

***From Pages 16-17 of the Grants Administration Policy:***

**F. Appeals of Scientific Review**

The applicant should carefully examine the review report provided by CIRM. Any questions about the conduct of the review must first be raised with the SRO responsible for the review meeting in question.

An applicant may then lodge a formal appeal of the review only if the applicant can show that a demonstrable financial or scientific conflict of interest had a negative impact on the review process and resulted in a flawed review. This shall be the only ground for appeal. Differences of scientific opinion between or among PIs and reviewers are not grounds for appeal.

To lodge an appeal, the applicant must submit an appeal request in writing to the SRO or to the Director of Scientific Activities within 30 days of CIRM's making the review report available to the applicant. CIRM staff will then assess the merit of the request in consultation with the chair of the GWG and present a recommendation to the President of CIRM. If the chair of the GWG has a financial or scientific conflict of interest with the application that is the subject of the appeal, as determined by ICOC policy adopted pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 125290.50(e), a different scientific member of the GWG who has no financial or scientific conflict of interest will be consulted. The President of CIRM will then make the final decision on the merit of the appeal.

If an appeal is meritorious, the application will receive a new review by the GWG. A recommendation based on the new review will then be presented to the ICOC, which will make the final decision on funding the application in question.