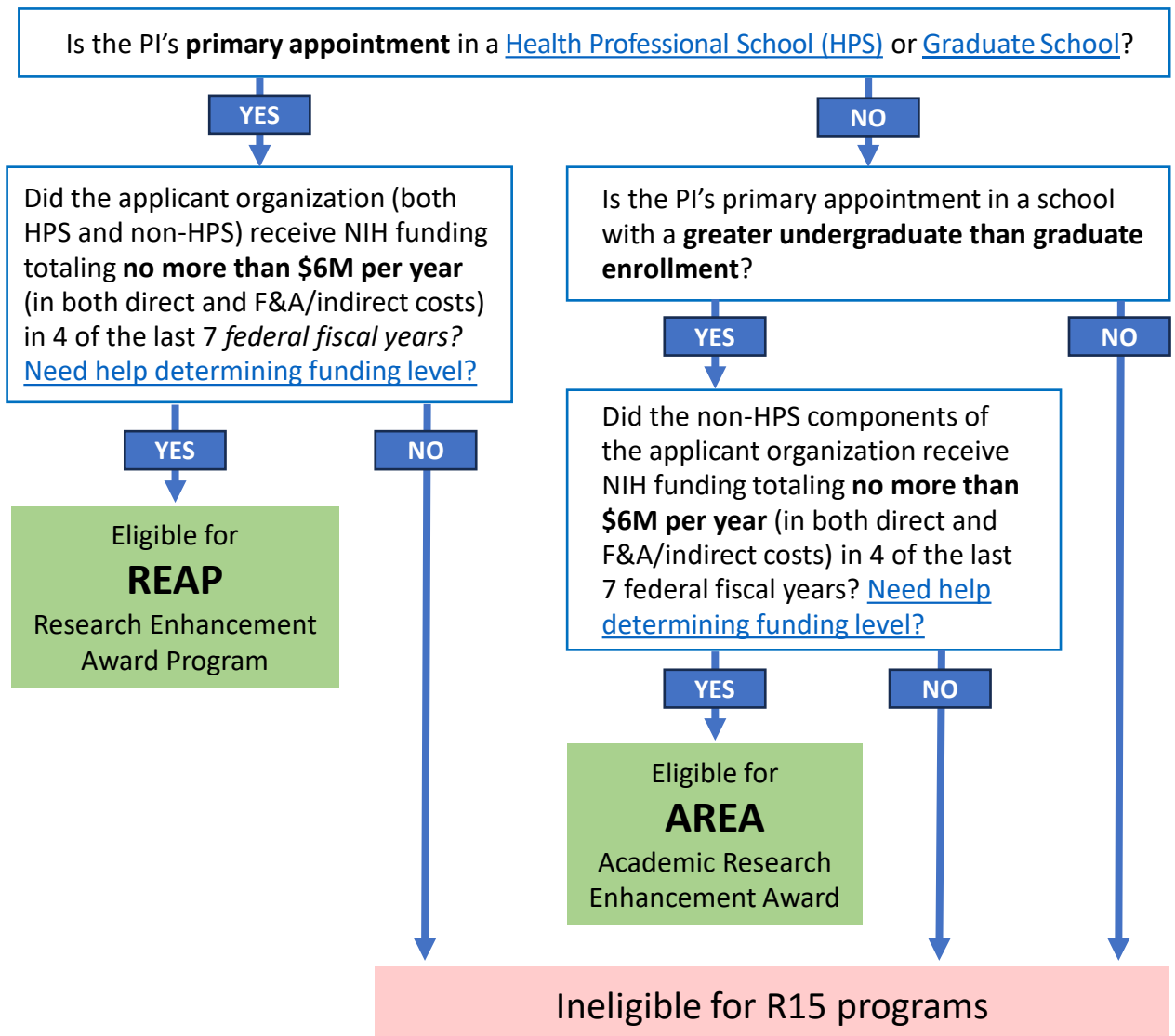# Is one of the R15 programs (REAP or AREA) right for me?

There are two NIH Research Enhancement Award (R15) programs:

1. Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP) for Health Professional Schools and Graduate Schools
   - PAR-22-060 - REAP, Clinical Trial Not Allowed; PAR-21-357 - REAP, Clinical Trial Required

2. Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) for Undergraduate-Focused institutions
   - PAR-24-152 - AREA, Clinical Trial Not Allowed; PAR-24-214 - AREA, Clinical Trial Required

Each R15 funding opportunity includes detailed organization and Principal Investigator (PI) eligibility information. All eligibility criteria must be met to qualify, including the requirement that the PI not have any other active research grants at time of award.

Use the decision tree below to identify a potential fit, then check the appropriate notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) to confirm full eligibility. Find an accessible text decision tree below the graphic.

R15 Eligibility Decision Tree

Is the PI's **primary appointment** in a Health Professional School (HPS) or Graduate School?

YES

Did the applicant organization (both HPS and non-HPS) receive NIH funding totaling **no more than $6M per year** (in both direct and F&A/indirect costs) in 4 of the last 7 *federal fiscal years?* Need help determining funding level?

YES

Eligible for
REAP
Research Enhancement Award Program

NO

NO

Is the PI's primary appointment in a school with a **greater undergraduate than graduate enrollment**?

YES

NO

Did the non-HPS components of the applicant organization receive NIH funding totaling **no more than $6M per year** (in both direct and F&A/indirect costs) in 4 of the last 7 federal fiscal years? Need help determining funding level?

YES

Eligible for
AREA
Academic Research Enhancement Award

NO

Ineligible for R15 programs

R15 Eligibility Decision Tree (Text Version)

Follow these steps to determine R15 eligibility:

1. Is the PI's **primary appointment** in a [Health Professional School (HPS)](#) or [Graduate School](#)?
     - If yes, continue to Step 2 below**.**
     - If no, continue to Step 3 below.

2. Did the applicant organization (both HPS and non-HPS) receive NIH funding totaling **no more than $6 million per year** (in both direct and F&A/indirect costs) in 4 of the last 7 federal fiscal years? Find [help determining your funding level](#).
     - If yes, the applicant is eligible for the **Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP). End.**
     - If no, the applicant is ineligible for R15 programs. **End.**

3. Is the PI's primary appointment in a school with a **greater undergraduate than graduate enrollment**?
     - If yes, continue to Step 4.
     - If no, the applicant is ineligible for R15 programs. **End.**

4. Did the non-HPS components of the applicant organization receive NIH funding totaling **no more than $6 million per year** (in both direct and F&A/indirect costs) in 4 of the last 7 federal fiscal years? Find [help determining your funding level](#).
     1. If yes, the applicant is eligible for the **Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) End.**
     2. If no, the applicant is ineligible for R15 programs. **End.**

   Learn more about [NIH Research Enhancement Award (R15)](#) programs.