The National Institutes of Health Has Controls to Mitigate the Risk That Grantees Receive Duplicate Grant Funding

What OIG Found
NIH’s internal controls were effective in ensuring that grantees did not receive duplicate funding. Specifically, the 116 grants in our sample did not duplicate other grant activities funded by NIH during our audit period.

NIH receives approximately 80,000 applications for grant funding each year. NIH checks all applications to identify instances of duplication. If duplication is discovered during the application phase, NIH resolves the overlap prior to awarding funds through communication with the applicant institution to ensure that the duplication is removed by adjusting the research plan, budget, or commitment of personnel, as necessary.

After it awards grants, NIH conducts post-award monitoring using data mining technology to identify awards with potential duplication. If similar awards are identified, subject matter experts review them to determine if there is any duplication. If actual duplication is identified, the duplicate award will be terminated and the identified duplicate funding will be returned to NIH.

What OIG Recommends
This report contains no recommendations.