

One (And Maybe One More) Then Start Again New

Dr. Harold A. Scheraga at Cornell University holds one of the longest running R01 awards. In 2018, Dr. Gia Maisuradze and Dr. Shalom R Rackovsky joined Dr. Scheraga as multiple-PD/PIs on his grant titled “Internal Bonding of Proteins”:

(https://projectreporter.nih.gov/project_info_description.cfm?aid=9519304&icde=43917678&ddparam=&ddvalue=&ddsub=&cr=1&csb=GNSY&cs=DESC&pball=)

The most recent competing segment has a grant number of 2 R01 GM014312 62A1. There are two things of note in that grant number. First, it is in its 62nd year - that is an impressive run of funding by any measure. Second, it was the *resubmission* (A1) application that was funded, not the original *renewal*. Sometimes an application just needs some tweaking and, after addressing reviewer feedback, the subsequent *resubmission* application receives a favorable funding decision. It happens at all stages of a career - from a new investigator’s first application to *renewals* for our most distinguished investigators with long funding histories. With that in mind, it’s important to understand the *resubmission* rules.

Here are the basics ...

- Only a single resubmission (A1) of a competing new, revision or renewal application (A0) will be accepted.
- Following an unsuccessful *resubmission* (A1) application, applicants may submit the same idea as a *new* (A0) application for the next appropriate *new* application due date (see NOT-OD-18-197 for exceptions). <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-18-197.html>
- Resubmissions (A1s) must be submitted within 37 months of the last competing *new*, *revision*, or *renewal* (A0) application.

Where folks seem to get a little confused is when dealing with the steps following an unfunded *resubmission*.

If your *resubmission* of a *new* application is not awarded, you can try again as a *new* application. Remember, not to mention your previous submission or reviewer feedback anywhere in your application - not even the cover letter. By all means, make any changes necessary to address reviewer feedback and strengthen your application, just don’t explicitly point out what you changed or why. When you submit your *new* application, it will be treated like we’ve never seen it before - fresh application number and no comparisons to previous submissions.

Now, here is the tricky-bit. If your *resubmission* of a *renewal* application is not awarded, then you must come back in as a **new** application on a due date for *new* applications. You get the original *renewal* application (A0) and the single *resubmission* of the *renewal* (A1) and that is it. If neither application is awarded, you lose continuity with your previous award. Your *new* application can talk about your preliminary data and publications, but don’t frame it as your accomplishments on your specific aims or your productivity under the past award. Your *new* application must not include a Progress Report or Progress Report Publication List or mention that it follows your *resubmission* of a *renewal*.

Thankfully, Dr. Scheraga and his colleagues did not have to face this reality, but had their *resubmission* application not received funding, their next award would have been under a different grant number and in year 1, not 62.

For more information on this topic, check out our Resubmission Applications page.
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/amendedapps.htm>