



NIH eRA Commons Release Notes

**Version 2.2
December 06, 2002**

Introduction

This document describes the changes and enhancement made to the NIH eRA Commons system for the December 06, 2002 release. These release notes also include information on changes and enhancements made to modules accessed from the Commons.

Commons

Home Page

The home page content has been updated to indicate the addition of the IAR and FSR pilots.

Enhancements

The following enhancements have been added to the Commons.

Required Fields

The asterisks (*) denoting required fields have been enlarged to make them more visible.

Error Messages

Error messages have been reformatted to improve readability.

Face Page and Fellowship Face Page

Human subjects, animal subjects and PI phone number were added to the face pages. Additionally, the forms were reformatted for clarity.

Personal Profile Email Address

The email address that is used for notifications from the Commons system can now be edited on the Personal Information page. This email address is used when modifications to a user's account are made (such as resetting a password).

Reviewer Address Personal Profile Information

To support the needs of Internet Assisted Review a new address is available in the Personal Profile section. This address, called the Reviewer Address, allows a Commons user to specify the contact information associated with Internet Assisted Review. This is also the address used by NIH for Peer Review. Commons maintains this address, separate from Employments, to allow flexibility in defining a Reviewer Address. Employments will continue to be used for grant applications.

Issues Resolved in this Release

The following issues previously encountered have been resolved in the current release of Commons.

Institution Names

Institution Profile preferred institution names can now be up to 200 characters. Previously, there was a problem with names longer than 40 characters.

Type 5 Face Page Addresses

The complete AO address now appears on the Type 5 face page. Previously, the fifth line of the address was omitted.

Data in boxes 2c. and 2d. is now correctly populated from the database. Previously this information was omitted.

Tabbing Order on Commons Home Page

Pressing the Tab key now moves the cursor from the Username field to the Password field to the Login field.

416-9 Fellowship Progress Report

Incorrectly formatted text has been corrected to improve readability.

System Announcements

eRA Commons system announcements now appear on the Home page before logging in. Previously these messages could only be viewed after login.

Personal Information Page

State information on the Personal Information page can now be updated. Previously it was not always possible to select a state from the drop-down list of values.

Internet Assisted Review Module

A pilot version of Internet Assisted Review (IAR) has been added to the Commons. Registration is by invitation only from SRAs/GTAs. IAR allows reviewers to view and submit critiques and preliminary scores for applications they are reviewing.

Initially, two review sessions are being piloted with full deployment scheduled in the spring/summer of 2003. Further information about IAR can be found in the online help and in the module user guide, located at http://impacii.nih.gov/revdoc/IAR_Reviewer_User_Guide.pdf.

Financial Status Reports

A pilot version of Financial Status Reports (FSR) has been added to the Commons. FSR allows for the electronic submission of financial information associated with a grant. Further information about FSR can be found in the online help.

Electronic Simplified Non-competing Award Process

The following changes have been made to the electronic Simplified Non-competing Award Process (eSNAP) module.

Delegating Submit Authority

The new Delegate Submit Access page (ESP7026) allows the Signing Official (SO) of the grantee institution to delegate or remove submit (signing) authority to or from a principal investigator (PI). The PI who receives submit authority from the SO can then submit those eSNAP grants for which they are the PI to the NIH.

Recalling Forwarded eSNAP Grants

Reviewers can now recall eSNAP grants that they have forwarded to another reviewer and reset themselves as the current reviewer. This is useful in situations where an e-SNAP has been misrouted; either to the wrong person or to someone who is unavailable. This functionality has been added to the eSNAP Menu page (ESP7003).

Enhancements

The following enhancements have been added to the eSNAP module:

Editing Business Items

In addition to PIs and administrative officials (AOs), SOs can now edit business items.

Upload Science

The formerly labeled Edit Science page (ESP7022) is now called Upload Science.