

NIH LRP Application Technical Assistance Webinar Questions and Answers

1. **Are there funded applications we can use for reference?**

Unfortunately, we do not provide sample applications from previous years. However, you may check with colleagues who have received the LRP. You can also request to be connected to a LRP Ambassador via email to lrp@nih.gov.

2. **Who should I contact if I don't know if I'm a mentored research scientist or an independent researcher?**

Generally, NIH defines a mentored scientist (versus an independent scientist) as one that is being funded by another investigator's grant. However, it is best to contact the Program Officer at the Institute/Center that most closely aligns to your research for further guidance.

3. **Where can I get an eRA Commons ID?**

Contact the eRA Service Desk at 1-866-504-9552. You can also check out their website for further information: https://era.nih.gov/commons/faq_commons.cfm

Please also contact your Institutional Business Official for additional guidance.

4. **Which loans will the LRP repay?**

Educational loans that are in forbearance and deferment are eligible. Loans that are paid in full and are currently delinquent or defaulted are ineligible. However, delinquent or defaulted loans that have been rehabilitated and are in current status are eligible. The priority in which loans are paid is

- Loans guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Loans guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Education
- Loans made or guaranteed by a state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory or possession of the U.S.
- Loans made by academic institutions
- Private Educational Loans

Please consult our website (www.lrp.nih.gov) for further information.

5. **Do figures, graphs, legends, etc. count toward the character count?**

Yes, everything you include in your document counts towards the character count.

6. **Do renewal applicants have to meet the 20% debt to income ratio?**

No, this ratio only applies to new applicants.

7. **Who should I pick as my Institutional Business Official?**

This must be someone who can speak on behalf of the institution, provide your salary information, and certify that you will be engaging in at least 20 hours of research a week. Common examples of Institutional Business Officials are Deans and administrative officials in HR.

8. **How many projects should I focus on in my Research Activities?**

Please contact the Program Officer listed as the Institute/Center that most closely aligns to your research for further guidance.

9. **What documents do my Mentor, Recommenders and Institutional Contact submit?**

- The Mentor provides the Research Environment, Research Training and Mentoring Plan Biosketch, and an optional Secondary Biosketch.
- The Recommenders and Institutional Business Official complete forms provided directly through their online portals.

10. **How many years of funded research must you have in order to be eligible?**

You must be able to commit at least 2 years of research, from the contract start date, to be eligible. This year, the contract is from July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018.