

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH
DIRECTOR'S AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT
IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH**

Introduction and Background: The purpose of the NIOSH Director's Award is to recognize outstanding scientific research achievement in the field of occupational safety and health that has made a major impact or has the potential of making a major impact on worker safety and health. This research achievement can be basic or applied but must show promise of solving real-world occupational safety and health problems by translating to changes in the workplace and in the practices of occupational safety and health professionals. Each year NIOSH grantees provide updates on their research progress and accomplishments as part of either a competing or non-competing renewal grant application. However, to identify the most significant NIOSH-sponsored research and to promote the importance of this work to our constituencies, NIOSH needs additional information on the short and long-term impact of their studies on scientific knowledge, on the health of the American worker, and on the mission of NIOSH. To address these needs, the Director of NIOSH has established an administrative supplement award program for NIOSH grantees. This supplement program will provide NIOSH supported scientists an opportunity to identify and highlight work that has a measurable impact on worker safety and health to Congress, to peers, and to the public. NIOSH will give a monetary award to successful grantees in recognition of their accomplishments for use in connection with their current NIOSH grant.

Eligibility: All NIOSH grantees who are receiving independent investigator-initiated research grant support (R01, R03, R21, K01, U01) in the current fiscal year are eligible for this award. Grantees of training awards (T1, T2, T15, and T42) are ineligible. The scientific accomplishments proposed as the basis for this award may include results from prior NIOSH grants as long as these results are closely related to the topic of the current NIOSH grant.

Mechanism of Award: NIOSH will award the successful applicant a \$10,000 supplement in direct costs to the grant that is the basis for the work cited in the award. In addition, NIOSH will feature the Principal Investigator and the grant in the NIOSH Annual Report. NIOSH will also invite the Principal Investigator to participate in a major professional meeting and to share scientific ideas with the senior leadership of the NIOSH as well as other intramural and extramural scientists.

Funds Available: One NIOSH Director's Award will be made each year.

Format for Application: The application consists of a completed Public Health Service form PHS 398 face page that references the current grant upon which this application is based, a two page maximum scientific section and an administrative data section. The scientific section should be written in terms that an educated lay person would understand. Please submit your application as an electronic computer file in PDF format and follow the guidelines for creating PDF files provided by the eRA Commons (see http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt/pdf_guidelines.htm). It is permissible to scan in the PHS 398 face page as the first page of the PDF document file.

Scientific section of the application (two pages maximum, 12pt font, one inch margins) includes:

1. What is the occupational safety and health issue that your research is addressing? How important is this issue in solving problems in a specific workplace?
2. What are the specific results and accomplishments from your research? Why should the NIOSH Director choose to highlight your research to the Congress?
3. How will your results impact the workplace identified in item 1? How will this be measured?

Administrative section of the application includes:

1. A listing of scientific achievement awards received in the past three years.
2. A listing of relevant published or in press articles that document the work cited. In addition, electronic copies of the most significant publications (maximum of 5) should be included as an appendix in the PDF application file that you are submitting.
3. A brief paragraph, describing how the \$10,000 (direct costs) award would be used to facilitate the research program supported by the NIOSH grant on which the NIOSH Director's Award application is based. This should be a brief narrative and should not exceed 50 words. It may include travel to scientific meetings, training courses, equipment or any other item within the budget of a NIOSH grant, but the item(s) identified must be related to the specific aims of the current grant.

Receipt Date: The receipt date for applications for the 2006 NIOSH Director's Award is December 1, 2006. Please send your application, prepared in the form of a PDF document file, by mail on a CD ROM disk or as an email attachment to:

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Review Process: All applications will undergo a peer review process involving a panel of scientists, drawn approximately equally from senior NIOSH scientist administrators and from the extramural occupational safety and health research community. The review panel will evaluate the influence and scientific importance of the research with an emphasis on the potential of these findings to solve real-world occupational safety and health problems. The outcome of this peer review will be provided to the NIOSH Director, who will make the final determination.

Award Date: The 2006 NIOSH Director's Award will be announced by March 1, 2007.

Additional Information: For additional information, please contact either the NIOSH program administrator, named on your notice of grant award or Dr. Charles N. Rafferty, named on this announcement.