



To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO)  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: NIH, Bridges to the Baccalaureate Research Training (PAR-22-125)

Date: 7/14/2022

Dear UNM Researchers,

The goal of the **Bridges to the Baccalaureate Research Training Program (T34)** is to provide structured activities to prepare a diverse cohort of research-oriented students to transfer from associate degree-granting institutions to baccalaureate degree-granting institutions and complete a baccalaureate degree in disciplines related to the biomedical sciences. Diversity at all levels—the kinds of science, the regions where it is conducted, and the backgrounds of those conducting it—is integral to excellence in research training environments and strengthens the research enterprise. NIGMS expects that the proposed research training programs will incorporate didactic, research, mentoring, and career development elements. This program requires strong partnerships between **at least two** post-secondary educational institutions offering STEM degrees.

The **Overarching Objective** of the Program is to develop a diverse pool of research-oriented undergraduates who transition from an associate degree-granting institution to a baccalaureate degree-granting institution and complete a baccalaureate STEM degree, positioning them to pursue research-oriented biomedical higher degree programs, or enter careers in the biomedical research workforce. The long-term goal is to develop a diverse pool of well-trained biomedical scientists, who have the following technical, operational, and professional skills:

- A broad understanding across biomedical disciplines and the skills to independently acquire the knowledge needed to advance their chosen fields.
- Expertise in a biomedical scientific discipline and the skills to think critically/independently, and to identify important biomedical research questions/approaches that push the boundaries of their areas.
- A strong foundation in scientific reasoning, rigorous research design, experimental methods, quantitative and computational approaches, and data analysis and interpretation.
- The skills to conduct research in the safest manner possible, and a commitment to approaching and conducting biomedical research responsibly, ethically, and with integrity.
- Experience initiating, conducting, interpreting, and presenting rigorous and reproducible biomedical research with increasing self-direction.
- The ability to work effectively in teams with colleagues from a variety of cultural and scientific backgrounds, and to promote inclusive and supportive scientific research environments.
- The skills to teach and communicate scientific research methodologies and findings to a wide variety of audiences (e.g., discipline-specific, across disciplines, and the public); and

- The knowledge, professional skills, and experiences required to identify and transition into biomedical research careers.

**At least one partner must be an institution that offers the associate degree as the highest STEM degree and the other partner(s) must offer baccalaureate degrees in biomedically relevant STEM fields.** Upon completion of the program, trainees are expected to be well positioned to pursue research-oriented biomedical higher degree programs or enter careers in the biomedical research workforce. More details can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-22-125.html>. The deadline for submitting full proposals to the agency is **5:00pm MDT, September 26, 2022**.

This is a limited competition. **Each institution is limited to ONE application as lead.** Please submit your 3-page preproposal (plus budget and CV; 11-point font) by **NOON on Monday, August 1, 2022** via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). No late submissions will be considered.

The pre-proposal should address the major points that will be included in the proposal narrative, including a description of the proposed research education program and its academic partners, faculty, and student participants; an overview of student training activities; a description of the future vision and anticipated value of the proposed program to the institution; and an evaluation plan. The narrative should be accompanied by a **draft budget overview** and an **abbreviated PI CV**.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu).

*If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at [HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu](mailto:HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu) for more information.*