

News from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)¹

WHAT INFORMATION ABOUT THE NIGMS IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB? WHAT IS COMING NEXT?

Like many federal agencies, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) now has a home page on the World Wide Web (WWW), and it includes many of the institutes, such as the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). The NIH home page can be accessed by the URL <http://www.nih.gov>, or you can go directly to the NIGMS home page by typing <http://www.nih.gov/nigms>. The NIGMS home page contains several headings with information embedded in them, including:

—*About the NIGMS*, for an overview of the institute and its organizational divisions, and general budget information

—*News*, for announcements, reports, features, and stories of interest

—*Funding Information*, for program announcements, award mechanisms, selected grant programs, and application receipt dates

—*NIGMS Staff*, for current addresses, telephone and FAX numbers, and e-mail addresses for institute staff members

—*Visitor Information*, for maps of the NIH campus, Bethesda area, and the Metro transportation system

—*Science Education*, for publications for the lay public about the importance of basic scientific research

—*Resource Links*, for access to protein and nucleic acid databases, molecular coordinates, and organism databases on the Internet

Suppose you want to learn the name and telephone number of the program director at the NIGMS to talk to about your research. From the home page you can learn that the NIGMS is presently organized into six major divisions: the Division of Cell Biology and Biophysics; the Division of Genetics and Developmental Biology; the Division of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry; the Division of Minority Opportunities in Research; and the Division of Extramural Activities (which oversees all grant activities). Visit the NIGMS home page to learn more about the scientific areas supported by each division, as well as the people to contact for additional information.

Future offerings will be determined in part by the responses to the present information. Announcements of general interest, new scientific initiatives, additional PA and/or RFA calls for applications, reports of recent meetings, and newsworthy developments based upon research supported by the NIGMS will be posted on the NIGMS home page. There is a reply/comment form embedded in the home page for user feedback to the Webmaster, which you may use to suggest future home page topics. Interest in receiving further information and comments or questions regarding NIGMS's programs can also be communicated to institute staff.

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¹ Future topics for this column: RFAs vs. PAs, block grants at the NIH?, small business grants, training opportunities
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