Grant Title: RESEARCH ON AUTISM AND AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (R01/R03/R21)

Funding Opportunity Number: PA-10-158, PA-10-159, PA-10-160. CFDA Number(s): 93.242, 93.865, 93.173, 93.113, 93.853, 93.361, 93.213.

Agency/Department: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS).

Area of Research: Research regarding autism and autism spectrum disorders.


Application Deadline: R01-New: February 5, June 5, October 5, annually; Renewal, resubmission, revision: March 5, July 5, November 5. R03, R21-New: February 16, June 16, October 16 annually; Renewal, resubmission, revision: March 16, July 16, November 16.

Amount: R01: Typically under $500,000 per year in direct costs; if request equals or exceeds $500,000, prior approval is required; R03: $50,000 per year; maximum of $100,000 over a 2 year period; R21: $275,000 direct costs for the 2 year period with no more than $200,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year.

Length of Support: R01: Up to 5 years; R03, R21: 2 years.

Eligible Applicants: Public and State controlled institutions of higher education. See the full announcement for a complete list of eligible applicants.

Summary: The purpose of this FOA is to encourage research grant applications to support research designed to elucidate the etiology, epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and optimal means of service delivery in relation to autism spectrum disorders (ASD). This FOA is intended to support the broad research goals of the Strategic Plan for ASD Research. Autism Spectrum Disorders share a cluster of impairments in reciprocal social interaction, communication, and the presence of stereotyped behavior, interests, or activities. These complex disorders are usually of lifelong duration and affect multiple aspects of development, learning, and adaptation at home, in school, and in the community, thus representing a pressing public health need. The etiologies of these disorders are not yet understood, but may include a combination of genetic, metabolic, immunologic, or infectious or other environmental influences. Clinical research involving these disorders requires well-integrated, multi-disciplinary, methodologically-rigorous scientific approaches and access to a sufficient number of well-characterized patients with these disorders. Basic research into the pathophysiology of autism and autism spectrum disorders, including research on brain mechanisms and genetics, is of special interest. Also of high priority are clinical and applied investigations that may lead to the development of diagnostic research instruments, treatments, and interventions. Specific areas of interest thus include epidemiology, early identification and diagnosis, genetic studies, brain mechanisms, communication skills, cognitive neuroscience, psychosocial (behavioral) interventions, pharmacological and other biological interventions, and support and rehabilitative services across the life-span.