



To: Distribution List

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

Subject: Limited Competition: NIH, Advancing Research Careers (ARC) Institutionally-Focused Research Education Award to Promote Diversity (UE5 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (PAR 23-221)

Date: 11/28/2023

Dear UNM Researchers,

**The ARC Program** is part of NIH's efforts to promote diversity within the biomedical research workforce and is designed as a structured program to enhance participation of trainees from diverse backgrounds, for example individuals from underrepresented groups (see [Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity](#)), as they transition from predoctoral research training to postdoctoral research and career development activities. The overarching goal of the ARC UE5 program is to provide ARC F99 fellows/K00 scholars with professional skills and the appropriate mentoring and networks to allow them to transition into and succeed in postdoctoral research and career development opportunities, positioning them to advance in impactful careers in the biomedical research workforce that typically require postdoctoral training (e.g., academic research and teaching at a range of institution types, industry or government research).

To accomplish the stated overarching goal, this Notice of Funding Opportunity will support evidence-informed educational activities with a primary focus on:

- **Courses for Skills Development:** For example, activities focused on skills related to the career advancement of cohorts of ARC F99 fellows/K00 scholars. Support for short courses designed to enhance skills appropriate to transition into and advance in careers in the biomedical research workforce, e.g., communication skills, grant proposal preparation, scientific publishing, scientific writing, data management and visualization, leadership, project and people management, mentoring, managing career challenges and expectations, career advancement strategies, wellness and resiliency, and life-work balance. These activities could be in-person or provided electronically, synchronously or asynchronously.
- **Mentoring Activities:** One-on-one and group mentoring for professional and career development. Activities to enhance the mentoring networks of ARC scholars and prepare participants with a working knowledge of the opportunities and challenges associated with careers in the biomedical research workforce and how to identify and pursue desired career tracks. Activities to engage ARC F99/K00 primary research sponsors/mentors on how to effectively support the scholars in the program.

The award size may vary with the scope of the research education program proposed and there are no specific budget limitations; however, the average award size is expected to be \$400,000 in direct costs per year for up to five years. The requested direct costs must be reasonable, well documented, fully justified, and commensurate with the scope of the proposed program. Indirect costs are reimbursed at 8% of modified total direct costs (exclusive of tuition and fees and expenditures for equipment, and consortiums in excess of \$25,000), rather than on the basis of a negotiated rate agreement. More details can be found in the program solicitation: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-23-221.html>. The deadline for submitting full proposals to the agency is **January 29, 2024**.

This is a limited competition. **Each institution is limited to ONE application as lead.** If you are interested in applying to this program, please submit a statement of interest with a tentative project title and a brief description (200 words) by **NOON on December 5, 2023** via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered. Based on the number of responses received, the Limited Competitions Management Team may announce a call for pre-proposals.

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.*