



To: Distribution List

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

Subject: Limited Competition: NIH, Bridges to the Doctorate (PAR-21-198)

Date: 7/14/2022

Dear UNM Researchers,

The goal of the NIH **Bridges to the Doctorate Program (T32)** is to develop a diverse pool of scientists earning a Ph.D. who have the skills to successfully transition into careers in the biomedical research workforce. Two different scenarios are anticipated for the institutional partnerships:

- One applicant institution where the master's degree is the terminal graduate degree in the biomedical sciences partnering with one or more research-intensive Ph.D. granting institutions, or
- One research-intensive Ph.D. granting applicant institution partnering with one or more institutions where the master's degree is the terminal graduate degree in the biomedical sciences.

The Overarching Objective of this program is to develop a diverse pool of well-trained biomedical scientists who will transition from master's degree programs and complete rigorous biomedical, research-focused doctoral degree programs (Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D.) in biomedical fields relevant to the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) mission. 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 and independently, and to identify important biomedical research questions and approaches that push forward the boundaries of their areas of study.
- 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/communicate scientific research methodologies/findings to a variety of audiences.
- The knowledge, professional skills and experiences required to identify and transition into careers in the biomedical research workforce.

Institutional commitment and support for the proposed training program are important elements of the application. The training grant should be well integrated within one or more graduate program(s) and should exert a strong, positive influence on the development and execution of the outreach and recruitment of potential trainees, graduate curriculum, training opportunities, and mentoring. Training grant funds may not be used solely as a vehicle to provide stipends for trainees to conduct research.

Applicants are expected to identify training objectives (specific, measurable & obtainable outcomes) and to develop plans to implement evidence-informed training and mentoring activities that are grounded in the literature and from evaluations of existing relevant programs. More details can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/par-21-198.html>. The deadline for submitting full proposals to the agency is **5:00pm MDT, September 27, 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 preproposal 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.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu for more information.