

## NewsFlash!

**Announcement:** On January 30<sup>th</sup>, The National Institutes of Health (NIH) released notice [NOT-OD-15-062](#), allowing for the preparation and submission of Small Research Grant (R03) and Exploratory/Developmental Grant (R21) applications using [ASSIST](#), NIH's on-line system for the preparation and submission of grant applications. Previously, each R03 and R21 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) posted in the NIH [Guide for Grants & Contracts](#) contained an 'Apply for Grant Electronically' button that merely brought applicants to Grants.gov to download an application forms package. Now, R03 and R21 FOAs include the following two buttons:

- Apply Online Using ASSIST
- Apply Using Downloadable Forms

Use of ASSIST is *optional* as Grants.gov downloadable forms and institutional system-to-system solutions remain viable options for application preparation and submission to NIH.

*Please note that ASSIST is not available for R21/R33 Phased Innovation Award applications at this time.*

**Questions?** If you have additional questions, please contact the [Contracts and Grants Officer](#) assigned to your unit.