

May 2021 Newsletter
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NIH COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS AND GRANTEES

Guidance for various aspects of research and grant application processes, as well as FAQs and COVID-19 funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 UPDATES HISTORY WEBPAGE

Relevant updates for applicants and grantees by date can be found [here](#).

FAQ DOCUMENT ON COVID-19 FLEXIBILITIES

Policies and programs affecting the grants process can be found [here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPECIFIC TO COVID-19

A list of active and expired funding opportunities across NIH related to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 research can be found [here](#).

HHS COVID-19 AWARDS TRACKING WEBSITE

The HHS COVID-19 award tracking website, including data on awards made by all HHS awarding agencies with supplemental appropriations, can be found [here](#).

NIH COVID-19 RESEARCH WEBSITE

A new website provides a central location for trusted, up-to-date, accurate information about research and the NIH's strategic role in COVID-19 research. Read more [here](#).

CBD COMPANIES LAG ON TESTING

According to a Leaf Report, a quarter of CBD brands do not test their products for contaminants at all, and only 13 percent of brands tested nearly all of their products for purity. Read more [here](#).

NIH ESTABLISHES STANDARD THC UNIT TO BE USED IN RESEARCH

On May 7, NIDA, along with the National Cancer Institute; the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; and the National Institute of Mental Health, published a notice in the NIH Guide directing researchers funded by these institutes to measure and report their findings from clinical research on cannabis using a standard unit of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) of 5 milligrams. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

WYDEN SAYS FDA RULES OVERDUE ON HEMP CBD

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) introduced a bipartisan bill to require the Food and Drug Administration to regulate hemp-derived CBD like other products used in food, beverages and dietary supplements. Read more [here](#).

CANNABIS AND RACIAL JUSTICE

One year after George Floyd was murdered, the Brookings Institution examined how cannabis policy plays into broader issues of police reform and racial justice. Read more [here](#).

CANNABIS AND OPIOIDS

Researchers in Alberta, Canada looked into how medical cannabis affected opioid use from 2013 to 2018 in a new paper published in BMC Public Health. Read more [here](#).

TEMPORARY SCHEDULING ORDER OF SYNTHETIC FENTANYL EXTENDED

On May 6th, President Biden signed into law H.R. 2630, which extends the Temporary Scheduling Order of Synthetic Fentanyl until October 22, 2021. Read more [here](#).

POSITIVE MARIJUANA TESTS ARE UP AMONG U.S. WORKERS

The share of U.S. workers testing positive for marijuana increased last year, according to data from Quest Diagnostics. Some employers have stopped testing for marijuana altogether amid the shifting legal and social landscape. Read more [here](#).

HOUSE NIH BUDGET HEARING

On May 25, the House Committee on Appropriations Labor HHS Subcommittee held a hearing on the FY 2022 Budget Request for the NIH. NIDA Director Dr. Nora Volkow joined NIH Director Dr. Collins and other NIH Institute and Center Directors in testifying before the subcommittee. To watch the hearing click [here](#).

SENATE NIH BUDGET HEARING

On May 26, the Senate Committee on Appropriations Labor HHS Subcommittee held a hearing on the FY 2022 Budget Request for the NIH. Find more information [here](#).

NIDA CHALLENGE: MAPPING PATIENT JOURNEYS IN DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT

NIDA has launched the “Mapping Patient Journeys in Drug Addiction Treatment” Challenge to challenge applicants to create a ‘journey map’ to show the good and bad experiences people with substance use disorder have when navigating the healthcare system to get treatment. Submissions will enable NIDA to focus research efforts into alleviating those areas of difficulty. Submissions are due September 22. Read more [here](#).

PRESIDENTS FISCAL 2022 BUDGET RELEASED

On May 28, the White House released the text of President Biden’s FY22 proposed budget. For NIH, the budget proposes \$45.453 billion or a \$2.517 billion increase in FY 2022, and \$1.853 billion, \$372 million over FY21, for the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), including \$405.5 million for HEAL. Read more [here](#).