Handbook for Submitting Multi-Component Proposals to the NIH

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Overview

What is a Multi-Component application?

A multi-component application is a single submission with multiple, interrelated components - each with their own budgets - that share a common focus or objective.



Multi-component programs share the following features:

- At least two interrelated components related to a theme with each capable of standing on its own but complementing one another.
- Collaboration and interaction among components and investigators to achieve a common goal.
- Support as needed for shared resources—core resources or facilities—that provide services or resources to at least two research projects internal or external to the center (P30s).

Multi-component funding opportunities come in several forms:

P01	Multidisciplinary, long term program headed by a Principal Investigator (PI) or PIs who bring in other investigators to conduct research projects and share resources.
	1 /
P30	A center core grant that supports shared resources and facilities for a multidisciplinary research
	team or group of investigators focusing on a common research topic.
P50	Specialized center award that supports a multidisciplinary group of investigators who share a
	common research topic.
U19	Award for multidisciplinary projects that require substantial involvement from NIH staff.
U54	Support for research and development from basic to clinical, including ancillary supportive activities
	that create a multidisciplinary focus on a disease or a biomedical problem. Centers may also serve
	as regional or national resources for special research purposes.
UM1	Support for large scale, complex clinical trials with multiple research strategies, e.g., clinical
	networks.
UM2	Support for large scale centers with complicated structures that cannot be appropriately
	categorized into an available multicomponent activity code, e.g., clinical networks, research
	programs, or consortiums.

How do Multi-Component Applications Differ from Single Component Applications?

Although multi-project applications use the same forms used for single-project applications, there are some differences in the way multi-project applications are structured.

Single-Component	Multi-Component
 Research Grants (R and K series) Resource Grants (R and X series) May have different projects One budget for the entire submission Unless Subawards; Subawards have their own budget 	 Program Projects/Center Grants (P series) Cooperative Agreements (U series) Uses the same forms as a single-component submission Single Overall Component At least one Other Component Type Admin Core Project Core Summaries Auto-generated from the individual component and Overall Component Included in the agency assembled application Helps reviewers and sponsor staff working with application

Every multi-component application includes:

1. A Single **Overall Component**:

• The Overall Component describes the entire application and provides an overview of how each of the other components fit together.

2. One or more **Other Component Types**:

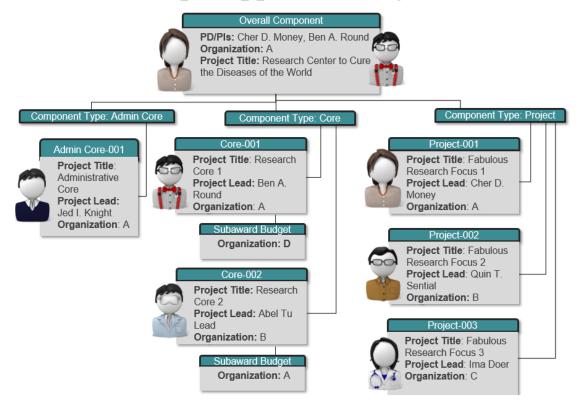
- Other Component types will vary by opportunity and will be specified in the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA).
 - i. **Admin Core**: Defines an administrative structure capable of planning and evaluating center/project activities.
 - ii. **Core**: Supports shared resources and facilities for research by a number of investigators
 - iii. **Project**: Defines a research activity that contributes to the common theme of the overall effort

3. **Summaries**:

 Information is automatically compiled from the data provided by the applicant in the individual components and included as part of the Overall Component in the agency assembled application to help reviewers and staff work with the application.

How is a Typical Multi-Component Application Structured?

Sample Application Layout



- The single **Overall Component** provides an overview of the entire application
- In this sample, there are three **Component Types**: Administrative Core, Core and Project.
 - Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) indicate the types of components expected in an application.
 - Note that in this sample the PI does not lead the Administrative Core.
 - o In most cases, however, the PI is the administrative core lead as the individual responsible for the overall management and administration of the program.
- There is some number of Components within each Component Type.
 - FOAs indicate the required minimum/maximum number of Components.

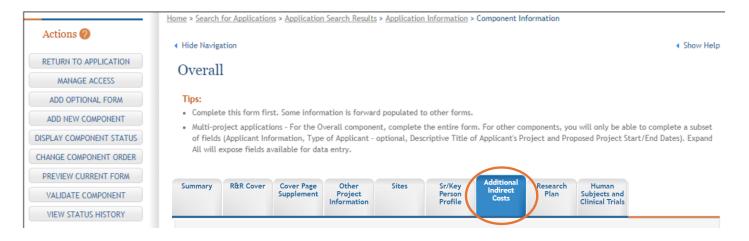
Each of the components above, with the exception of the **Overall Component**, has the same general requirements as a single component submission.

Exceptions or special requirements will be noted in the FOA, so it is important to read the FOA carefully.

Subawards

A common issue some departments struggle with on multi-component applications is when a subrecipient is responsible for an entire component.

- They are to be entered on the cover page as the lead for that component.
- Use the Additional indirect costs optional form on the Overall to add indirect costs on the first \$25K.
 - You do not list them like a subaward
 - This is per NIH's direction
 - NIH knows it is a subaward by the institution's name and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).



Click this <u>link</u> to jump to additional subawards details further in this document.

Planning and Coordinating the Application

Find and Read Sponsor Guidelines

- Program/Funding Solicitation
- Institute & Center (IC) Guidance
- PHS SF 424 R&R Instructions
- Project-Specific Guidelines



Identify Key Information

Thoroughly review all sponsor guidelines and determine the critical pieces of information including (but not limited to):

- 1. Institutional and investigator eligibility
- 2. Deadlines, application stages and submission methods
 - a. NCI and NIAID often require pre-proposals
- 3. Required Components: Admin, Cores, etc.
- 4. Required application elements, materials

How do I Determine the Required Number and Type of Components for a Specific Application?

The Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will provide essential information on the required number and type of components for each specific application. NIH includes a chart and additional information in most FOAs that appear as follows:

The application should consist of the following components:

- Overall: required
- Administrative Core: required
- · Investigator Development Core: required
- · Research Project: required, maximum of 3
- Community Engagement and Dissemination Core: required

Page Limitations

Component Types Available in ASSIST	Research Strategy/Program Plan Page Limits
Overall	6 pages
Admin Core	12 pages
Core (Investigator Development Core and Community Engagement and Dissemination Core)	6 pages
Project (Research Projects)	12 pages

Additional page limits described in the SF424 Application Guide and the Table of Page Limits must be followed.

Tip: New Proposal Checklist

Complete the New Proposal Checklist while you read sponsor guidelines!

Determine the Submission Method

SPO encourages you to submit in Cayuse 424, though ASSIST can also be used.

• While ASSIST creates more multi-component pre-submission summaries, entry and submission is faster in 424.

NIH ASSIST

Benefits:

- Print preview summarizes all entered info
- Strong multi-budget tool
- Automatic access for SPO, PD/PIs, Component Leads
- Versatile access settings
 - o Edit vs. view
 - Entire application or a specific component
 - Budget data vs. non-budget data

Cayuse 424

Benefits:

- Real-time error checking
- Saves time
 - Auto-populates institutional and personnel info
- Speeds up the submission process
 - ASSIST requires two rounds of status updates for all items before SPO can submit. Cayuse is a one button push. 15 minutes vs. 1 minute to submit.

Determine Requirements & Responsibilities

Thoroughly review all Sponsor guidelines and determine the application requirements and responsible persons for each action/requirement.

- 1. **Determine the number** of required **Component type**
 - a. Cores, Projects, etc.
- 2. Identify requirements for each Component
 - a. Project Lead, Organization Lead, Project Title, and associated application forms
- 3. Determine requirements for the Overall application
 - a. Lead PD/PI (and, if applicable, other PD/PIs) and associated application forms
- 4. Assign each task to responsible person and set deadlines
 - a. Consider creating a checklist

Determine Required Forms

Project

When preparing your application in ASSIST, use Component Type 'Project.'

All instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide must be followed, with the following additional instructions, as noted

SF424 (R&R) Cover (Project)

Complete only the following fields:

- Applicant Information
- Type of Applicant (optional)
- Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project
- Proposed Project Start/Ending Dates

PHS 398 Cover Page Supplement (Project)

Enter Human Embryonic Stem Cells in each relevant component.

Research & Related Other Project Information (Project)

Human Subjects: Answer only the 'Are Human Subjects Involved?' and 'Is the Project Exempt from Federal regulations?' questions

Vertebrate Animals: Answer only the 'Are Vertebrate Animals Used?' question.

Project Narrative: Do not complete. Note: ASSIST screens will show an asterisk for this attachment indicating it is required. However, eRA systems only enforce this requirement in the Overall component and applications will not receive an error if omitted in other components.

Project /Performance Site Location(s) (Project)

List all performance sites that apply to the specific component.

Note: The Project Performance Site form allows up to 300 sites, prior to using additional attachment for additional entries.

Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Project)

In the Project Director/Principal Investigator section of the form, use Project Role of 'Other' with Category of Project Lead and provide a valid eRA Commons ID in the Credential field.

In the additional Senior/Key Profiles section, list Senior/Key persons that are working in the component.

Include a single Biographical Sketch for each Senior/Key person listed in the application regardless of the number of components in which they participate. When a Senior/Key person is listed in multiple components, the Biographical Sketch can be included in any one component.

If more than 100 Senior/Key persons are included in a component, the Additional Senior Key Person attachments should be used.

Form	Overall	Admin Core, Core Project, Other named components	Indiv Career Dev	Career Dev	NRSA Training	Form	Overall	Admin Core, Core Project, Other named components	Indiv Career Dev	Career Dev	NRSA Training
SF424 R&R cover	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	R&R Subaward Budget		Optional	Optional	Optional	
PHS 398 Cover Page Supplement	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Attachment PHS 398 Training Budget					✓
R&R Other Project Information	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Training Subaward Budget Attachment Form					Optional
Project/Performance Sites	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	PHS Additional Indirect					
R&R Sr/Key Person Profile (Expanded)	1	✓	1	✓	1	Costs	Optional				
(Expanded)						PHS 398 Research Plan	✓	✓			
PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	PHS 398 Career Development Award			4		
PHS Assignment Request Form	Optional					Supplemental Form					
R&R Budget		✓	✓	✓		PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan				✓	✓

From https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-g/multi-project-forms-g.pdf

Section M.130, Page 18

Tips and Tools

Tool: Proposal Preparation Checklist

Use SPO's <u>Proposal Preparation Checklist</u> to help ensure required documents are not overlooked.

Tool: Matrix Style Checklist

Sections	Overall - George	Project 1 - Carney	Project 2 - George	Project 3 - Tan	Project 4- Wang	Admin Core - Core A George	EV Analysis Core - Core B Carney	Biospecimen Core - Core C Toeoeousch	Data Analysis and Management Core - Core D Rocke
Budget	summary by ASSIST								
Budget Justification	NA								
Biosketches (key personnel only)									
Facilities and Other Resources									
Equipment	NA					NA			
Project Summary									
Project Narrative									
Specific Aims									
Research Strategy	6 pages	12 pages	12 pages	12 pages	12 pages	6 pages	6 pages	6 pages	6 pages
Literature Cited						NA			
Vertebrate Animals (if applicable)	NA	NA				NA	NA		NA
Human Subjects (if applicable)		NA	see below for Delayed Onset	see below list for Clinical Trials	see below list for Human Subj no clin trials	NA	NA	NA	NA
Authentication of Key Biological and Chemical Reagents	NA					NA			NA
Resource Sharing Plan	NA					NA			
Letters of Support (if any)									NA
Data Management and Sharing Plan		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
MPI plan		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cover Letter w/ARA Approval		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

		110	
Require	d Human Subjects Do	ocuments for project	\$
involvin	g (Clinical Trials)		
1. NIH S	tudy Record with Incl	usion enrollment tabl	es
2.3.a. In	clusion Across the Lif	espan	
2.4. Incl	usion of Women and	Minorities	
2.5. Rec	ruitment and Retention	on Plan	
2.7. Stu	dy Timeline		
3.1. Pro	tection of Human Sub	jects	
3.3. Dat	a and Safety Monitor	ing Plan	
3.5. Ove	erall Structure of the S	itudy Team	
4.3. Stat	tistical Design and Pov	wer	
4.7. Diss	semination Plan		

Required Human Subjects Documents for projects involving Human Subjects but no Clinical Trials
1. N IH Study Record with Inclusion enrollment tables
2.3.a. Inclusion Across the Lifespan
2.4. Inclusion of Women and Minorities
2.5. Recruitment and Retention Plan
3.1. Protection of Human Subjects

Required Human Subjects Documents for projects involving delayed on set studies (Create a Delayed On set Study Record)
Delayed Onset Study Record Delayed Onset Justification

Tool: Track Status and Stay on Task

PAR 24- 250									
due date: Sept 25, 2024 by 5pm local time of the a	pplicant								
Sections	Overall - George	Project 1 - Carney	Project 2 - George	Project 3- Tan	Project 4 - Wang	Admin Core - Core A George	EV An alysis Core - Core B Carney	Biospecimen Core - Core C Toedebusch	Data Analysis and Management Core - Core D Rocke
Budget	summary by ASSIST	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input
Budget Justification	NA	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input	final pending SPO input
Biosketches (key personnel only)	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FIN AL	FIN AL	FIN AL	FINAL
Facilities and Other Resources	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FIN AL	FIN AL	FINAL	FINAL
Equipment	NA	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	NA	FIN AL	FINAL	FINAL
Project Summary	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FIN AL	FIN AL	FINAL	FINAL
Project Narrative	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FIN AL	FIN AL	FINAL	FINAL
Specific Aims	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	with Dr. Tan for final edits	FINAL	FINAL	FIN AL	FINAL	FINAL
Research Strategy	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	with Dr. Tan for final edits	FINAL	FIN AL	Dr. Carney will send on 2/5	FINAL	FINAL
Literature Cited	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	with Dr. Tan for final edits	FINAL	NA	Dr. Carney will send on 2/5	FINAL	FINAL
Vertebrate Animals (if applicable)	NA	NA	missing	FINAL	FINAL	NA	NA	FINAL	NA
Human Subjects	FINAL	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Authentication of Key Biological and Chemical Reagents	NA	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	NA	FIN AL	FINAL	NA
Resource Sharing Plan	NA	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	NA	FIN AL	FINAL	FINAL
Letters of Support (if any)	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	missing 2 letters (from Dr. Pan and Dr. Drake)	FIN AL	FINAL	FINAL	NA
Data Management and Sharing Plan	FINAL	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
MPI plan	FINAL	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Co ver Letter w/ARA Appro val	FINAL	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Tool: Personnel Checklist

							Biosket	ch
Last Name	First Name	Email	Departmental Affiliation	Role (for ASSIST)	Cores/Projects	rec'd	formatted	uploaded
	Pam			MPI, Core Load				
Lein	Pam	pjlein@ucdavis.edu	VM: Molecular Biosciences	Project Lead	Admin Core, Project 2	x	x	x
	A			MPI, Core Co-Lead,				
Brooks-Kayal	Amy	abkayal@ucdavis.edu	MED: Neurology	Project Co-Lead	Admin Core, Project 2	x	x	x
	Danield				Project 2, Project 3,			
Bruun	Donald	dabruun@ucdavis.edu	VM: Molecular Biosciences	Co-Investigator	Core B	x		
Gurkoff	Gene	gggurkoff@ucdavis.edu	MED: Neurological Surgery	Core Lead, Project	RE Core, Project 1	x	x	
	tell.		MED: Psych & Behavioral					
Silverman	Jill	jsilverman@ucdavis.edu	Sciences	Project Co-Lead	Project 1	x		
Gelli	Angie	acgelli@ucdavis.edu	MED: Pharmacology	Project Lead	Project 3			
Gorin	Fred	fagorin@ucdavis.edu	VM: Molecular Biosciences	Co-Investigator	Project 3			
Chaudhari	Abhijit	ajchaudhari@ucdavis.edu	MED: Radiology	Core Lead	Core B			
Hobson	Brad	bahobson@ucdavis.edu	Biomedical Engineering	Core Co-Lead	Core B			
Wulff	Heike	hwulff@ucdavis.edu	MED: Pharmacology	Core Lead, Co-	Core A, Project 1	X	x	
Singh	Vikrant	vssingh@ucdavis.edu	MED: Pharmacology	Co-Investigator	Core A			
	Jun		CAES: Entomology and					
Wang	Juli	junwang@ucdavis.edu	Nematology	Core Co-Lead	Core A			
	Bruce		CAES: Entomology and					
Hammock	ыисе	bdhammock@ucdavis.edu	Nematology	Co-Investigator	Project 2	X	ongoing	
Tancredi	Dan	djtancredi@ucdavis.edu	MED: Pediatrics	Core Lead	Core C			
	Danielle		MED: Public Health					
Harvey	Damelle	djharvey@ucdavis.edu	Sciences	Core Co-Lead	Core C			

Tool: Production Calendar

December 2024										
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
Karen out until 9 th	This week: Work with	h Project and Core leads budget	to develop near final							
8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
	Work with PI on ACCD request		ACCD request due to Assoc. Dean							
15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
	Dean-approved ACCD request and ppt due to Becky				Project/Core leads send requests for Letters of Support (due 1/15)					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
Kelli and Erin out this week		University holiday	University holiday							
29	30	31								
	ACCD meeting	University holiday								

color coding:	
Budget-related	Namati

Budget-related	Narrative
tasks	sections
blue	oreen

			January 2025	1		
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
PI is out this week			University holiday			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					Work with Project and Core leads to finalize Budget Justification	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Biosketchs are due for uploading		Letters of Support due	_	are final: Kelli enters e SP and ASSIST	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	University holiday	Route proposal for SPO review		Final supplemental documents* due for uploading		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Final Aims and Research Strategies due for uploading	Complete ASSIST package for PI to review	Incorporate any necessary changes into ASSIST	SPO submits proposal	Proposal due to NIH	
			Management ar	nd Sharing Plan, Vertebra	bstract/Summary, Resou ete Animals, Human Subj emical Reagents, Faciliti	ects Documents,

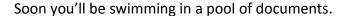
color coding:

Budget-related	Narrative
tasks	sections
blue	green

Get Organized

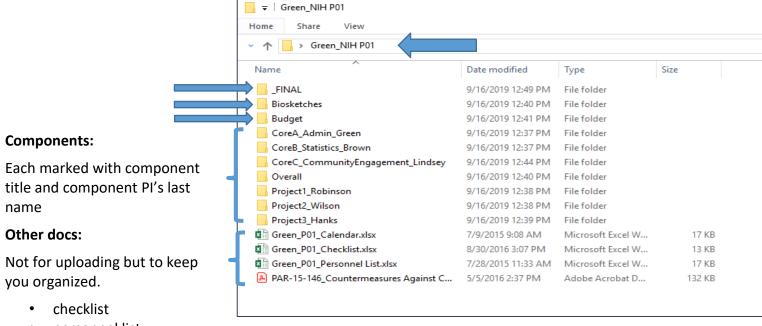
Multi-component applications:

- Large (~400-1000 pages)
- Led by multiple researchers
- May include multiple institutions/subawardees
- May have 5-10 components



- Make a **checklist** and use it to track progress of various components and documents
- Make a calendar and stick to it as much as you can
- Have a folder structure that works best for you, that makes your life easier when documents start to trickle in

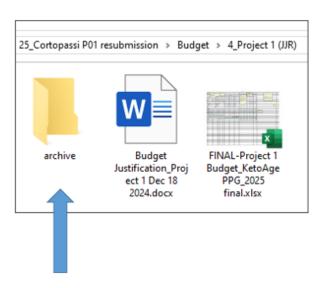
Create Folders – Suggested Folder Structure





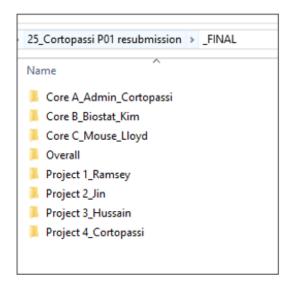
Create Folders – Inside the Budget Folder

25_Cortopassi P01 resubmission	> Budget
Name	Date modified
1_Core A (GAC,JJR)	12/6/2024 1:42 PM
2_Core B (KMK)	10/7/2024 2:28 PM
3_Core C (KCL)	12/18/2024 2:59 PM
4_Project 1 (JJR)	12/18/2024 1:48 PM
5_Project 2 (LWJ)	12/18/2024 10:11 AM
6_Project 3 (SKH)	10/7/2024 2:26 PM
7_Project 4 (GAC)	12/6/2024 4:03 PM
■ 99_ACCD	12/19/2024 11:57 AM
z_Notes	12/19/2024 11:54 AM
Overall NIH Budget KetoA	12/18/2024 4:08 PM

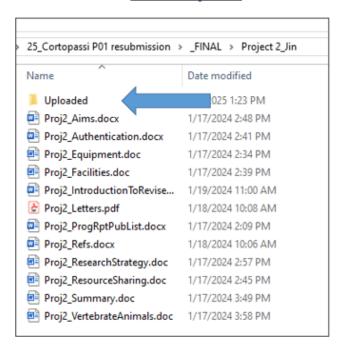


Create Folders – Suggested Folder Structure

Inside the FINAL Folder



Inside the Final Project 2 Folder



Create Folders – Inside a Project Folder

▼ Project3_Hanks ome Share View			
↑ Green_NIH P01 → Project3_Hanks			
Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
Authentication Key Resources_Project 3_FINAL.docx	9/7/2016 1:34 PM	Microsoft Word D	16 KB
Authentication Key Resources_Project 3_FINAL_DC.docx	9/7/2016 11:20 AM	Microsoft Word D	16 KB
Project 3 Aims 06-23-2016.docx	6/23/2016 2:35 PM	Microsoft Word D	17 KB
Project 3 Aims 07-18-2016.docx	7/21/2016 4:45 PM	Microsoft Word D	18 KB
Project 3 Aims 07-18-2016_DC.docx	7/21/2016 4:45 PM	Microsoft Word D	23 KB
Project 3 Aims 07-23-2016.docx	7/25/2016 9:04 AM	Microsoft Word D	19 KB
Project 3 Aims 07-23-2016_DC.docx	7/28/2016 9:28 AM	Microsoft Word D	20 KB
Project 3 Aims 24Aug2016.docx	8/24/2016 8:54 AM	Microsoft Word D	19 KB
Project 3 Aims 24Aug2016_eca.docx	8/26/2016 12:44 PM	Microsoft Word D	20 KB
Project 3 Aims_ FINAL.docx	9/7/2016 1:34 PM	Microsoft Word D	19 KB
Project3_VertebrateAnimals_FINAL.docx	9/7/2016 1:40 PM	Microsoft Word D	28 KB
References Cited_FINAL.docx	9/12/2016 1:38 PM	Microsoft Word D	37 KB
Research Plan_Project 3_09Sept2016.docx	9/9/2016 9:45 PM	Microsoft Word D	3,650 KB
Research Plan_Project 3_10Sept2016.docx	9/10/2016 4:25 PM	Microsoft Word D	3,522 KB
Research Plan_Project 3_10Sept2016_DC.docx	9/11/2016 12:30 AM	Microsoft Word D	3,556 KB
Research Plan_Project 3_12Sept2016.docx	9/12/2016 12:38 PM	Microsoft Word D	3,549 KB
Research Plan_Project 3_12Sept2016_DC.docx	9/12/2016 2:02 PM	Microsoft Word D	3,676 KB
Summary - Project 3.v3.docx	9/9/2016 8:47 AM	Microsoft Word D	17 KB
Summary - Project 3.v3_eca.docx	9/9/2016 1:56 PM	Microsoft Word D	18 KB
Summary - Project 3_FINAL.docx	9/9/2016 3:20 PM	Microsoft Word D	17 KB
Vertebrate Animals Section-Project 3 9 6 16.docx	9/6/2016 8:40 AM	Microsoft Word D	24 KB
Vertebrate Animals Section-Project 3_FINAL_DC.docx	9/7/2016 11:27 AM	Microsoft Word D	31 KB

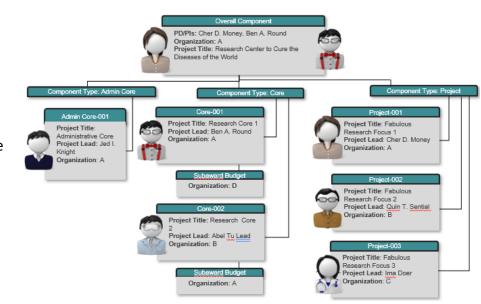
Preparing the Application

Determine the Application Structure

- Order Components by flow of work
- Final package order
 - Overall component
 - Including systemgenerated summaries
 - For your convenience, you can alphabetize the short title for additional Components (i.e., Core A, Core B, Core C) to facilitate how you order them
 - Cores
 - Projects
- IMPORTANT Especially for ASSIST:
 - Give each attachment a unique name.
 - E.g., "Admin Core Budget Justification," "Core Budget Justification," "Project A Budget Justification," "Project B Budget Justification," etc.
 - Two attachments with the same name may confuse the system and delay submission.

Request and Collect Data

- Use the checklist and/or production calendar you created
- Set deadlines for:
 - Response to you for each item
 - Subaward materials
 - o Entry in ASSIST
 - Submission to SPO
 - Submission to NIH
- When setting deadlines, consider:
 - · Time for reviewing/editing for compliance and
 - voice/consistency
 - Time for delayed responses
 - Some Components/actions are more complex and need additional time
- Providing document **templates** to your team may speed the process and result in consistent document formatting.
 - Example: budget justifications
- Follow-up



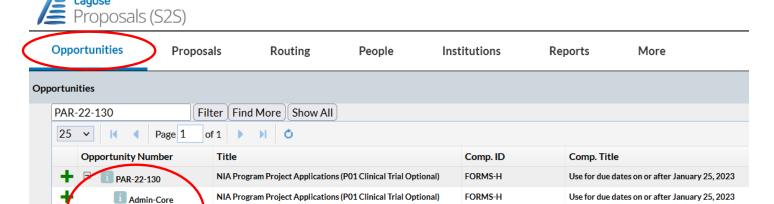
Cayuse 424

To create a multi-component application:

Core

Project

- 1. Start from the Funding Opportunity (**Opportunities** in top toolbar)
- 2. Create an application for each Component



- 3. Link each Component to the Overall application
- 4. **Keep your assigned SPO Proposals Analyst apprised of your progress in Cayuse 424** so they can fully partner with you on the review.

FORMS-H

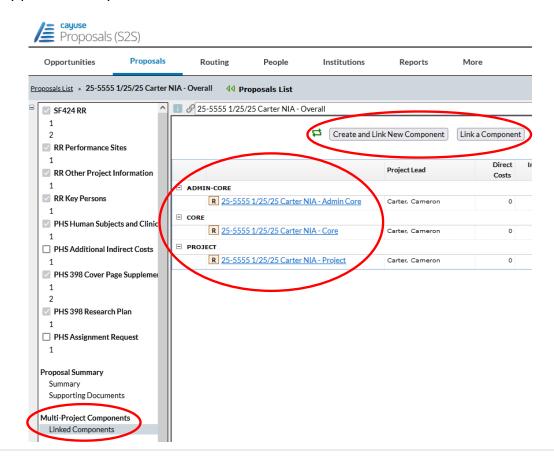
FORMS-H

Use for due dates on or after January 25, 2023

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NIA Program Project Applications (P01 Clinical Trial Optional)

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ASSIST

Following this presentation is a series of 25 slides with step-by-step guidance on using ASSIST.

- You will be able to peruse these in your own time.
 - Note the extensive **validation** and **finalization** steps.
- For now, we want to share some highlights on using ASSIST.

Welcome to the Application Submission System & Interface for Submission Tracking (ASSIST)



ASSIST: Highlights

- SPO recommends the **department administrator(s) initiate applications** in ASSIST on behalf of their PI(s).
 - This will allow the administrator(s) to view and edit the application(s).
- ERA commons IDs are needed for all key personnel.
- **Biosketches** are only uploaded once for each person in the application.
- Actions in ASSIST are dependent on the Component type
 - Some actions are only available on the Summary tab.
 - For example, **Update Component Status** is only available if you return to the **Summary**.
- Choosing Edit locks out other users from the page.
 - Additional users can make changes to other pages, but two users cannot edit a single page at the same time.
- Saving
 - Select Save and Keep Lock if continuing to work on that page
 - Select Save and Release Lock if leaving that page

ASSIST: Senior Personnel

- Only the PI (or PIs; see multi-PI plan below) will be listed in the Overall section under Senior/Key Personnel.
 - Personnel can be listed as senior in more than one component.

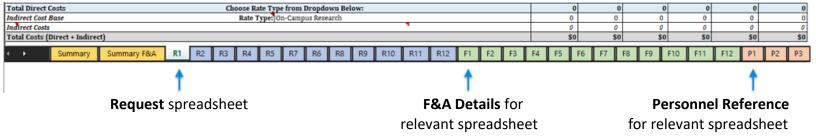
- A PI can be listed as PI and also as a Component Lead.
- Each component will have one lead.
 - Leads of components are not considered Pls.
 - Component leads should be given the role of **Project Lead** or **Core Lead**.
 - You can also designate a co-lead for a component.
 - Co-leads should be given the role of Core Co-Lead or Project Co-Lead.
- A multi-PI plan is not needed for individual components, even when co-leads are listed.
 - The multi-PI plan is only required for the **overall**, and only if more than one PI is designated to lead the entire center.
 - Check the FOA to ensure multi-PI applications are allowable before adding more than one PI to the overall application.

The Multi-Budget Template (Template C)

OR Budget Templates are used for internal budgets. **Template C** is designed for Multi-Budget applications.

Each **Request** spreadsheet looks identical to the standard **Single Budget Template (Template A)**, but there are many of them tabbed at the bottom of the screen.

As you complete these spreadsheets, the yellow **Summary** and **Summary F&A** tabs will auto-populate.



- To aid in your organizing, you can rename each tab or hide ones that are not being used.
- If you need a custom budget template, contact Alyssa Bunn (aabunn@ucdavis.edu).
 - o Example, one multi-component had 150 subawards.

A Note on Budgets

Escalations are usually cut at time of award on large center grants.

• If there is a budget limit, SPO recommends not escalating salary or benefits to avoid automatic cuts.

Subawards

• As mentioned earlier, the organization responsible for the majority of work on a component should lead it.

- If another university is leading an entire component, that University (subrecipient) can be listed as the lead on the Cover Page.
- If UCD has some costs associated with the component led by the subrecipient, UCD's costs should be entered on the subaward budget. NIH will know UCD is not an actual subaward by the associated Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number.
- If a subaward is leading a component, and we have not charged indirect costs on the first \$25,000 of that component, the **Additional Indirect Costs** optional form needs to be added to the **Overall**.
 - See how to add optional forms above.
- Subawards on subawards are strongly discouraged and sometimes not allowed, and the indirect costs
 of these third-party subawards count toward the direct cost limit.
- **IMPORTANT:** If a subrecipient is leading a component, and <u>another</u> subrecipient has costs, **enter UCD** as lead if there is a direct cost budget limit even if UCD does not have a budget.
 - Otherwise, all the indirect costs of the second subaward will show part of UCD's direct costs for the NIH limit (instead of being excluded.)
 - PI can be added at .01 months effort; this signals to NIH that no actual effort is provided.
 - The budget will be \$0
 - If a component or subaward is not funded in all years, create a \$0-dollar year with lead at .01 calendar (Cal) months effort.
 - The justification can indicate something similar to "For administrative purposes, UCD is entered as the lead institution. The PIs effort on this project is through the administrative core; .01 person months are entered to allow entry. See subaward budgets for cost details."
 - Note that this assumes all subawards will be administered by UC Davis.
- UCD usually only charges indirect costs on the first \$25,000 of a subrecipient institution, but if a subrecipient is on more than one component, UCD should charge indirects on each instance where the subaward scope of work is led by a different PI (at the subrecipient institution).
 - These will likely be multiple subawards to the same institution.
 - If they are led by the same PI at the same organization, then they will likely be issued as a single subaward and the second instance could be excluded.
 - When using the multi-component OR budget template, select Excluded for the indirect
 costs on the second component and include a note that "indirect costs are calculated on
 project x."
- If there is any uncertainty as to whether there will be multiple subawards to the same subrecipient institution, indirect costs should be charged on all components for that subrecipient, so the project is not underfunded.

Submitting the Application

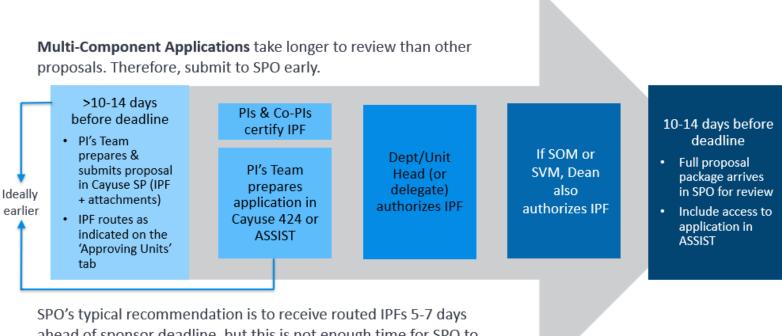
Review and Submit for SPO Approval

- 1. Create Cayuse SP Internal Processing Form (IPF, aka "Proposal")
 - a. **Submission Method:** Select either **Cayuse 424** or **ASSIST**.
 - b. Upload the:
 - i. Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) and other sponsor guidelines
 - ii. Overall Summary/Scope of Work (SOW) (draft okay when routing IPF)
 - iii. Budget for each Component (strongly recommended by SPO even if not required by sponsor)
 - iv. Budget Justifications (strongly recommended by SPO even if not required by sponsor)

2. Submit the IPF for Routing

- a. Once all of the minimum required documents for SPO are attached **SOW**, **Budgets** and **Budget Justifications** -- submit the IPF for routing and approval.
- 3. Complete the Application in Cayuse 424 or NIH ASSIST
- 4. Work with SPO During the Review
 - SPO will contact you during the review process and may request additional information or suggest revisions.

IPF Preparation & Routing



ahead of sponsor deadline, but this is not enough time for SPO to guarantee a full review of this large of an application.

SPO commonly submits all multi-component applications.

Source: <u>PPM 230-02</u>

Proposal Document Review

Who reviews what?

SPO Proposal Analyst

- As time allows, SPO reviews the:
- Budgets
- Budget justifications
- Administrative components
- Issues that will prevent a successful submission

Department C&G Administrator

- All required components based on the project scope are included
- Formatting
 - o Table of Contents
 - Page margins
 - Font/pitch
 - Line spacing
 - o Characters per inch
 - Page limitations
 - Spelling and grammar

Validate & Preview the Application Package

The Principal Investigator will work with the department Contract & Grant Administrator to prepare the application package for SPO review.

- 1. Review and incorporate SPO feedback.
- 2. Request additional feedback/advice from SPO if needed.
- 3. Correct any errors and warnings in the submission system.
 - a. For NIH ASSIST, validate the application package (see Using ASSIST section below
- 4. Finalize the application for SPO submission.

Resources

- NIH Multi-project Application Resources:
 - Multi-project Application Form Instructions (PDF)
 - Multi-project Annotated Form Set FORMS-I series
 - Preparing Your Application Using ASSIST (web page)
 - Quick Start: Preparing Your Multi-project Application Using ASSIST (PDF)
 - Prepare and Submit a Multi-project Grant Application Using ASSIST (PowerPoint)
 - How eRA Assembles Multi-project Applications (PDF)
 - Multi-project Application FAQs
- NIH ASSIST Demo/UAT Environment: https://public.uat.era.nih.gov/commons(requires login)
 - o Can create own practice PI accounts and prepare practice applications

Campus Resources: PDS Team

Proposal Development Services (PDS)

Assist faculty:

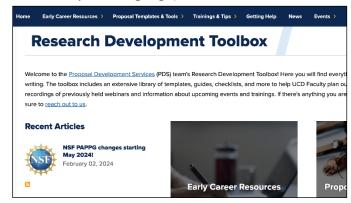
- Of all disciplines, ranks & titles
- With project of all sizes and stages of development

Services include:

- One-on-one consultations
- Coordination support (checklists, timelines, templates, boilerplate language)
- Editing support (high-level and detailed editing, developmental editing, copyediting)
- Guidance on internal/external policy, RFP interpretation
- Budget development

Other resources from PDS:

- Grantsmanship Learning Lab
- Research Development Toolbox



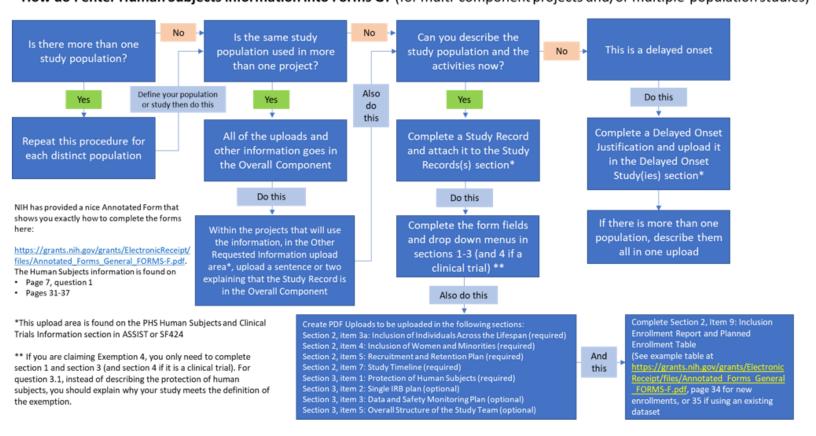
Zoom Sessions for Dept Research Administrators

- Virtual one-on-one meetings with the PDS Senior Financial Analyst, Christina Adamson, by appointment only
- Specifically designed for campus department administrators to provide guidance in the proposal budget development process
- Priority given to those working on large proposal budgets

- Informal setting for administrative staff to ask questions on budget and administrative requirements for proposal submissions
- Examples of topic areas for discussion include:
 - Budget Development
 - Subaward Coordination
 - Cost Share
 - Sponsors eRA Submission and Coordination
 - SPO Submission and Cayuse Coordination
- To reserve a 30-minute slot for an upcoming Zoom session, e-mail Christina at cadamson@ucdavis.edu

PDS support for completing NIH Human Subjects information on SF424 and ASSIST Forms

How do I enter Human Subjects information into Forms G? (for multi-component projects and/or multiple-population studies)



Tip: Send an empty study record form to component leads to fill out.

Campus Resource: School of Medicine

Grants Facilitation Unit (GFU)

 Provides high-quality assistance to UC Davis SOM faculty at all levels in developing, writing, editing, and finalizing grant proposals (all mechanisms and all funding agencies)



- Offers educational classes and seminars
- Request Grants Facilitation services via email at: somor@ucdavis.edu

Research Administration Unit

- Provides pre-award support to SOM departments and centers
- Assists with interpreting contracts, grants policies and general research administration support
- Serves as a resource for **UC Davis SOM research administrators.**
- Request Research Administration services via email at: <u>somra@ucdavis.edu</u>
- Sign up to receive news from Research Administration.

Research Administration Virtual Office Hours for Research Administrators:

Bring your Pre- and Post- Award questions to the team of subject matter experts from the School of Medicine Office of Research (SOMOR) Research Administration Unit and the School of Medicine Finance Operations and Administration (FOA) team.

Examples of office hour questions:

- · Reviewing an RFA
- Budget questions
- Institutional forms or requirements
- · Reporting requirements
- Aggie Enterprise processes
- Research administration in clinical trials
- Policy interpretation

Information about office hours (PDF)

Contact Us

Let us know how we did: https://ucdavis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV 5iKACcEFIo7hpDU

Demet Candas Green

Research Development Officer Proposal Development Services <u>dcandas@ucdavis.edu</u>

Alyssa Bunn

Contracts and Grants Officer Sponsored Programs Office Email: aabunn@ucdavis.edu

Perry King

Training Officer
Sponsored Programs Office
Email: pking@ucdavis.edu

Thank You!

For research-related announcements, follow SPO on X and YouTube!

Using Assist

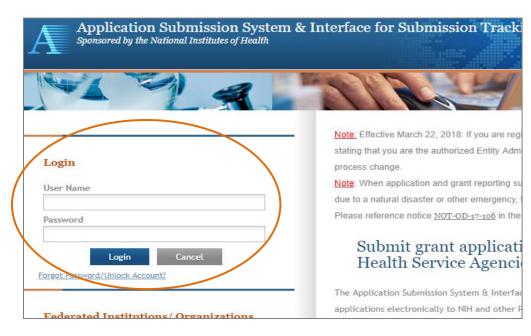
ASSIST: Create the Application Shell

Login to ASSIST

- Use your eRA Commons ID
- Contact <u>spoerahelp@ucdavis.edu</u> if you do not have an eRA Commons ID

ASSIST automatically provides application access to some individuals based on their Commons roles or role on the application.

All Sponsored Programs
 Office (SPO) analysts at the
 applicant institution have
 edit access for the entire
 application.



- All PD/PIs listed on the Overall application have edit access for the entire application.
- The Component Leads (e.g., Project Lead) have edit access for their components.
- The person that initiates the application has edit access for the entire application.
 - SPO recommends the department administrator initiate applications in ASSIST on behalf of their PIs. This will allow the administrator to view and edit the application.
 - In cases where the PI initiates the application, please contact proposals@ucdavis.edu so SPO can grant admin access to it.
 - Please provide the ASSIST application ID and the admins eRA Commons ID, copying the

Enter the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number

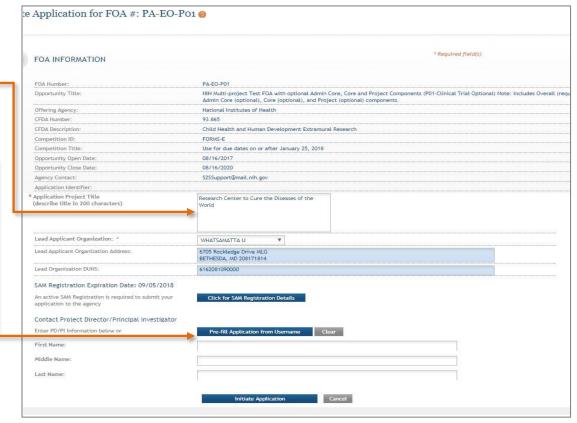
Select Go

Welcome to the Application Submission System & Interface for Submission Tracking (ASSIST)

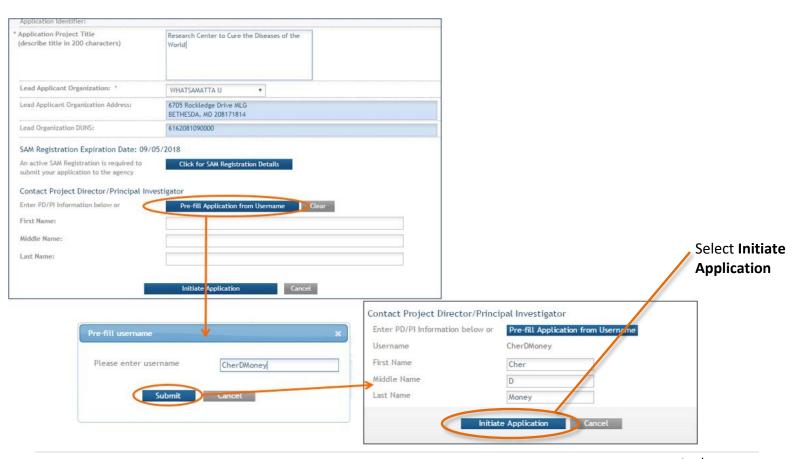


Complete the application information

- Title may be changed later
- Populate the PI name from his/her eRA Commons ID (recommended)



Populating the PI name

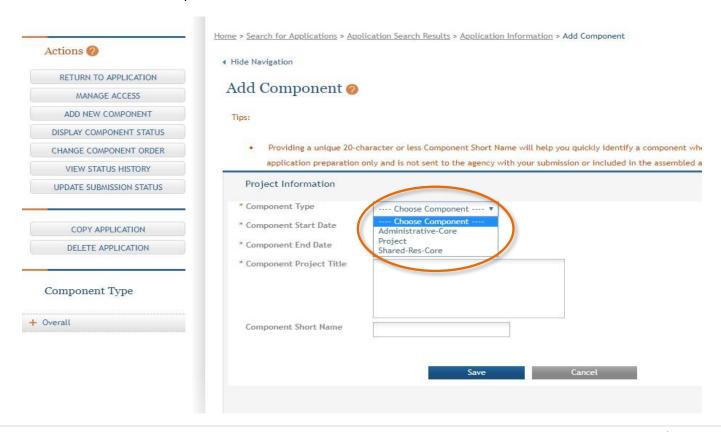


To add Components, select Add New Component



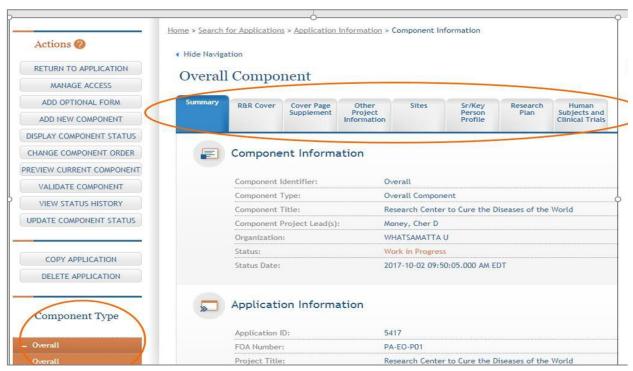
Select the Component Type, Dates and enter the Project Title

Continue for all Components

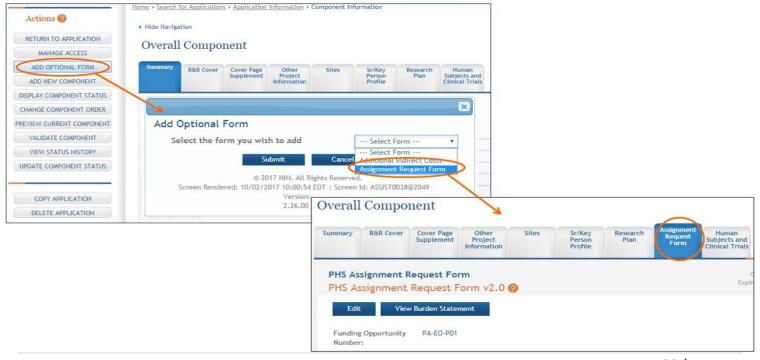


Enter and Save Info for Components

- Select the Component
- Select each tab (within the Component) to access the associated screens
- Actions are dependent on the Component type
 - Some actions are only available on the Summary tab.
 - For example, **Update Component Status** is only available if you return to the **Summary**.

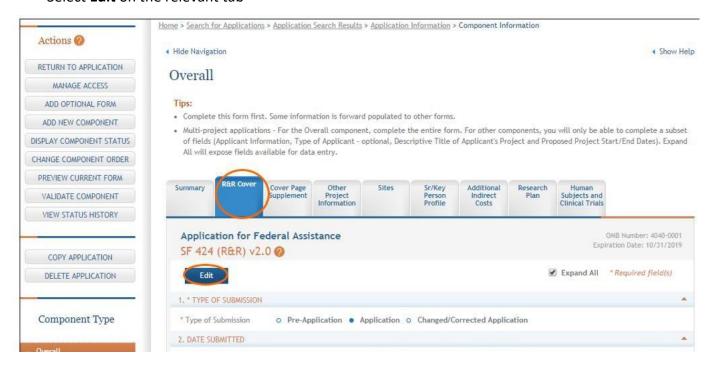


If needed, select Add Optional Form (subaward budget, assignment requests)



Add date to form fields and upload documents

Select Edit on the relevant tab



Note: Choosing **Edit** locks out other users from the page.

 Additional users can make changes to other pages, but two users cannot edit a single page at the same time.

Save

- Select Save and Keep Lock if continuing to work on that page
- Select Save and Release Lock if leaving that page

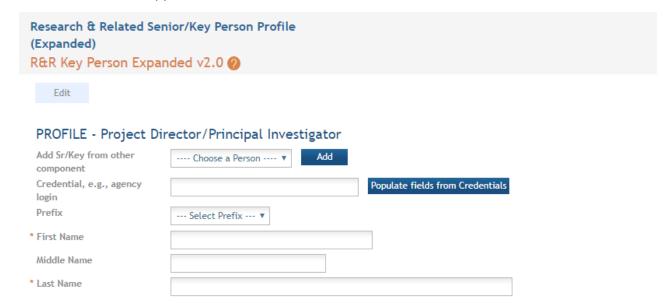


Enter Senior Personnel

- Only the PI(s) will be listed in the Overall section under Senior/Key Personnel.
- Personnel can be listed as senior in more than one component.
- A PI can be listed as PI and also as a Component Lead.



- Each component will have one lead.
 - Leads of components are not considered PIs.
 - Component leads should be given the role of Project Lead or Core Lead.
 - You can also designate a co-lead for a component.
 - Co-leads should be given the role of **Core Co-Lead** or **Project Co-Lead**.
 - A multi-PI plan is not needed for individual components, even when co-leads are listed.
 - The multi-PI plan is only required for the overall, and only if more than one PI is designated to lead the entire center.
 - Check the FOA to ensure multi-PI applications are allowable before adding more than one PI to the overall application.



- Biosketches are only uploaded once for each person in the application.
 - If professor B is listed as a project lead and also a core investigator, only upload the biosketch in one of the two components.
 - The application will compile all biosketches at the beginning of the application upon submission.

- PI biosketches should be uploaded in the Overall section.
 - Otherwise, they will not appear first in the compiled biosketch section.
- **ERA commons IDs** are needed for all key personnel.
 - Check IDs carefully for accuracy to avoid errors upon submission.
- Many multi-component projects have external or internal advisory committees. These individuals can
 be included in the senior personnel section as Other Significant Contributors, which allows inclusion of
 their biosketches.
 - This role means they have no defined effort, so no **Other support** will be requested for them at JIT, and commitment of effort won't be required.
 - Any other role requires effort.
 - These individuals could be optionally included in the personnel section of the budget justification, preferably under a header "Other significant contributors" but they should not be entered on the budget and no effort should be listed for them in the justification.

Budget

- You will need to type in the Overall Budget Request on the cover page.
 - ASSIST does not auto-populate this field.
 - o To ensure you have the exact total, **Preview Application**.
 - See preview instructions below.
- The Overall Component does not have a budget.
 - The system will create an overall budget summary upon preview/submission.
- Escalations are usually cut at time of award on large center grants. If there is a budget limit, SPO recommends not escalating salary or benefits to avoid automatic cuts.
- Fill in each component budget in as you would for a detailed R01 budget.

Performance Sites / Other Project Info

Performance Sites

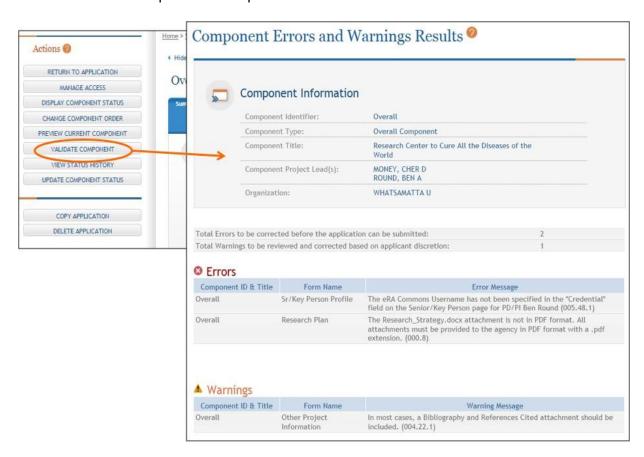
- In the Overall only enter the primary place of performance (UCD).
- ASSIST requires inclusion of 4 additional digits after the Zip Code (Zip+4).
 - Use the <u>USPS Zip Code Lookup</u>
- Add any subaward performance sites to any component they are participating in.

Other Project Information

- The Other Project Information form on the Overall will reflect a summary of the individual components.
 - For example, if Human Subjects is yes on any of the components, it should be "yes" on the Overall
- Some form fields on the individual components will not be active.
 - For example, the UC Davis human subjects assurance number can only be entered on the Overall.

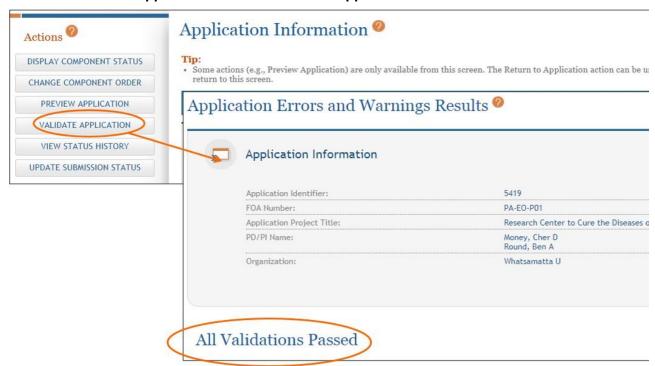
ASSIST: Validate the Application

- For each Component select Validate Component
- **Note:** You cannot validate until every required document is uploaded.
- Therefore, it may be prudent to upload "placeholder" documents while a PI is still working on the scientific documents.
 - Because every upload in ASSIST must have a unique document title, you will need to use Placeholder 1, Placeholder 2, etc.
 - We recommend using "placeholder" or prefacing the document with DRAFT to avoid losing track of final vs. placeholder uploads.



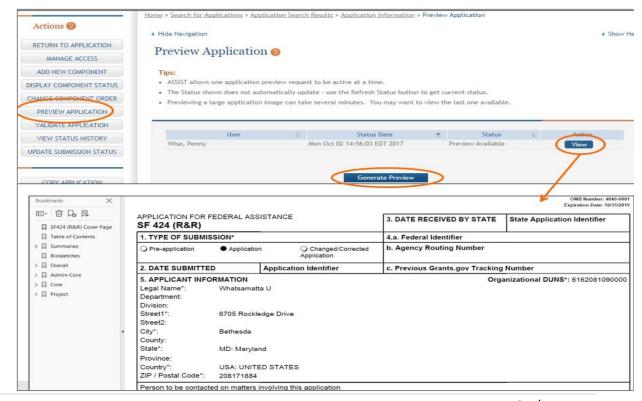
ASSIST: Validate the Application Package

Choose Return to Application and then Validate Application



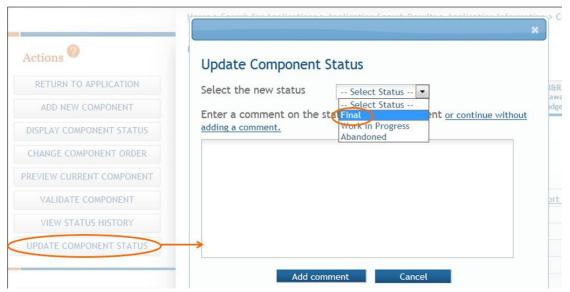
ASSIST: Preview the Application Package

- SelectPreviewApplication
- SelectGeneratePreview
- Select View

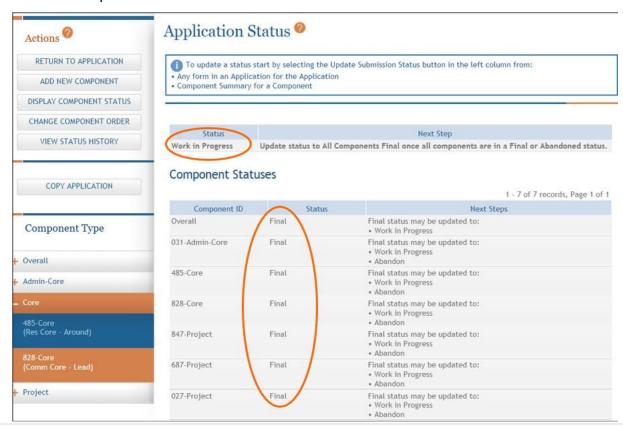


ASSIST: Finalize the Application Package

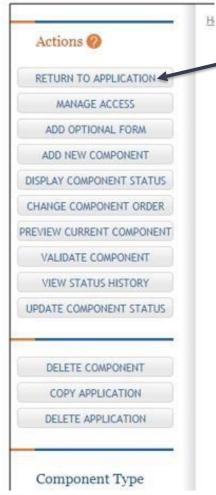
- **IMPORTANT:** Do not finalize the application until SPO conducts a final review.
 - o As indicated earlier, build in time (received 10-14 days ahead of deadline) for SPO final review.
- Once SPO gives the go-ahead, Select Update Component Status
- Change the status to Final



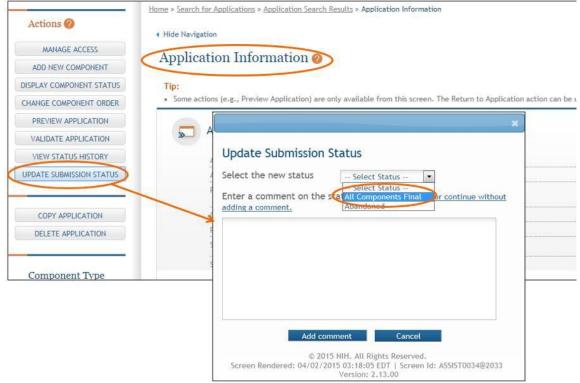
Ensure all Components are in Final status



• Return to the application to finalize the Overall Application



- Select Update Submission Status
- Select All Components Final
 - Once this is done, the application is no longer editable.
 - If SPO has not yet approved and additional edits are required, the entire finalization process has to be reversed, which is time consuming.



- Then select Ready for Submission
- SPO will submit to NIH

