

What does a Program Director do?

NINDS Program Directors are responsible for providing scientific leadership to promote the mission of the NINDS, which is to conduct, foster, coordinate, and guide research on the causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of neurological disorders, and to support research in related scientific areas. Examples of scientific leadership and responsibilities relative to the Neural Prosthetics area include, but are not limited to:

- Ensuring that Neural Prosthetics research and development activities meet the needs of NINDS.
- Identifying needs and developing new initiatives, such as contract, grant, or cooperative agreement funding opportunities, to address opportunities and gaps in knowledge in Neural Prosthetics.
- Making recommendations concerning funding of specific grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements in Neural Prosthetics.
- Working with potential applicants to identify research and development opportunities.
- Providing technical evaluation of progress towards milestones and deliverables in Neural Prosthetics contracts. The Program Director also provides recommendations to the Contracting Officer for continuing support in phased contract projects.
- Continuously assess the value and contributions of established initiatives and programs that impact Neural Prosthetics.
- Establishing effective collaborations among public, private, and academic sectors to execute NINDS initiatives and programs.
- Organizing workshops, conferences, and symposia to stimulate research in Neural Prosthetics.
- Addressing public and press inquiries concerning the state of research and impact of new findings related to Neural Prosthetics.

Program Directors are expected to maintain their professional expertise through activation participation in scientific meetings and peer-reviewed publications. While Program Directors often attend NIH review committee meetings, they remain silent during deliberations in accordance with NIH policy designed to eliminate any perception of bias.