



Jan 8, 2025

Administration Update

Updated UAMS Research Space Utilization Guidelines

The **UAMS Research Space Utilization Guidelines** are designed to ensure the optimal use of research facilities while supporting the continued growth of research initiatives. The guidelines provide a framework for the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation (VCRI) in managing and allocating research and office spaces. A Research Space Committee, composed of representatives from various departments and colleges, will advise the VCRI on space-related decisions.

[Access the Full Guidelines Here!](#)

Biomed Building I Renovation Update

This week, contractors are removing the existing floor covering on the 1st floor of Biomed I. They are using specialized machinery for this task. The equipment is designed for work in confined spaces and is equipped with several filters. However, if anyone notices fumes, it is likely due to the machine starting up or shutting down.

If you experience any issues, please contact Paul Browning, Building Manager, at RBrowning2@uams.edu or 501.686.8899

UAMS in the News

If you missed the media coverage from KATV and the Democrat-Gazette regarding Craig Forrest, Ph.D., and his grant to study viruses that can trigger cancer, please see the links below:

[Full KATV Coverage](#)
[Democrat-Gazette](#)

Funding Opportunities

RFA-DP-25-126: Prevention Research Centers Special Interest Projects

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) invites applications from CDC Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research Centers (PRCs), funded under RFA-DP-24-004, to apply for supplemental funding to conduct Special Interest Research Projects (SIPs) to inform public health practice.

The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is for awarded PRCs to conduct high-quality applied health promotion and disease prevention research projects in real-world settings to identify, design, test, evaluate, disseminate, and translate interventions (i.e., programs, practices, policies, or strategies) to prevent and reduce risk for the leading causes of illness, disability, and death in the United States.

Key details, dates, submission instructions, and NOFO access are available here:

[RFA-DP-25-126](#)

Title: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research Centers: 2025 Special Interest Project Competitive Supplements (SIPS)

Published: December 12, 2024

Application Deadline: February 28, 2025

[View NOFO \(grants.gov\)](#)

[Visit PRC Website](#)

Limited Competition: Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program

We are pleased to announce a limited competition call for a [HRSA funding opportunity](#). If you are interested in applying, please submit a brief description of your project plan by **January 10** through the [limited submission portal](#).

Opportunity Title: [Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program](#)

Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Purpose: This community-based grant program aims to support organizations to promote rural health care services outreach by improving and expanding the delivery of health care services to include new and enhanced services in rural areas. To achieve this purpose, the program also aims to strengthen local resources and capacity in rural communities. Through collaborative consortiums that include three or more health care providers, each community can develop innovative approaches to solve their own unique challenges and factors underlying rural health disparities.

Key Dates:

- **Funding Agency Application Due:** January 27, 2025
- **Internal Application Due:** January 10, 2025

For questions, please contact Mohamed O. Elasri, Ph.D., at MOElasri@uams.edu

WHAT'S NEW

Changes for NIH applications due on or after January 25, 2025:

NIH Forms-I replaces Forms-H

The Forms-I application forms must be used for application due dates on or after January 25, 2025. See [NOT-OD-24-086](#) for more information and view this [blog post](#) for additional resources.

Simplified Framework for NIH Peer Review implemented for most research project grants

See [NOT-OD-24-010](#) and [NOT-OD-24-085](#)

The Simplified Framework for NIH Peer Review initiative reorganizes the 5 regulatory criteria (Significance, Investigators, Innovation, Approach, Environment; [42 C.F.R. Part 52h.8](#)) into 3 factors: Factors 1 and 2 will receive numerical criterion scores; and Factor 3 will be evaluated for sufficiency. All 3 factors will be considered in arriving at the overall impact score. The reframing of the criteria serves to focus reviewers on 3 central questions: How important is the proposed research, how rigorous and feasible are the methods, and whether the investigators and institution have the expertise/resources necessary to carry out the project.

Factor 1: Importance of the Research (Significance, Innovation), scored 1-9

Factor 2: Rigor and Feasibility (Approach), scored 1-9

Factor 3: Expertise and Resources (Investigator, Environment), evaluated for sufficiency

Additional resources:

[NIH Extramural Nexus Open Mike blog post](#)

[Simplifying Review of Research Project Grant Applications](#)

Workshops/Events



Eric C. Peterson, Ph.D.
Interim President,
BioVentures LLC
Associate Professor,
Pharmacology and Toxicology

12–1 p.m. Jan. 14, 2025
Virtual Seminar

Bridging the Gap: Translational Research and the Role of Technology Transfer

[Click to Join!](#)

Dr. Eric C. Peterson is an expert in technology development and innovation, leading efforts to translate research discoveries into commercial ventures. With a strong background in antibody nanotechnology and gene therapy for drug use disorder treatments, he holds multiple patents in these fields. His work focuses on bridging academic research with economic development, fostering collaborations and startups to advance UAMS's impact in the biomedical sector.

NIH: Raising a Resilient Scientist (RRS) Series

The NIH Office of Intramural Training & Education (OITE) is offering the **Raising a Resilient Scientist (RRS)** series for faculty, staff scientists, and administrators who mentor students and postdocs in the biomedical, behavioral, and social sciences. This series, starting January 27, 2025, will focus on communication, problem-solving, and promoting mental health and well-being in high-pressure academic environments.

Registration is required—participation in the full series is encouraged but not mandatory. For more details and to register, please visit [this webpage](#).

Important Date:

Jan. 10, 2025

Student Research Day Poster Submission Deadline: [Click for More Information](#)

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