

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the stimulus package) provides funding for research, instrumentation, and infrastructure, including \$10.8 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and \$3 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF). These stimulus package funds must be allocated and spent by September 30, 2010. Complete details about how the funding will be distributed have not been finalized.

Research Grant Submissions:

NIH:

Approximately \$8 billion will be distributed through one of three programs:

1. Previously Submitted Grant Applications

If in the past year you submitted an NIH research application which was reviewed as scientifically meritorious but fell below the funding level, your application may be eligible to receive up to two years of funding through the stimulus package. You should consider submitting immediately any supplemental information (new data, publications, etc.) to your NIH program officer.

2. Supplementing Existing Grants

It is not yet known how this process will occur. However, the monies will have to be spent within a two year period.

3. NIH Challenge Grant Program

Outlines of the challenge grant program are being developed.

NSF:

Approximately \$2 billion will go to research grants distributed through NSF's regular peer review process. The National Science Board met on February 23 and 24 to determine how much of this money will fund new or existing research projects. An [NSF spokeswoman](#) quoted by EETimes.com said that the NSF would provide details about plans for spending and oversight soon after the board meeting.

Shared Instrumentation Grant Requests:

Shared instrumentation is specifically identified as part of the stimulus package. NIH plans include \$300 million for shared instrumentation and other capital equipment for research. At NSF, the stimulus package provides \$300 million to the Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program of competitively awarded instrumentation grants for university researchers. It is essential that faculty interested in applying for shared instrumentation grants such as the NSF MRI program or the NIH instrumentation program first contact their research dean to assure that these requests reflect their school's priorities.

Specific funding levels, number of awards, or timeframes for solicitations are not known at this time.

For more information about stimulus appropriations for research and development, please check <http://www.aaas.org/spp/rd/stim09c.htm> to read the AAAS analysis of the final FY2009 stimulus package.