

In September 2008, NIH announced its schedule to transition to the new electronic Adobe-based grant application forms ([Guide Notice #NOT-OD-08-117](#)). Most electronic submissions to NIH for receipt dates on or after January 1, 2009 will be required to use the new Adobe-based forms. Please see the full Adobe [transition timeline](#) for specific dates and details. If you are writing or renewing an electronic grant application, NOW is the time to prepare for the switch from PureEdge to Adobe.

The Adobe-based application forms will become available after the first week of December 2008. Applicants should download the new application forms from the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for which they are applying after December 5, 2008.

The new Adobe-based forms require very specific software. To ensure a smooth transition, everyone working on an application must download Adobe Reader version 8.1.3 or later – available at no cost from [Grants.gov](#) – to open and complete their application(s). **Non-compatible versions of Adobe Reader will prevent successful submission of your application to Grants.gov; make sure to install compatible software before you begin your application!**

Detailed information about the transition and additional resources can be found at the following links:

- [Resources for the Adobe Transition](#)
- [Electronic Application Process](#)
- [Grants.gov Applicant Resources](#)

NIH initially intended to accommodate multiple form changes during January's move to Adobe; however a delay in receipt of the revised forms has necessitated modifications to this plan. Thus, there will be two rounds of form updates. The first round will take place in December 2008 and will convert the present PureEdge forms to Adobe. The second round of updates will be implemented for receipt dates in May 2009 and beyond and will include the form changes listed in [Guide Notice # NOT-OD-08-073](#).

Applicants will need to return to their respective FOAs in March/April 2009 to download the latest version of the Adobe-based application forms for receipt dates of May 2009 and beyond.

Remember: Although the software has changed, the electronic submission process has NOT. The new Adobe forms will have the same look and feel as PureEdge forms, and the overall process of finding opportunities, preparing forms and submitting applications will remain the same.