

Inside the IRP

Our Review Process: A Step-by-Step Guide

The Intramural Research Program (IRP) is the nation's biomedical research enterprise, with 1,100 Principal Investigators and more than 4,000 postdoctoral fellows conducting basic, translational, and clinical research. To ensure that only the most outstanding research is funded, IRP researchers are evaluated both on accomplishments since their last review and on proposed plans for future research.

IRP researchers are reviewed using a rigorous set of evaluation criteria:



Significance



Approach



Innovation



Environment



Support



Training

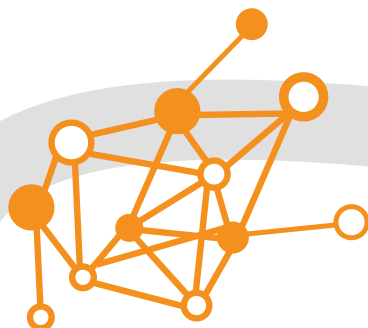


Productivity



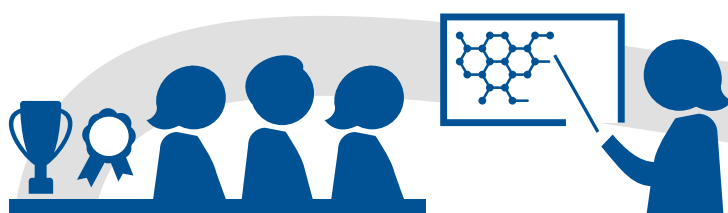
Mentoring

IRP researchers are usually reviewed every



IRP researchers are reviewed on the entirety of their research program

IRP reviews are largely retrospective



IRP researchers are reviewed by **Boards of Scientific Counselors (BSCs)**, external individuals with outstanding scientific credentials who are committed to providing rigorous, objective reviews



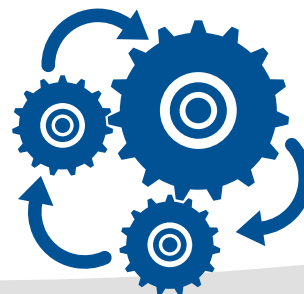
Scientific experts conduct **in-person site visits** to evaluate the quality of work of the individual Principal Investigator



The Principal Investigator may also be evaluated **in the context of the overall portfolio** of the Institute or Center



Final BSC recommendations are presented to the Scientific Director (SD), who reports these to the NIH Deputy Director for Intramural Research (DDIR) and the Institute Council. Subsequently, the SD determines **funding levels, staffing, and promotions**



Rigorous reviews are critical for planning and to ensure that only the **most outstanding research** is funded. If a program fails to meet expectations, funds are redeployed