.

Use the navigation menu on the left to jump between sections. Note: FOA content is saved automatically whenever you move to another section. You can also save at any time by clicking the Save button, which saves the current content as a separate version.

The datetime of the last save is displayed below the save button, as shown here:

![Save Version]

Content saved at [05/08/2017 12:28:21 AM]

Data Elements

The FOA may contain the following types of data elements:

- Editable fields – text entry fields, some of which may be prepopulated with default content. See below for tips on working with editable content.
- Policy language – content included in the final document, but is not editable.
- Instruction language – instructions on how to fill out a particular field which will not be displayed in the final document

Editing FOA content:

There a few standard types of editable fields used in FOAs.

Note: And as you edit FOA content, be aware of special instructions (in green text ), which offer guidance on editing some fields.

- Enter text: Some fields require you to type text into an empty field, as shown below. And if you wish, click and drag the resize arrow at the bottom right corner to expand the field so you have more room to work.
- **Enter rich text:** And some text fields allow you enter rich (i.e., formatted) text: Rich text fields have a triangular button in the top right corner of the field. Click this button to open the formatting controls, as shown below. Then type text into the field, using the formatting tools just as in a word processing program, or cut-and-paste formatted text from MS Word.

![Rich text example](image)

Note that you can click the table button to open the table editor and add a table to the field.
And if you wish, click and drag the resize arrow at the bottom right corner to expand the field so you have more room to work, or click the full screen button to expand the field to the full screen (click the button again to return to normal size).

- **Edit prepopulated content:** Other fields require you to edit prepopulated content, often by deleting the parts that you don't want to keep, as in this example:

  Notice the green instructional text that explains what to do.
  And again, remember that you can click and drag the resize arrow to expand the field.

![Prepopulated content example](image)

**Comments**

You can enter comments about the FOA as a whole, about the individual sections, and about elements within the sections.
1. Click the comment bubble on any of these elements to open the comment screen, as shown here:

![Comment bubble](image)

2. Type your comment in the text box and hit the Enter key to save it.

Note: A red comment bubble indicates that a comment has been entered for the element. In this case, the Comment screen displays tools you can click to delete the comment, reply to it, or mark it as addressed.

![Comment screen with tools](image)

### 5.8.0.1 Inline Comments

And within a data element you can attach a comment to a specific line or place in the text:

1. To do so, open the formatting toolbar in the data element as described above.
2. Then put the mouse cursor at the place in the text you want to refer to and click the comment tool in the formatting toolbar.

That will place a comment bubble at the place in the text where you put the cursor, as shown here:
3. Click the inline comment bubble to add your comment at that spot in the text.
4. When you export the FOA Content in MS Word format, the comment will appear as a standard Word comment, linked to the text it refers to.

Other Controls

Click the icons at the top of the screen to perform these actions:

- Click the comment bubble to add or read comments about the FOA
- Click the list button to see a list of past versions of the FOA, as shown here:

![FOA Content Versions](image)

Export FOA Content

- Click the Word or Acrobat icons to export the FOA content in Word or PDF format.
- Click the screen icon to view the FOA in your browser as an HTML document.

You can use these different export modes to highlight different aspects of the content:

- For example, the HTML export is a functional Web page, so you can use it to check any hyperlinks you've added.
• And in the Word export, FOA content that is editable is highlighted so you can easily spot it, as shown here:

Related Announcements

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this

• While in the HTML and PDF exports, underlining is used when "track changes" is turned on to identify changes in the content that have not yet been accepted:

HTML:

Related Announcements

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

PDF:

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Track Changes

Tracking is turned on automatically when a user begins typing in a data element.

And every change that is made to the content must be accepted or rejected before the FOA Content can be finalized.

Use the tracking tools in each data element to control tracking and accept or reject changes.

Note: The Accept/Reject tool allows you to accept or reject the changes made to each individual data element, or the entire content of the FOA, as shown here:
Note: Because every change must be accepted or rejected, it's a good idea to review and accept/reject each change you make as soon as you're done typing it.

5.9 Shared Interest tab

This screen lists the ICs that have expressed an interest in participating in this FOA.

Adding a shared interest record

FOAM Admins can use this screen to add a shared interest record, indicating that their IC is interested in participating in this FOA.

Notes:

- FOAM Admins can only add a shared interest record if there is a Shared Interest task currently In Progress for the FOA.
- Each IC can add only one shared interest record to a FOA. But FOAM admins for the IC can make repeated changes to this record as needed to accurately express the nature of their IC's interest.
- When a new FOA becomes available, FOAM sends an email notification to the other
FOAM using ICs so those organizations can decide whether to participate. This email has the subject: "FOA available for Shared Interest," and in the body of the email there is a link on the FON: Click the link to go to this tab and add a shared interest record.

FOAM requires

1. To add a Shared Interest record to this FOA click **Add Participant:**
2. The *Shared Interest* screen opens, as shown here:

![Shared Interest Screen]

5.9.0.1 *Working in this screen*

3. Enter the following information about your IC's participation in the FOA:

   - **Participating IC** — Click to select from drop-down menu.
   - **CFDA Number(s) for Participation** — If your organization has a CFDA number, click to select it from the drop-down menu.
   - **Contacts:** In these three fields, click to select one or more contacts from a pop-up Person Search screen, as shown below.

   **Financial Contacts**

   **Grant Specialist Contacts**

   **Scientific Review Contacts**

4. When you're finished entering information, click **Save** or **Save and Close** to save your changes.
Editing your IC's shared interest record

If your IC has already created a record for this FOA, it will be listed in this screen.

Use the tools in the Actions column to edit the record:

- Click the pencil icon to open the record for editing: See Working in this screen above for instructions.
- Or click the trashcan icon to delete the record. (Note: Shared Interest record can only be deleted if a Shared Interest task is currently In Progress on the FOA)

5.10 Review tab

The Review tab lists comments made while FOA tasks were in progress, sorted by task due date with the newest on top.

By default, only unaddressed comments are shown, but you can choose to view all comments in the Filter Options menu:
Expanded Task View

Click the + icon next to a review task to expand the task, as shown here:

The expanded view shows all comments made during the review, organized by the FOA section and then by fields within the sections.

So comments on the FOA as a whole appear first, then comments about sections and then comments on the fields in the sections.

5.11 Attachments tab

Use to attach documents to the FOA and to manage these attachments.

You can upload multiple versions of a file: FOAM creates a new version of an existing attachment if another file with the same name is uploaded.

The attachments grid includes these columns:

- **File name** — Name of the attachment
- **Description** — Description of the attachment. To edit, select pencil icon in the Actions column.
- **Version** — Version of the file. If more than one version exists, you can click the + icon next to the version number to see all versions.
- **Uploaded by** — The full name of the user who uploaded the attachment
uploaded date/time — The date and time the attachment was uploaded

- Actions
  * Click the pencil icon to edit the description or the attachment type.
  * Click the trashcan icon to delete the file

Adding an attachment

1. To add an attachment, first select the attachment type:

   ![Select Attachment Type]

   Note: Only FOAM Admins can create 'Organization Restricted' attachments, and such attachments can only be viewed by users from the FOA’s organization.

2. Then drop the file onto the Upload pane or click the pane and browse to select the file.
3. The file appears in the attachments grid.

Lock/Unlock

eRA FOAM Admins and Agency users can click the Available for Review / Checked out for Review buttons to lock or unlock the attached documents for review:
5.12 Transaction History

This screen lists all transactions that have been performed on the FOA, such as content updates and FOA development process events (timeline scheduling and task completion).

Note: The transactions you can see in this screen depend on your user role. So actions that are outside the scope of your role may not be visible.

Filtering: Enter text in the Filter field to only show transactions that have the filter text in at least one fields. For example, enter "activ" to see all changes to Activity Code or all tasks that moved to Active status.

This screen contains the following fields:

Update type — The type of update and to which part of the FOA (key attribute, task, task list) and the action that was performed on it.

Updated field — Name of the field that was updated

Old Value --> New Value — The old and new value of the field that was updated

Initiator — The person who performed the transaction

Date Time — The date the transaction occurred
6 Reports

Click *Reports* in the top nav bar to open the *Reports* screen, shown below.

Use this screen to view, create and manage reports on the FOAs that have been created or are in development for your IC.

You can view saved reports, create new reports, delete existing reports, and edit report names:

- **Click Create Report** to create a new report in the *Report Parameters* screen.
- **Click the Report Name** to view the report in the *Report Output* screen.

- **Actions**: Click the icons in the Actions column to choose these actions.
  - Click the pen icon to edit the report name
  - Click the trash icon to delete the report.

6.1 Report Parameters

When you click **Create Report** in the *Reports* screen, the Report Parameters screen opens, as shown here:

Use this screen to configure and generate reports.
To create a report, select one of the following report types from the Report drop-down menu and set report parameters as directed:

**FOA Tracker report**

This report presents FOAs along with information regarding completion of milestones tasks for each FOA (due date, actual completion date, overdue days).

1. To create it select **FOA Tracker** from the Report drop-down menu.

2. If you wish, use the following filter fields to limit the report results:
   - **IC** — Choose from the drop-down menu to report only FOAs from a selected IC.
   - **Division** — Choose from the drop-down menu to report only FOAs with from a selected division within the IC.
   - **FOA Status** — Choose from the drop-down menu to report only FOAs with a selected status.
   - **Task due date between** — Enter beginning and end dates to report only FOAs that have a task due within a certain time period.
   - **Only past due milestones** — Click to report only FOAs that have a past due milestone.

3. Set the following display options:
   - **Include milestones in the report from task list model** — the FOA Tracker report requires you to use a task list model which includes milestone tasks: Use this drop-down menu to select a task list model. See Save as Model more information on task list models.
   - **Include totals** — Includes the totals at the end of the report: total number of FOAs, % of published FOAs, % of unpublished FOAs.
   - **Include latest task history** — Include latest task history for each FOA on the report.
4. When you finish configuring the parameters, click **Submit** to generate the report and open it in the **Report Output** screen.

### Phase-Category report

This report lists FOAs of the category you select.

1. To create this report, select **Phase Category** from the Report drop-down menu.

   When you do, the screen presents slightly different filter and display options, as shown here:

   ![Report Parameters](image)

2. If you wish, use the following filter fields to limit the report results:

   - **IC** — Choose from the drop-down menu to report only FOAs from a selected IC.
   - **Division** — Choose from the drop-down menu to report only FOAs with from a selected division within the IC.
   - **FOA Status** — Choose from the drop-down menu to report only FOAs with a selected status.

3. Set the following display options:

   - **Categories** — Select the FOA categories to include in the report.
   - **Include up to latest task history events** — Select the maximum number of task history events to display for each FOA in the report.

4. When you finish configuring the parameters, click **Submit** to generate the report and open it in the **Report Output** screen.
**HHS Forecast Export report**

This report lists all published *Notice of Intent to Publish* FOAs, which together constitute a forecast of the agency's upcoming grant activity.

FOAM Agency Admins and eRA FOAM Admins can run this report and generate a Forecast export file to comply with grants.gov agreement.

1. To generate it, select **HHS Forecast Export** from the Report drop-down menu.

When you select HHS Forecast Export, the **Generate Forecast Export Report** button appears in the screen, as shown here:

![Report Parameters](image)

2. Click **Generate Forecast Export Report** to generate the report in Excel format.

3. When you click this button, a dialog opens, giving you the option to open or save the Excel file.

For information on the contents of the report file, see [Report Output](#).

**Review Schedule report**

This report shows when FOAs are due for review, listing the key dates and personnel for each FOA.

FOAM Admins can run this report.

1. To generate the report, select **Review Schedule** from the Report drop-down menu.

   When you select Review Schedule, the **Generate Report** button appears in the screen, as shown here:
2. If you wish, select properties in the filter fields to limit the report results, then click **Generate Report** to generate the report in PDF format.

3. When you click this button, a dialog opens, giving you the option to open or save the PDF file.

For information on the contents of the report file, see **Report Output**.

### 6.2 Report Output

This screen shows the output of the reports you configure in the **Report Parameters** screen.

**FOA Tracker report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOA/FOA#</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lead Author</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>1st Stage FOA</th>
<th>Selected for Interest</th>
<th>FOA Manager/ OIC</th>
<th>Selected for OIC</th>
<th>FOA Status</th>
<th>Selected Date</th>
<th>MTD Approval</th>
<th>FOA MTD Acceptance</th>
<th>FOA MTD Approval Date</th>
<th>FOA MTD Approval Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/1/2018/00</td>
<td>Release 24/08/12 TEST verification</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td>CRIS</td>
<td>In Review</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>1st Stage FOA</td>
<td>Selected for Interest</td>
<td>FOA Manager/ OIC</td>
<td>Selected for OIC</td>
<td>FOA Status</td>
<td>Selected Date</td>
<td>MTD Approval</td>
<td>FOA MTD Acceptance</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1/2018/00</td>
<td>Release 24/08/12 TEST verification</td>
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<td>Selected Date</td>
<td>MTD Approval</td>
<td>FOA MTD Acceptance</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1st Stage FOA</td>
<td>Selected for Interest</td>
<td>FOA Manager/ OIC</td>
<td>Selected for OIC</td>
<td>FOA Status</td>
<td>Selected Date</td>
<td>MTD Approval</td>
<td>FOA MTD Acceptance</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1/2018/00</td>
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<td>HL</td>
<td>CRIS</td>
<td>In Review</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>1st Stage FOA</td>
<td>Selected for Interest</td>
<td>FOA Manager/ OIC</td>
<td>Selected for OIC</td>
<td>FOA Status</td>
<td>Selected Date</td>
<td>MTD Approval</td>
<td>FOA MTD Acceptance</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1/2018/00</td>
<td>Release 24/08/12 TEST verification</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td>CRIS</td>
<td>In Review</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>1st Stage FOA</td>
<td>Selected for Interest</td>
<td>FOA Manager/ OIC</td>
<td>Selected for OIC</td>
<td>FOA Status</td>
<td>Selected Date</td>
<td>MTD Approval</td>
<td>FOA MTD Acceptance</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td>FOA MTD Approval Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Actions**

Use the controls above the grid to perform the following actions:
• **Export**: Click the Acrobat or Excel icon to output a copy of the report in PDF or Excel format.
• **Save**: Click the disk icon to save the report for later viewing in the Reports screen.
• **Edit**: Click **Edit Report Parameters** to return to the **Report Parameters** screen and adjust the report parameters

**Phase-Category report**

![Phase-Category report image]

**Actions**

Use the controls above the grid to perform the following actions:

• **Export**: Click the Acrobat or Excel icon to output a copy of the report in PDF or Excel format.
• **Save**: Click the disk icon to save the report for later viewing in the Reports screen.
• **Edit**: Click **Edit Report Parameters** to return to the **Report Parameters** screen and adjust the report parameters
HHS Forecast Export report

When you select Generate Forecast Export Report in the Report Parameters screen, FOAM generates the report in Excel format and opens a dialog so in which you can choose to open or save the report.

The forecastExport.xlsx file includes the following columns:

- Final #
- Earliest start date year
- Title
- Funding Activity Category Code
- Funding Instrument Type Code(s)
- Expected Number of Awards
- Primary CFDA Numbers
- Cost Sharing
- Program Funding Type
- New opportunity
- Estimated Total Funding
- Estimated Award Ceiling
- Estimated Award Floor
- Post Date of FOA
- Estimated Due Date
- Estimated Start Date
- Estimated Award Date
- Eligibility Category Code
- Additional Eligibility Information
- Purpose/ Executive Summary
- Scientific/Research Contact - Name
- Scientific/Research Contact - Email
- Scientific/Research Contact - Phone
- Issuing Sub OpDiv
- Issuing OpDiv
- Grants.gov Post Date
- ARRA (Recovery Act)
- ACA (Affordable Care Act)
- Grants.gov URL
Review Schedule report

When you select Generate Review Schedule Report in the Report Parameters screen, FOAM generates the report in PDF format and opens a dialog so in which you can choose to open or save the report.

The ReviewScheduleReport.pdf file includes the following columns grouped by Council round:

- FON (FOA #)
- Title
- Lead Author
- SRO
- Grants Specialist
- New Receipt date
- R/R/R Receipt date
- AIDS Receipt date
7 Admin Dashboard

Click the Admin tab to open the Admin Dashboard, as shown here:

Click the links to perform these system management functions:

Manage Document Templates

View and manage the document templates used by your agency or IC to format FOAs.

Manage Task List Models

View and manage the task list models used by your agency or IC to create standardized FOA task lists.

7.1 Document Templates

The Document Templates screen, shown below, opens when you click Manage Document Templates in the Admin Dashboard.

This screen lists all the document templates available for your organization.

NOTE: This screen is only available to users with the FOAM Template Editor user role. (at NIH, these users are in OEP)

Actions

- Click Create Template to create a new template.
- Click a template name to view or edit its Key Attributes.
- Click the trash icon to delete a template
- Click the copy icon to save a new version of the template or save a copy of it (i.e., clone it). See Clone Document Template.

This screen contains the following columns:

- **Name** — Click to view or edit a template's Key Attributes.
- **Version** — Current version of the template
- **Status** — Publishing status of the template
- **Last updated by** — The user who last updated the template
- **Last update** — Date and time of the last update
- **Actions** — Click the trash icon to delete the template.

### 7.2 Manage FOA Type

An FOA Type is a set of FOA configuration properties such as template, workflow, and Grants.gov settings.

The Manage FOA Type screen shown below opens when you click Manage FOA Types in the Admin dashboard.

Users with FOAM AGENCY ADMIN, FOAM GS ADMIN, or ERA FOAM ADMIN user roles can access this screen to create and manage FOA Types for their organizations.

The screen consists of these two tabs:
Properties Tab

Use this tab to set the following properties:

**Properties tab**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOA Type Name</td>
<td>Choose a name that clearly identifies this FOA Type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated Organizations</td>
<td>Use the drop-down menu to select the organizations that are allowed to create this type of FOA. You can select as many as you want. Click an organization a second time to remove it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Use the drop-down menu to choose the status of this FOA type:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>◦ Published (available to be selected in the Create FOA screen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>◦ Unpublished (Not available to be selected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Enter a description.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Templates tab

1. Use this tab to select the templates that will be available with this FOA Type. You can choose from the following template types:
Templates tab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associated Document Templates</td>
<td>Select the document templates that will be available to users creating this FOA Type. Click the Add Template button as needed to add additional rows to the grid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants.gov Synopsis</td>
<td>Select the synopses that will be available to users creating this FOA Type. Click the Add Template button as needed to add additional rows to the grid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants.gov Application Package</td>
<td>Select the Grants.gov Application Packages that will be available to users creating this FOA Type. Click the Add Template button as needed to add additional rows to the grid. Click the trashcan icons to delete unwanted templates.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Use the Status drop-down menu to set each template to Published (Active and available to be selected) or Unpublished (Inactive and not available to be selected) status.  
   **Note:** Only published templates can be used in a published FOA type, and only unpublished templates can be used in an unpublished FOA type.

3. And for each template type, click one of the Default checkboxes to select the default template.

7.2.0.1 Other Actions:

- Click the Template Name to edit a template in the Template Key Attributes screen.

7.3 Manage Task List Models

Task list models are templates that are used to create standardized FOA task lists.

The Manage Task List Models screen opens when you click Manage Task List Models in the Admin tab, as shown below:

FOAM Admins can use this screen to view, create and manage task list models for their ICs. FOAM Agency Admins and eRA FOAM Admins can do the same at the agency level.
If you wish, click the **Filter by Status** button to filter the models by Active/Inactive status.

### Actions

- Click **Create Model** to create a new model in the in the [Manage Task List Model](#) screen.
- Click a model name edit a model in the [Manage Task List Model](#) screen.
- Or click the down arrow to select one of these actions from the **Actions** drop-down menu:
  
  ![Actions](image)

  - **Edit Model** — Edit model in the [Manage Task List Model](#) screen.

### Manage Task List Model

When you click the **Create Model** button or the **edit** action for a task list model in the [Manage Task List Models](#) tab, this screen opens.

Use it to create and edit the task list models that your IC uses as templates to create FOA task lists.

The screen contains these two tabs:

#### 7.3.0.1 Properties tab

In this tab FOAM Admins can enter or edit the Model Name and Published/Unpublished status of the model.

FOAM Agency Admins and eRA FOAM Admins can do the same, and can also select the organizations (and the phase flows within those organizations) that can use the model.
Edit the fields as needed and click **Save**.

### Adding Publishing Rules

Use this section to define automatic publishing rules that govern whether the task list model can be associated with a given FOA, based on the FOA's key attributes.

Follow these steps to create a publishing rule:

1. Click **Add Publishing Rule** to open the configuration tool, as shown here:

2. Set these two attributes:
   - **Based on** — Select an FOA attribute, such as Activity Code or FOA Type.
   - **For Values** — Enter one or more possible values for this attribute: The template will only be available for use with FOAs that have one of these values.

3. To add another rule, click **Add Publishing Rule** again to add another row to the grid, then configure it as above.
**Note:** You cannot create more than two publishing rules to a template.

**NOTE:** ACF and CDC users can only add one publishing rule to a template, and the only available **Based On** attribute is FOA Type.

### 7.3.0.2 Task List Model tab

In this tab FOAM Admins can add and edit tasks in the task list model.

![Manage Task List Model](image)

**Actions**

- Click the Task Name to edit the task in the See **Task tab** below for instructions.
- Click the **Add Task to Model** button to open a **Task tab** and define a new task. See **Task tab** below for instructions.
- Or click the down arrow to select one of these actions from the **Actions** drop-down menu:
  - **Edit Task** — Edit the task in the **Task Tab**. See below for instructions.
  - **Set as Target Task** — Use this task as the baseline to calculate the due dates for all
the other tasks in the list.

- **Delete Task** — delete task from the model.

### 7.3.0.3 Task tab

![Task tab interface](image)

The Task Tab opens to the Overview, as shown above.

Configure the task properties in the Overview as described below, and click on these other task detail tabs to define additional task properties:

See also these other Task Detail tabs:

- **Task Checklist tab**
- **Task Actions tab**

Use these fields in the Overview tab to define task properties:

- **Task Name** — Enter the name of the task
- **Due Date** — Enter the number of days that the due date for this task should be after the due
date of the model's target task. (Enter a negative number if the due date for this task should be before the model's target task.)

- **Phase** — Select the phase of the task.
- **Milestone** — Check this box if the task is a milestone and should be displayed on the graph and in reports.
- **Task List Options** — Select one or more of these options for handling due dates:
  - *Expire on due date* — Make task expire automatically if it is not completed by the due date.
  - *Update dependent (subsequent) due dates* — If this task's due date changes, adjust the due dates of tasks that are dependent on it (subsequent tasks).
  - *Update dependent-on (previous) due dates* — If this task’s due date changes, adjust the due dates of tasks that it is dependent on (previous tasks).

- **Phase Gate** — Check this box if the task is a phase gate (that is, the task that completes the selected phase and kicks off the next phase).
- **Task Types** — Click to open the drop-down menu and assign one or more task types. The following task types are available:
  - *Agency* — Designates OEP actions. Note: For Agency tasks, users with the Agency Admin or eRA FOAM Admin user role can act on the task (Start it, set it to Not Started, Delete it or Complete it) even if the task is not assigned to them. And IC users cannot access these tasks at all.
  - *Optional* — Tasks that may not need to be executed for the FOA and can be filtered out from a Task List view. Note: Once an optional task is initiated, it is no longer considered optional.
  - *Shared Interest* — When a Shared Interest task is initiated, the Shared Interest tab becomes available for other organizations to add their participation.

- **Privileges** — Use this field to give the assignee privileges for making changes to the task. click to see instructions:

  Click the **Privileges** field to open drop-down menu and select one or more of the following privileges:
  - Edit Key Attributes
  - Edit FOA Content
  - Edit Publication Setup
- Review Comments
- Accept/Reject Edits
- Address Comments
- Add Assignee
- Delete Assignee
- Publish Forecast Record
- Publish Opportunity
- Review
- Edit Policy Language — Can update policy language data elements (which are otherwise non-editable except by Agency Admin and eRA FOAM Admin).
- Edit Due Date
- Publish to GMM

Click privileges one-by-one to select them and add them to the list, as shown below. You can add as many as you want.

Click on a privilege a second time to remove it from the list.

- **Task Completion Requirements** — Select validations to perform before the task can be completed:
  When the user tries to mark the task complete, the system issues an error if any of the required items have not been completed.
  - Validate Grants.gov Synopsis
  - Validate Grants.gov Application Package(s)
- Validate Published Forecast
- Validate Published Opportunity
- Validate GMM Publication
- Validate FOA Content
- Validate Key Attributes
- Validate NIH Guide Attributes — For "Notice" FOA types, validate the Key Attributes required for OEP review. For other FOA types, validate all key attributes.
- Shared Interest Period — This requirement is available if the task includes Edit FOA Content privilege.

- **Assigned To:** Who is responsible for completing this task? Use the next two fields to specify: You can assign the task to a specific person and/or to any user who has a given user role.
  - *Assigned to Role* — Select FOA or eRA roles responsible for completing the task.
  - *Assigned to Person* — Select user(s) responsible for completing the task: Click the magnifying glass icon to open a pop-up Person Search window, as shown below. Perform your search and select a person to close the pop-up window.

![Person Search](image)

- **Dependent On** — Use to create task dependencies: Click to open a drop-down menu and select the tasks that must be completed before this task can be started.

**Note:** If you make your task dependent on an optional task, the assignee does not have to wait for the optional task to be completed: He or she can start anytime as long as all non-optional tasks have been completed.
• **Start task on completion of dependencies** — check to start the task automatically once all tasks it depends on are completed.

  **Category** — the category of the task used for reporting.

  • **Task Description** — Description of the task. This can be used to provide instructions to the assignee of what needs to be done for this task.

**Saving the Task**

At any point in this process, you can click the **Save** button to save your changes.

When you are finished configuring the task, click **Save and Close** to save your changes and close the window.
8 Document Templates

The Document Templates screen, shown below, opens when you click Manage Document Templates in the Admin Dashboard.

This screen lists all the document templates available for your organization.

NOTE: This screen is only available to users with the FOAM Template Editor user role. (at NIH, these users are in OEP)

8.1 Actions

- Click Create Template to create a new template.
- Click a template name to view or edit its Key Attributes.
- Click the trash icon to delete a template
- Click the copy icon to save a new version of the template or save a copy of it (i.e., clone it). See Clone Document Template.

This screen contains the following columns:

- Name — Click to view or edit a template's Key Attributes.
- Version — Current version of the template
- Status — Publishing status of the template
- Last updated by — The user who last updated the template
- Last update — Date and time of the last update
- Actions — Click the trash icon to delete the template.
8.2 Create Document Template

When you click Create Template or choose to clone a template in the Document Templates screen, this screen opens.

Use it to create document templates for your IC.

Document templates define which data elements will comprise a document such as an FOA or a Notice and the characteristics of those data elements, such as position and content rules.

Use the fields in this screen to configure these template attributes:

- **Template Name** — Enter a unique name for the template.
- **Version** — Set the current version of the template.
- **Associated Document type** — Select the document types that can be associated with the template.
  
  Note: For information on the Common Element Library Template, see Common Element Library Template.

  Once such a template is published, you can select elements from the Common Element Name drop-down menu, shown here:

  - **Associated Organizations** — Select the Organizations that can use the template.
  - **Status** — Set the publishing status of the template: Select Active if the template is available to be associated with documents, select Inactive if it is not available.
• Template Sections — Use these two panes to choose the named sections you want to include in the template, and then arrange them in the desired order:

1. Scroll through the *Available Options* pane and click on sections you would like to include in the template, then click the right-facing arrow to move them to the *Selected Options* pane. Likewise, to remove sections from the template, click them in the *Selected Options* pane and click the left-facing arrow to move them back to the *Available Options* pane. (But note: You cannot remove a section if it already has a data element associated with it.)

2. Then arrange the template sections in order: Click on sections in the *Selected Options* pane and use the up and down arrows to arrange them in the desired order.

**Publishing Rules**

Use to define automatic publishing rules that govern whether the template can be associated with a given FOA, based on the FOA’s key attributes.

Follow these steps to create a publishing rule:

1. Click **Add Publishing Rule** to open the configuration tool, as shown here:

2. Set these two attributes:
   - **Based on** — Select an FOA attribute, such as Activity Code or FOA Type.
   - **For Values** — Enter one or more possible values for this attribute: The template will only be available for use with FOAs that have one of these values.
3. To add another rule, click **Add Publishing Rule** again to add another row to the grid, then configure it as above.
   
   **Note:** You cannot create more than two publishing rules to a template.

---

**NOTE:** ACF and CDC users can only add one publishing rule to a template, and the only available **Based On** attribute is FOA Type.

---

When you finish configuring the template, click **Save** to save it.

**Next Steps**

When you have finished configuring the attributes, sections and rules of the document template, save the template and, click **Data Elements** in the top nav bar to proceed to the **Data Element Detail** screen to add data elements to the template.

**8.3 Clone Document Template**

When you click a clone icon in the **Document Templates** screen, this dialog box opens:

![Clone Test Template Dialog](image)

This dialog gives you two options for saving a copy of the selected template:

- Save a new version of the selected template (as an incremental step in its development)
- Save a copy of it as a new template (i.e., clone it).

Make your selection and click **Submit**. See below for more information on these options.

**Create New Version**

a. If you chose to create a new version of the template, the template opens for editing in the **Document Template Key Attributes** screen with the **Version** field set to the next incremented
version number.
 b. Make further changes to the new version as you wish.

**Create New Template**

If you chose to save a copy as a new template, this dialog box opens:

![Clone Test Template](image)

a. Enter a new name for the cloned template, then click **Submit**.
 b. The new template opens for editing in the **Document Template Key Attributes** screen. Make further changes to it if you wish.

**8.4 ** **Document Template Key Attributes**

Document templates define which named sections are included in documents such as FOAs and Notices, and define certain attributes of those sections, such as position and publishing rules.

Use this screen to view and edit document templates.
This screen opens in read-only mode. To edit the template, click the **Edit** button.

Then you can configure these template attributes:

- **Template Name** — Enter a unique name for the template.
- **Version** — Set the current version of the template.
- **Associated Document type** — Select the document types that can be associated with the template (control+click to select multiple types).
- **Associated Organizations** — Select the organizations that can use the template.
- **Status** — Set the publishing status of the template: Select *Active* if the template is available to be associated with documents, select *Inactive* if it is not available.

- **Template Header** — Indicates the type of header that will be used on the export document (DHHS - NIH) Enter text that will be displayed in the header of the FOA export document (HTML, Word, and PDF)

- **Template Sections** — Use these two panes to choose the named sections you want to include in the template, and then arrange them in the desired order, as shown here:
1. Scroll through the *Available Options* pane and click on sections you would like to include in the template, then click the right-pointing arrow to move them to the *Selected Options* pane.

2. Likewise, to remove sections from the template, select them in the *Selected Options* pane and click the left-pointing arrow to move them back to the *Available Options* pane. (But note: You cannot remove a section if it already has a data element associated with it.)

3. Then arrange the template sections in order: Click on sections in the *Selected Options* pane and use the up and down arrows to arrange them in the desired order.

**Publishing Rules**

Use to define automatic publishing rules that govern whether the template can be associated with a given FOA, based on the FOA’s key attributes.

Follow these steps to create a publishing rule:

1. Click **Add Publishing Rule** to open the configuration tool, as shown here:

   ![Publishing Rules](image)

2. Set these two attributes:
    - **Based on** — Select an FOA attribute, such as Activity Code or FOA Type.
    - **For Values** — Enter one or more possible values for this attribute: The template will only be available for use with FOAs that have one of these values.

3. To add another rule, click **Add Publishing Rule** again to add another row to the grid, then configure it as above.

   **Note:** You cannot create more than two publishing rules to a template.

---

**NOTE:** ACF and CDC users can only add one publishing rule to a template, and the only available **Based On** attribute is FOA Type.

When you finish configuring the template, click **Save** to save it.
8.4.0.1 Preview Template

Use the preview buttons in the menu bar to preview the template as an HTML, Word, or PDF Document.

Next Steps

When you have finished configuring the attributes, sections and rules of the document template, save the template and click Data Elements in the top nav bar to proceed to the Data Elements screen to add, view and edit the data elements in the template.

8.5 Data Elements

The Data Elements screen lists all the data elements in the document template.

This screen opens when you click the Document Template Data Elements tab, as shown below.

You can take the following actions in this screen:

- Click Add Element to create a new data element in the Data Element Detail screen.
- Click the pencil icon to view or edit a data element in the Data Element Detail screen.
- Click the trash icon to delete a data element.
- Drag and drop elements within the list to define the order in which they will appear.

Note: you can change the order of elements within a template section, but you cannot move elements from one section to another.
8.6 Data Element Detail

When you click on the pencil icon for an element in the Data Elements tab, the Data Element Detail screen opens, as shown here:

This screen opens in read-only mode. To edit the data element, click the Edit button.

Use this screen to define the attributes of the data element.

But note that this screen has different fields and configuration tools for different element types.
1. So first, select the data element Type from the drop-down menu and FOAM will load the proper screen for that type, as shown here:

**Text, Number, Date, Contact and Link elements:**

![Text, Number, Date, Contact and Link elements](image)

**Single-Select and Multi-Select elements**

![Single-Select and Multi-Select elements](image)
File Attachment and Table of Contents elements:
Radio Button and Checkbox elements:

Common Element

Common elements are predefined elements that you select from a shared library available to users in your organization. To use common elements, your organization must first create and publish a Common Element Library Template with data elements in it.

Once such a template is published, you can select elements from the Common Element Name drop-down menu, shown here:
**Linked Element**

A linked element inserts the value of the FOA attribute you link it to, along with a label that you create.

2. Then define the attributes as described below and click **Save**:

### Data Element Attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Element name</strong></td>
<td>Enter a unique name for the data element</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Label</strong></td>
<td>Enter the label for the element that will be used in the FOA Content edit screen.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contained in Section</strong></td>
<td>Select the template section where the element will appear</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type</strong></td>
<td>Select the data type of the input field</td>
<td>Choose text, number, contact, date, single-select, multi-select or checkboxes. If you select a type that gives the user multiple values to choose from (single-select, multi-select, and checkboxes), an Enter Selectable Options field appears in the screen, as shown above.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Data Element Attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formatting</td>
<td>Governs how the element will appear on the FA Content edit screen and the published FOA document.</td>
<td>If “vertical” the content appears below the label. If “table” the label and content appear in separate columns of a table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 1</td>
<td>Enter the options the user can choose from.</td>
<td>The Option fields are only displayed for Checkbox and Radio Button elements. In the Option 1 field enter the text of the first selectable option. Then click <strong>Add Option</strong> to add an Option 2 field and enter the second option there. Repeat as need to add more option fields and define all the selections you need, as shown below:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enter Selectable Options</td>
<td>For single Select and multi-select elements only: Enter the selectable values in this field</td>
<td>Enter some text and hit &lt;Enter&gt; to define the first value, type some more and hit &lt;Enter&gt;to define the next value, and so on to define all the selectable values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum number of characters</td>
<td>For text data elements, enter the character limit</td>
<td>Only displayed for text data types.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Element Name</td>
<td>For Common Elements, select the element from the drop-down menu.</td>
<td>See <a href="#">Common Element Library Template for</a> information on creating a shared library of data elements that can be added to document templates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Attribute</td>
<td>For Linked Elements, select the FOA key attribute to which this data Element is linked.</td>
<td>The value of the FOA attribute you link it to, along with a label that you create.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Option fields

Used to define checkbox and radio button elements: Enter one selection in each field and click **Add Option** to add more option fields to the screen, as shown here:

Enter one selectable option in each **Option** field and click **Delete** to delete options if necessary.
Content Rules

Use Content Rules to set rules for the element, add instructions for the user or enter a default value for the element.

**Note:** Each data element includes a default content rule which will be used with attribute values for which no user-created content rule is applicable.

If you want to create a rule of your own rule, click **Add New Content Rule** to add another row to the grid, then use these fields to configure the rule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Based on</td>
<td>Select a the key attribute the content rule is based on.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For values</td>
<td>Enter the values of the key attributes for which the rule is applicable.</td>
<td>Multiple values are allowed separated by semicolon. Blank and can't be edited for the Default content rule.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Check if the data element must be filled in before publication.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editable</td>
<td>Check if the element should be editable,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Field | Description | Notes
--- | --- | ---
 | leave unchecked for read-only. | |
User Instructions | If you wish, add instructions that will be displayed in a tool tip. | 
Default/Fixed Text | If applicable, enter the default value or read-only text. | 

(recursive snippet)

When you finish configuring the template click **Save**.

**Note: About Formatted Text**

Many text entry fields in FOAM permit you to enter formatted text.

In these fields, click the down arrow at the top right of the frame, shown in the first image below to open the formatting tools, shown in the second image: