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**
      - Is the PI’s primary appointment in a school with a greater undergraduate than graduate enrollment?
        - **YES**
          - 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
        - **NO**
          - Ineligible for R15 programs

- **NO**
  - Is the PI’s primary appointment in a school with a greater undergraduate than graduate enrollment?
    - **YES**
      - 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
    - **NO**
      - Ineligible for R15 programs

National Institutes of Health 2024-05-10
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.