NIH Applications Due in 2026:
Guide to the New Biosketch Rules and SciENcv Mandate

*Per **NOT-OD-26-018** from NIH*

❖ Step 1: If You Don't Have It Already....Get and Link Your ORCID iD

1. Visit **https://ORCID.org**
2. Create an account and set up your profile
3. Add employment, education, funding, and prior works, as appropriate
4. Once your ORCID iD is active, you must **link it to your eRA Commons account** so it can be pulled into SciENcv. Navigation is simple: log in to eRA Commons → Personal Profile → "Create or Connect your ORCID iD." *This step is critical as it allows SciENcv uses ORCID to import your works and professional information*.

❖ Step 2: Create Your New Biosketch in SciENcv

Starting in 2026, SciENcv is the only accepted platform for generating NIH biosketches.

1. Go to **https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciencv/**
2. Log in using your eRA Commons credentials
3. Click **"+ New Document"**
4. Choose **"NIH Biographical Sketch Common Form"**
5. If desired, select a data source: ORCID or eRA Commons works best for auto-importing your information. Otherwise, "Start with a Blank Document."
6. You'll then complete two parts:

Part 1: Biographical Sketch Common Form (NEW). This replaces several components of the old biosketch.

- **Professional Preparation:** Formerly "Education/Training," now listed in reverse chronological order.
- **Appointments & Positions:** Include academic or professional positions from the **past three years**, also in reverse chronological order.
- **Products:** This is where citations now belong:
    - Up to **5 products most closely related to the proposed project** (*these are analogous to the citations you previously included within your Personal Statement*)

    - Up to **5 other significant products** that demonstrate scientific contributions (*these are the ONLY citations you can directly reference within your Contributions to Science section*)
- You may reference these items later in your narratives—but **citations appear only here**, not in the Supplement.

Part 2: NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement (NEW). The NIH will continue collecting three key narrative components, but now they live in a *separate* supplement attached to the Common Form.

- **Personal Statement (max 3,500 characters):** Similar to previous format but with updated rules:
    - No citations allowed
    - You *may* reference Products listed in the Common Form
    - You can highlight relevant ongoing or recently completed research (last 3 years)
- **Honors (up to 15 entries)**: A simple, concise list of awards or recognitions.
- **Contributions to Science (up to 5 narratives, 2,000 characters each):** Each should include:
    - Background framing the scientific question
    - Central findings
    - Impact on science, health, or technology
    - Your specific role
    - Optional references to the **Products** section. **Important**: No citations may appear in this section.

❖ **<u>Step 3: Certify Your Biosketch</u>**

A major new compliance requirement that **the investigator – *and only the investigator, NOT a delegate* – must certify the biosketch in SciENcv.** Certification affirms that:

- All information is current and accurate
- You are not a participant in a **Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program (MFTRP)**
- You have completed required research security training