

From Dick Marchase:

FASEB Board and SPC Members, FASEB Society Presidents, Society Executives, and Public Affairs Staff:

I have just finished speaking with Raynard Kington, Acting Director of the NIH, and he has given me the basic outline of how NIH will allocate the new funding from the stimulus bill:

As we know, the legislation provided a total of \$10.4 billion. Of this sum, 1.3 billion will go to NCCR (\$1 billion for competitive extramural facilities; \$300 million for shared instrumentation). Another \$500 million goes to intramural facilities and \$400 million gets transferred to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

A total of \$8.2 billion goes to the NIH Office of the Director, of which \$7.4 billion is transferred to the I/Cs with \$800 million remaining in OD for trans-NIH initiatives.

Here is the basic outline of how the \$8.2 billion will be spent. There will be three major mechanisms with the bulk of the funding going to mechanisms 1 and 2:

1. R01 applications already in the funding queue

Two years of funding will be provided for those applications that can benefit from two years of funding and align with I/C priorities. A few applications may get four years of funding

2. Administrative Supplements to existing grants

Existing grants with at least one year to run may be given the opportunity or asked to submit supplements that further the goals of the I/Cs. These will be handled at least in part by requests from the I/Cs and likely with some calls for proposals and could involve equipment, extended funds for postdocs who were not able to move to their own position, summer students, related projects, etc. There may be other priority issues that the I/C staff want to see funded

3. Challenge Grants

A new RFA will be released within a week or two for a new, two-year program of cross-cutting, highly innovative projects, \$1 M total per project.

Mechanisms for the \$400 M for AHRQ are not yet finalized.

From what I have learned, this is excellent news. More information will be available shortly.