Department of Health and Human Services

Part 1. Overview Information

Participating Organization(s)

National Institutes of Health (NIH (http://www.nih.gov))

Components of Participating Organizations

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/))

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA (https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/))

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA (https://www.drugabuse.gov/))

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH (https://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml))

Funding Opportunity Title

NIH Neuroscience Development for Advancing the Careers of a Diverse Research Workforce (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Activity Code

R25 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/ac_search_results.htm?text_curr=r25) Education Projects

Announcement Type

Reissue of PAR-20-240 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-240.html)

Related Notices

- **August 31, 2022** - Implementation Changes for Genomic Data Sharing Plans Included with Applications Due on or after January 25, 2023. See Notice NOT-OD-22-198 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-22-198.html).
- **August 5, 2022** - Implementation Details for the NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy. See Notice NOT-OD-22-189 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-22-189.html).
- **July 10, 2019** - Requirement for ORCID iDs for Individuals Supported by Research Training, Fellowship, Research Education, and Career Development Awards Beginning in FY 2020. See Notice NOT-OD-19-109 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-19-109.html).

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Number

PAR-23-178

Companion Funding Opportunity

None

Number of Applications

Only one application per institution is allowed, as defined in Section III. 3. Additional Information on Eligibility.

Assistance Listing Number(s)

93.853, 93.242, 93.273, 93.279

Funding Opportunity Purpose

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research.

To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this NOFO will support educational activities with a primary focus on:

- *Courses for Skills Development*
- *Research Experiences*
- *Mentoring Activities*

Key Dates

Posted Date

June 12, 2023

Open Date (Earliest Submission Date)

August 26, 2023

Letter of Intent Due Date(s)

30 days prior to application due date.

Application Due Dates			Review and Award Cycles		
New	Renewal / Resubmission / Revision (as allowed)	AIDS - New/Renewal/Resubmission/Revision, as allowed	Scientific Merit Review	Advisory Council Review	Earliest Start Date
September 26, 2023	September 26, 2023	Not Applicable	March 2024	May 2024	July 2024
September 26, 2024	September 26, 2024	Not Applicable	March 2025	May 2025	July 2025

Application Due Dates			Review and Award Cycles		
New	Renewal / Resubmission / Revision (as allowed)	AIDS - New/Renewal/Resubmission/Revision, as allowed	Scientific Merit Review	Advisory Council Review	Earliest Start Date
September 26, 2025	September 26, 2025	Not Applicable	March 2026	May 2026	July 2026

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

Expiration Date

September 27, 2025

Due Dates for E.O. 12372

Not Applicable

Required Application Instructions

It is critical that applicants follow the instructions in the Research (R) Instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=82400), except where instructed to do otherwise (in this NOFO or in a Notice from NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11164)).

Conformance to all requirements (both in the Application Guide and the NOFO) is required and strictly enforced. Applicants must read and follow all application instructions in the Application Guide as well as any program-specific instructions noted in Section IV. When the program-specific instructions deviate from those in the Application Guide, follow the program-specific instructions.

Applications that do not comply with these instructions may be delayed or not accepted for review.

There are several options available to submit your application through Grants.gov to NIH and Department of Health and Human Services partners. You **must** use one of these submission options to access the application forms for this opportunity.

1. Use the NIH ASSIST system to prepare, submit and track your application online.

   Apply Online Using ASSIST

2. Use an institutional system-to-system (S2S) solution to prepare and submit your application to Grants.gov and eRA Commons (https://public.era.nih.gov/commons/) to track your application. Check with your institutional officials regarding availability.

3. Use Grants.gov (https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/download-application-package.html#search=true&oppNum=PAR-23-178) Workspace to prepare and submit your application and eRA Commons (http://public.era.nih.gov/commons/) to track your application.

Table of Contents

Part 2. Full Text of Announcement

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research educational activities that complement other formal training programs in the mission areas of the NIH Institutes and Centers.

The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research.

This NIH Neuroscience Development for Advancing the Careers of a Diverse Research Workforce (R25) is a flexible and specialized program designed to foster the development of neuroscience researchers from diverse backgrounds, including individuals from underrepresented groups, across the specified career stages. This Neuroscience Diversity R25 initiative will focus on factors that have been shown to affect retention of underrepresented postbaccalaureate, graduate students, postdoctoral trainees, and junior faculty in neuroscience research, such as mentoring, scientific networks, professional development, and attention to the structural and institutional environment regarding inclusion (http://acd.od.nih.gov/dbr.html (https://acd.od.nih.gov/working-groups/dbr.html); Structure and Belonging: Pathways to Success for Underrepresented Minority and Women Ph.D. Students in STEM Fields (https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0209279); The Science of Effective Mentorship in STEMM (https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25568/the-science-of-effective-mentorship-in-stemm)). Undergraduate students are not considered eligible for career stage support for this funding opportunity announcement, please view current NIH programs for undergraduate students (https://researchtraining.nih.gov/career/undergraduate).

The participating ICs are committed to the development of a diverse biomedical research workforce. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) seeks to promote diversity in training and research programs and to encourage the participation of individuals from underrepresented groups identified by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Diversity and STEM: Women, Minorities and Persons with Disabilities. Evidence from several reports demonstrates that an intervention designed to facilitate successful transitions along this pathway would benefit the research community (Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and Institute of Medicine 2011 (https://grants.nih.gov/training/minority_participation.pdf); and Advancing the Nation's Health Needs: NIH Research Training Programs (https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/11275/advancing-the-nations-health-needs-nih-research-training-programs)). Specifically, for neuroscience early career researchers, there is a decrease in the proportion of trainees from underrepresented backgrounds from the predoctoral (12%) to tenure-stream neuroscience faculty level (5%); 2011 Survey Report of Neuroscience Departments and Programs (https://www.sfn.org/careers/higher-education-and-training/neuroscience-training-program-survey). Active interventions are necessary to prevent the loss of talent at each level of educational advancement (PCAST, 2012 (https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/pcast-engage-to-excel-final_2-25-12.pdf)).

The NIH expects applicant institutions to propose programs that will lead to an improvement in the professional development, mentoring and technical expertise of individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups that are nationally underrepresented in neuroscience research. The activities may focus on individuals at a particular eligible research career stage or at a range of eligible career stages. Programs that target transitions and/or more than one career stage for neuroscience career advancement and progression are encouraged. This initiative will support the development of collaborative research education partnerships that will increase participants' awareness and interest in the neurosciences, develop participants' scientific knowledge and research skills that will allow them to progress and transition to more advanced neuroscience-related research education and training activities. Proposed program interventions to enhance workforce diversity in response to this NOFO should also focus on **asset models and leadership opportunities, rather than solely deficit models and remediation** (recommendations from 2022 NINDS Transforming Mentorship Workshop (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/about-ninds/workforce-diversity/diversity-policies-resources/maintaining-neural-network-transforming-mentorship-workshop), 2019 NINDS Pathways for Institutional Change Regarding Diversity and Inclusion (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/strengthening-neural-network-pathways-institutional-change-regarding-diversity-and-inclusion), 2017 NINDS Activating a Neural Network (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/about-ninds/workforce-diversity/diversity-policies-resources/activating-neural-network-admission-strategies-increase-diverse-neuroscience-trainees-workshop);?and NAMHC Workgroup on Research Training Report (https://www.nimh.nih.gov/sites/default/files/documents/about/advisory-boards-and-groups/namhc/reports/investing-in-the-future.pdf)).

To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this NOFO will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on three types of activities (all three must be included):

- **Mentoring Activities:** Within the context of a mentoring network, activities may include, but are not limited to, dedicated efforts at providing not only technical expertise, but advice, insight, and professional career skills that advance the broad career goals of graduate students, postdoctorates and/or early-career faculty from diverse backgrounds; facilitating scholarly writing and grantsmanship; promoting successful transitions from one career stage to another; providing leadership development; helping to identify potential collaborators; and helping to establish interdisciplinary collaborations in order to foster a career trajectory towards independent neuroscience research. Additionally, the NIH realizes that quality mentorship is critical to the recruitment and retention of scientists from diverse backgrounds, including individuals from underrepresented groups . Therefore, this NOFO welcomes programs aimed at improving the caliber of mentorship and focusing on strategies and recommendations that utilize the science of effective mentoring (https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/the-science-of-effective-mentoring-in-stemm). For example, workshops to educate mentors on establishing and sustaining effective research mentoring relationships (e.g. summer course or a workshop accompanying a neuroscience-related scientific meeting in which case-based scenarios may be used to educate mentors on various relevant ethical, professional and cultural issues facing students today, for example, effective communication and mentoring compacts, or addressing cultural awareness, among others). Also, the program intends to support innovative mentoring network programs within neuroscience-focused scientific and/or professional societies and organizations. Mentors from all demographic backgrounds should be encouraged to participate in the proposed program.
- **Research Experiences:** Provide hands-on authentic research experiences that reflect intellectual contribution to the project and for postbaccalaureate and graduate students to provide research experiences and related training not available through formal NIH training mechanisms; for postdoctorates and junior faculty to extend their skills, experiences, and knowledge base. The research experience should enhance competitiveness and innovative research exposure for the R25 participants. In addition to hands-on research experiences, programs are expected to include complementary activities that support the participants' scientific development, such as scientific writing and presentation skills, and training in rigor and reproducibility. The nature of research experiences should be tailored to the needs and career levels of participants. It is expected that mentoring will be provided in conjunction with planned research experiences and participants will design individualized development plans (IDPs) that are compatible with their needs and experience. Additionally, programs that provide educational/research experiences that enhance the participation and productivity of investigators from diverse backgrounds, including from underrepresented groups, in carrying out research on mission-relevant health disparities will be considered.
- **Courses for Skills Development:** For example, advanced courses in a neuroscience research area relevant to participating IC missions, or specialized research techniques to enhance the research skills of postbaccalaureate, graduate students, postdoctorates, and junior faculty from diverse backgrounds. Additionally, career development seminars and workshops such as grant writing, manuscript preparation, enhancing laboratory management for early stage faculty, building a successful career and other core competencies--like experimental rigor and quantitative skills, as recommended in Developing a 21st Century Neuroscience Workforce (https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/21697/developing-a-21st-century-neuroscience-workforce-workshop-summary)--are highly encouraged. Activities should fill a gap in existing resources and provide a course that is significant and impactful for the neuroscience research community.

Although this Advancing Neuroscience Diversity R25 is not a typical research instrument, applicants should develop education programs and activities that can be amenable to formal program evaluation to determine their effectiveness. A specific plan must be provided for program evaluation (see Section IV, Evaluation Plan). For some types of projects, a plan for disseminating results may also be appropriate and may be required as well (see Section IV, Dissemination Plan). NIH recognizes the heterogeneity of institutional/organizational settings and missions; therefore, the scope, purpose, and objectives of Advancing Neuroscience Diversity R25 applications are anticipated to reflect such variations ; however, all three types of activities must be included.

Fostering diversity in the scientific research workforce is a key component of the NIH strategy to identify, develop, support and maintain the quality of our scientific human capital. Programs that target periods of transition and/or more than one career stage for research career advancement and progression are strongly encouraged. See the Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity (NOT-OD-20-031 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html)) for populations that NIH has identified as underrepresented in the U.S. biomedical, clinical, behavioral and social sciences research enterprise.The proposed program needs to align with the mission of the participating IC to which the application is submitted. ICs will not support projects, regardless of the results of merit review, if they do not fulfill current programmatic priorities. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that potential applicants consult scientific/research staff at the intended IC listed in Section VII before preparing an application. For the specific ICs, the following represents mission focus areas (more information can be found in the Table of IC-Specific Information and Contacts page):

- **NINDS** will support applications that address or seek fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system by supporting and conducting research on the healthy and diseased brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease. NINDS supports basic, translational, and clinical research. NINDS also encourages activities focused on understanding and addressing disparities in neurologic health, healthcare, and health outcomes in minority health and NIH-designated populations that experience health disparities and populations adversely affected by persistent inequality and socioeconomic disadvantage. **Only research education projects that will contribute to the development of the future NINDS workforce will be considered for funding** . See the NINDS mission statement (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/About-NINDS/Who-We-Are/Mission (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/About-NINDS/Who-We-Are/Mission)) and the NINDS Strategic Plan (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/About-NINDS/Strategic-Plans-Evaluations/Strategic-Plans/NINDS-Strategic-Plan-and-Priorities/Neuroscience-Research (https://www.ninds.nih.gov/About-NINDS/Strategic-Plans-Evaluations/Strategic-Plans/NINDS-Strategic-Plan-and-Priorities/Neuroscience-Research)).
- The mission of the **NIMH** is to transform the understanding and treatment of mental illnesses through basic and clinical research, paving the way for prevention, recovery, and cure. NIMH supports research on topics that include basic neuroscience and behavioral science, and translational application of brain and behavior relationships in healthy and diseased states. Mental disorders may be defined according to existing diagnostic criteria or along dimensions of neurobehavioral functioning according to the NIMH Research Domain Criteria (RDoC (https://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/rdoc/index.shtml)) framework. If existing diagnostic criteria are to be used, investigators should include plans for addressing heterogeneity within the diagnostic category or categories. **Applications considered for funding by the NIMH must fall within the areas of priority detailed in the** NIMH Strategic Plan (https://www.nimh.nih.gov/sites/default/files/documents/about/strategic-planning-reports/NIMH%20Strategic%20Plan%20for%20Research_2022_0.pdf) **and the** NIMH Strategic Research Priorities (https://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/strategic-planning-reports/strategic-research-priorities/index.shtml)).
- **NIAAA** encourages applications that support the mission to generate and disseminate fundamental knowledge about the effects of alcohol on health and well-being, and apply that knowledge to improve diagnosis, prevention,

treatment, and recovery of alcohol-related problems, including alcohol use disorder and alcohol-associated organ damage, across the lifespan. NIAAA supports basic and/or translational research in a wide range of alcohol research scientific areas including genetics, neuroscience, epidemiology, prevention, and treatment.

- **NIDA** encourages applications that support the mission to advance science on drug use and addiction and to apply that knowledge to improve individual and public health. This funding opportunity seeks to facilitate the research education of those who are knowledgeable about substance use, addiction and neuroscience research and plan to study these research areas later in their careers. It is expected that efforts and resources from this program will foster a greater understanding of the implications of substance use and addiction nationwide and contribute to the biomedical research workforce which will help to develop solutions to reduce the burden of substance use, addiction, and its health-related consequences across all populations. Moreover, the goal is for participants to develop new skills necessary to become independent neuroscientists in the substance use and addiction field.

Potential applicants are strongly advised to communicate with the Scientific/Research staff listed in this funding announcement prior to writing an application to determine whether the Advancing Neuroscience Diversity R25 is the appropriate program for the proposed efforts to enhance research training.

Research education programs may complement ongoing research training and education occurring at the applicant institution, but the proposed educational experiences must be distinct from those training and education programs currently receiving Federal support. R25 programs may augment institutional research training programs (e.g., T32, T90) but cannot be used to replace or circumvent Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) programs.
See Section VIII. Other Information for award authorities and regulations.

Section II. Award Information

Funding Instrument

Grant: A support mechanism providing money, property, or both to an eligible entity to carry out an approved project or activity.

Application Types Allowed

New
Renewal
Resubmission
Revision

The OER Glossary (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11116) and the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide provide details on these application types. Only those application types listed here are allowed for this NOFO.

Clinical Trial?

Not Allowed: Only accepting applications that do not propose clinical trial(s).

Need help determining whether you are doing a clinical trial? (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=82370)

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards

The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

Award Budget

Application budgets are limited to a maximum of $250,000 direct cost per year, and must reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

Award Project Period

The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

Other Award Budget Information

Personnel Costs

Individuals designing, directing, and implementing the research education program may request salary and fringe benefits appropriate for the person months devoted to the program. Salaries requested may not exceed the levels commensurate with the institution's policy for similar positions and may not exceed the congressionally mandated cap. (If mentoring interactions and other activities with participants are considered a regular part of an individual's academic duties, then any costs associated with the mentoring and other interactions with participants are not allowable costs from grant funds).

Limited administrative and clerical salary costs associated distinctly with the program that are not normally provided by the applicant organization may be direct charges to the grant only when specifically identified and justified. Up to $75,000 combined salary, administrative, clerical or other staff with responsibilities directly associated with designing, directing and administering the research experience program can be requested. This may include the PD(s)/PI(s) and/or Program Manager/Coordinator, as appropriate to the proposed program .

Participant Costs

Participants may be compensated for participation in activities specifically required by the proposed research education program, if sufficiently justified. Participant costs must be itemized in the proposed budget

Allowable participant costs depend on the educational level/career status of the individuals to be selected to participate in the program..

Salary - NIH will provide salary and fringe benefits consistent with institutional salary policies. Institutional salary rates which exceed the hourly minimum wage must be justified. Participants may only receive funding for the period they participate in the program. Because the R25 program is not intended as a substitute for an NRSA institutional training program (e.g.,T32), costs to support full-time participants (supported for 40 hours/week for a continuous, 12-month period) are not allowable.

Participants supported by other NIH training mechanisms (e.g., T awards) or other R25 education programs are encouraged to participate in the R25 program but may not receive additional salary or salary supplementation.

Housing - Support may be requested to defray the cost of housing at the program site. Contributions to, or coverage of housing by the institution should be addressed in the Institutional Environment and Commitment section of the application. Registration Fees or Tuition - Participants may receive funds to defray registration fees, tuition, or other education-related expenses if required for the educational experiences offered by the program and if adequately justified.

Travel - Funds may not be expended to cover the costs of travel between the place of residence and the training institution except in cases of disability or extreme hardship. In those cases, support may be requested to defray the cost of travel to and from the program site at the discretion of the sponsoring institution.

Expenses for foreign travel must be exceptionally well justified.

Other Program-Related Expenses

Consultant costs, equipment, supplies, travel for key persons, and other program-related expenses may be included in the proposed budget. These expenses must be justified as specifically required by the proposed program and must not duplicate items generally available at the applicant institution.

Research supplies for R25 participants at visiting institutions where research will be conducted may be requested (not to exceed $2,000/ year). Cost of consultants for evaluation of the program is allowed; however, if the evaluator is an employee of one of the applicant institutions, the cost must be included in the category of key personnel salary.

Indirect Costs

Indirect Costs (also known as Facilities & Administrative [F&A] Costs) are reimbursed at 8% of modified total direct costs (exclusive of tuition and fees, expenditures for equipment and consortium costs in excess of $25,000), rather than on the basis of a negotiated rate agreement.

NIH grants policies as described in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11120) will apply to the applications submitted and awards made from this NOFO.

Section III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Organizations
Higher Education Institutions

- Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education
- Private Institutions of Higher Education

The following types of Higher Education Institutions are always encouraged to apply for NIH support as Public or Private Institutions of Higher Education:

- Hispanic-serving Institutions
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
- Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)
- Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions
- Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs)

Nonprofits Other Than Institutions of Higher Education

- Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status (Other than Institutions of Higher Education)
- Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) IRS Status (Other than Institutions of Higher Education)

For-Profit Organizations

- Small Businesses
- For-Profit Organizations (Other than Small Businesses)

The sponsoring institution must assure support for the proposed program. Appropriate institutional commitment to the program includes the provision of adequate staff, facilities, and educational resources that can contribute to the planned program.

Institutions with existing Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) institutional training grants (e.g., T32) or other Federally funded training programs may apply for a research education grant provided that the proposed educational experiences are distinct from those training programs receiving federal support. In many cases, it is anticipated that the proposed research education program will complement ongoing research training occurring at the applicant institution.

Foreign Institutions
Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) **are not** eligible to apply

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) components of U.S. Organizations **are not** eligible to apply.

Foreign components, as defined in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11118), **are not** allowed.

Required Registrations
Applicant Organizations

Applicant organizations must complete and maintain the following registrations as described in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide to be eligible to apply for or receive an award. All registrations must be completed prior to the application being submitted. Registration can take 6 weeks or more, so applicants should begin the registration process as soon as possible. The NIH Policy on Late Submission of Grant Applications (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-039.html) states that failure to complete registrations in advance of a due date is not a valid reason for a late submission.

- System for Award Management (SAM) (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=82390) – Applicants must complete and maintain an active registration, **which requires renewal at least annually**. The renewal process may require as much time as the initial registration. SAM registration includes the assignment of a Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code for domestic organizations which have not already been assigned a CAGE Code.
- NATO Commercial and Government Entity (NCAGE) Code (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11176) – Foreign organizations must obtain an NCAGE code (in lieu of a CAGE code) in order to register in SAM.
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) – A UEI is issued as part of the SAM.gov registration process. The same UEI must be used for all registrations, as well as on the grant application.
- eRA Commons (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11123) - Once the unique organization identifier is established, organizations can register with eRA Commons in tandem with completing their Grants.gov registration; all registrations must be in place by time of submission. eRA Commons requires organizations to identify at least one Signing Official (SO) and at least one Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) account in order to submit an application.
- Grants.gov (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=82300) – Applicants must have an active SAM registration in order to complete the Grants.gov registration.

Program Directors/Principal Investigators (PD(s)/PI(s))

All PD(s)/PI(s) must have an eRA Commons account. PD(s)/PI(s) should work with their organizational officials to either create a new account or to affiliate their existing account with the applicant organization in eRA Commons. If the PD/PI is also the organizational Signing Official, they must have two distinct eRA Commons accounts, one for each role. Obtaining an eRA Commons account can take up to 2 weeks.

Eligible Individuals (Program Director/Principal Investigator)
Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as the Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) is invited to work with their organization to develop an application for support. Individuals from diverse backgrounds, including underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, and women are always encouraged to apply for NIH support. See, Reminder: Notice of NIH's Encouragement of Applications Supporting Individuals from Underrepresented Ethnic and Racial Groups as well as Individuals with Disabilities, NOT-OD-22-019 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-22-019.html).

For institutions/organizations proposing multiple PDs/PIs, visit the Multiple Program Director/Principal Investigator Policy and submission details in the Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Component of the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

The proposed PD/PI should hold a basic or health professional degree (e.g. Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent), and have clearly demonstrated training/mentoring credentials. The PD/PI must have a regular, full-time appointment (i.e. not adjunct, part-time, retired, or emeritus) at the applicant institution and should have research, teaching, and/or academic administrative experience. Early-stage investigators are eligible to serve as PD/PIs, as long as doing so will not detract from their research program and career advancement.

If a scientific society is identified as the applicant organization, the advisory board of the given scientific society or organization should identify an affiliated member to serve as PD/PI and work with them to develop an application for support.

2. Cost Sharing

This NOFO does not require cost sharing as defined in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11126).

3. Additional Information on Eligibility

Number of Applications

Only one application per institution (normally identified by having a unique entity identifier (UEI) or NIH IPF number) is allowed.

The NIH will not accept duplicate or highly overlapping applications under review at the same time per 2.3.7.4 Submission of Resubmission Application. This means that the NIH will not accept:

- A new (A0) application that is submitted before issuance of the summary statement from the review of an overlapping new (A0) or resubmission (A1) application.
- A resubmission (A1) application that is submitted before issuance of the summary statement from the review of the previous new (A0) application.
- An application that has substantial overlap with another application pending appeal of initial peer review.

Program Faculty

Researchers from diverse backgrounds, including individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups , persons with disabilities, and women are encouraged to participate as preceptors/mentors. Mentors should have research expertise and experience relevant to the proposed program. Mentors must be committed to continuing their involvement throughout the total period of the mentee's participation in this award.

Participants

Selection of program-supported participants should take into consideration whether the participation would help achieve the overall goals/objectives of the Advancing Neuroscience Diversity R25 Program, which supports educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including from groups underrepresented in the neuroscience workforce, to pursue further studies or careers in research at one or more of the following career levels: postbaccalaureate, graduate, postdoctoral, and/or early career faculty. At the graduate level, participants may include students seeking medical or research doctoral degrees. At the postdoctoral level, participants may include M.D.s, Ph.D.s, or individuals holding dual degrees.

Research education programs should be used for the education of U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Section IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Requesting an Application Package

The application forms package specific to this opportunity must be accessed through ASSIST, Grants.gov Workspace or an institutional system-to-system solution. Links to apply using ASSIST or Grants.gov Workspace are available in Part 1 of this NOFO. See your administrative office for instructions if you plan to use an institutional system-to-system solution.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

It is critical that applicants follow the instructions in the Research (R) Instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=82400), except where instructed in this Notice of Funding Opportunity to do otherwise. Conformance to the requirements in the Application Guide is required and strictly enforced. Applications that are out of compliance with these instructions will not be reviewed.

Letter of Intent

Although a letter of intent is not required, is not binding, and does not enter into the review of a subsequent application, the information that it contains allows IC staff to estimate the potential review workload and plan the review.

By the date listed in Part 1. Overview Information, prospective applicants are asked to submit a letter of intent that includes the following information:

- Descriptive title of proposed activity
- Name(s), address(es), and telephone number(s) of the PD(s)/PI(s)
- Names of other key personnel
- Participating institution(s)
- Number and title of this funding opportunity

The letter of intent should be sent to:

Michelle Jones-London, Ph.D.Chief, Office of Programs to Enhance Neuroscience Workforce DiversityNational Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NIH
Telephone: 301-451-7966
Email: nindsdiversitytraining@mail.nih.gov (mailto:nindsdiversitytraining@mail.nih.gov)

Page Limitations
All page limitations described in the SF424 Application Guide and the Table of Page Limits (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/page-limits.htm#train) must be followed.
Instructions for Application Submission
The following section supplements the instructions found in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide and should be used for preparing an application to this NOFO.

SF424(R&R) Cover
Follow all instructions provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

SF424(R&R) Project/Performance Site Locations
Follow all instructions provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

SF424(R&R) Other Project Information Component
Follow all instructions provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide with the following additional modifications:

Facilities & Other Resources. Describe the educational environment, including the facilities, laboratories, participating departments, computer services, and any other resources to be used in the development and implementation of the proposed program. List all thematically related sources of support for research training and education following the format for Current and Pending Support.

Other Attachments.

Advisory Committee: An Advisory Committee is not a required component of a Research Education program. However, if an Advisory Committee is intended, provide a plan for the selection and appointment of an Advisory Committee to monitor progress of the research education program. The composition, roles, responsibilities, and desired expertise of committee members, frequency of committee meetings, and other relevant information should be included. Describe how the Advisory Committee will evaluate the overall effectiveness of the program. Proposed Advisory Committee members should be named in the application if they have been invited to participate at the time the application is submitted. Renewal applications with Advisory Committees should include the names of all committee members during the past project period. Please name your file "Advisory_Committee.pdf".

Participating Faculty Biosketches: Participating faculty should provide a personal statement within their biosketch that describes their prior mentoring and educational experience for the proposed program. Please name your file "Participating Faculty Biosketches.pdf"
The filename provided for each "Other Attachment" will be the name used for the bookmark in the electronic application in eRA Commons.

SF424(R&R) Senior/Key Person Profile Expanded
Follow all instructions provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

R&R Budget
Follow all instructions provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide with the following additional modifications:

- Include all personnel other than the PD(s)/PI(s) in the Other Personnel section, including clerical and administrative staff.

- Use the section on Participant/Trainee Support Costs to include all allowable categories of funds requested to support participants in the program.

PHS 398 Cover Page Supplement
Follow all instructions provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

PHS 398 Research Plan
All instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide must be followed, with the following additional instructions:

Research Strategy

Research Strategy section must be used to upload the **Research Education Program Plan**, which must include the following components described below:

- Proposed Research Education Program
- Program Director/Principal Investigator
- Program Faculty
- Program Participants
- Institutional Environment and Commitment
- Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity
- Plan for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Evaluation Plan
- Dissemination Plan

Research Education Program Plan

Proposed Research Education Program. While the proposed research education program may complement ongoing research training and education occurring at the applicant institution, the proposed educational experiences must be distinct from those research training and research education programs currently receiving federal support. When research training programs are on-going in the same department, the applicant organization should clearly distinguish between the activities in the proposed research education program and the research training supported by the training program.

If collaborations or partnerships exist, provide detailed information of an integrated plan across the partnering institutions to improve academic and research competitiveness for the participants. Adaptations of existing research education programs may be considered innovative under special circumstances, e.g., the addition of unique components and/or a proposal to determine portability of an existing program. Describe the overall goals and objectives of the program, the number of participants to be supported, and how the program will be advertised. Provide a brief rationale for each activity (e.g., courses, seminars, workshops, research experiences, mentoring activities). Applicants should justify their choice of activities by showing how they will assist in the career development of selected participants and lead to the milestones (i.e., anticipated intermediate steps toward the objectives); all three activity types must be included and addressed. All programs must use an evidence-based approach to justify interventions or activities proposed in the research plan. Applicants should review the substantial pedagogical literature concerning predictors of success in research careers and examine additional data/report resources at https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/diversity-reports (https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/diversity-reports) and https://understandinginterventions.org/ui-journal/ (https://understandinginterventions.org/ui-journal/). A timetable for completing the planned activities should be included.

Program Director/Principal Investigator. Describe arrangements for administration of the program. Provide evidence that the Program Director/Principal Investigator is actively engaged in research and/or teaching in an area related to the mission of NIH, and can organize, administer, monitor, and evaluate the research education program. For programs proposing multiple PDs/PIs, describe the complementary and integrated expertise of the PDs/PIs, their leadership approach, and governance appropriate for the planned project.

Program Faculty. Researchers from diverse backgrounds, including individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups , individuals with disabilities, and women, are encouraged to participate as program faculty. Faculty should have research expertise and experience relevant to the proposed program and demonstrate a history of, or the potential for, their intended roles. Research must be relevant to the participating IC missions.

Program Participants. Applications must describe the intended participants, and the specific educational background characteristics that are essential for participation in the proposed research education program. Identify the career level(s) for which the proposed program is planned. Describe the selection process and criteria (e.g. who will be on the selection committee; their experience evaluating such applications). Applications must include a description of the potential applicant pool (including number and percent) based on the selection criteria established for the proposed program.

Institutional Environment and Commitment. Describe any additional aspects of the Institutional Environment and Commitment not addressed under "Facilities & Other Resources" or the required "Institutional Commitment Letter of Support," described below. Appropriate institutional commitment should include the provision of adequate staff, facilities, and educational resources that can contribute to the planned research education program. This section should not duplicate information provided elsewhere.

The application must include a description of specific support (financial and otherwise) to be provided for the program. This could include support of curriculum implementation, support for additional participants in the program, release time for the Program Director(s) and participating faculty, or any other creative ways to improve and enhance the research education program. Institutions should clearly state the alignment of enhancing scientific workforce diversity to its mission and accountability to promote a climate of inclusion for participants within the institutional program. The applicant institution must document the requisite administrative/technical capacity and if applicable, support the management of a collaborative multisite research education and research training project. All collaborative arrangements must be clearly described and agreements included in the application as letters of support .

Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity (NOT-OD-20-031 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html)**):**

The applicant must provide a recruitment plan to enhance diversity. Include outreach strategies and activities designed to recruit prospective participants from diverse backgrounds, e.g. those from underrepresented groups described in the Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html). Describe the specific efforts to be undertaken by the program and how the proposed plan reflects past experiences in recruiting individuals from underrepresented groups.

Every facet of the United States scientific research enterprise—from basic laboratory research to clinical and translational research to policy formation–requires superior intellect, creativity and a wide range of skill sets and viewpoints. NIH's ability to help ensure that the nation remains a global leader in scientific discovery and innovation is dependent upon a pool of highly talented scientists from diverse backgrounds who will help to further NIH's mission.

Research shows that diverse teams working together and capitalizing on innovative ideas and distinct perspectives outperform homogenous teams. Scientists and trainees from diverse backgrounds and life experiences bring different perspectives, creativity, and individual enterprise to address complex scientific problems. There are many benefits that flow from a diverse NIH-supported scientific workforce, including: fostering scientific innovation, enhancing global competitiveness, contributing to robust learning environments, improving the quality of the research, advancing the

likelihood that underserved or health disparity populations participate in, and benefit from health research, and enhancing public trust.

<u>Underrepresented Populations in the U.S. Biomedical, Clinical, Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Enterprise</u>

In spite of tremendous advancements in scientific research, information, educational and research opportunities are not equally available to all. NIH encourages institutions to diversify their student and faculty populations to enhance the participation of individuals from groups that are underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral and social sciences, such as:

A. Individuals from racial and ethnic groups that have been shown by the National Science Foundation to be underrepresented in health-related sciences on a national basis (see data at http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/showpub.cfm?TopID=2&SubID=27 (http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/showpub.cfm?TopID=2&SubID=27)) and the report <u>Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering (http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/women/)</u>). The following racial and ethnic groups have been shown to be underrepresented in biomedical research: Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. In addition, it is recognized that underrepresentation can vary from setting to setting; individuals from racial or ethnic groups that can be demonstrated convincingly to be underrepresented by the grantee institution should be encouraged to participate in NIH programs to enhance diversity. For more information on racial and ethnic categories and definitions, see the OMB Revisions to the Standards for Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity (https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-1997-10-30/html/97-28653.htm (https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-1997-10-30/html/97-28653.htm)).

B. Individuals with disabilities, who are defined as those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, as described in the <u>Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended</u> (http://www.ada.gov/pubs/adastatute08.htm). See NSF data at, https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2017/nsf17310/static/data/tab7-5.pdf (https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2017/nsf17310/static/data/tab7-5.pdf).

C. Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, defined as those who meet <u>*two or more*</u> of the following criteria:

1. Were or currently are homeless, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Definition: https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/ (https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/));
2. Were or currently are in the foster care system, as defined by the Administration for Children and Families (Definition: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/focus-areas/foster-care (https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/focus-areas/foster-care));
3. Were eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for two or more years (Definition: https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines (https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines));
4. Have/had no parents or legal guardians who completed a bachelor's degree (see https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018009.pdf (https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018009.pdf));
5. Were or currently are eligible for Federal Pell grants (Definition: https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/eligibility.html (https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/eligibility.html));
6. Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as a parent or child (Definition: https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-eligibility-requirements (https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-eligibility-requirements));
7. Grew up in one of the following areas: a) a U.S. rural area, as designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer (https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health (https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health)), *or* b) a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services-designated Low-Income and Health Professional Shortage Areas (https://www.qhpcertification.cms.gov/s/LowIncomeandHPSAZipCodeListingPY2020.xlsx?v=1) (qualifying zipcodes are included in the file). Only one of the two possibilities in #7 can be used as a criterion for the disadvantaged background definition.

Students from low socioeconomic (SES) status backgrounds have been shown to obtain bachelor's and advanced degrees at significantly lower rates than students from middle and high SES groups (see https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_tva.asp (https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_tva.asp)), and are subsequently less likely to be represented in biomedical research. For background see Department of Education data at, https://nces.ed.gov/ (https://nces.ed.gov/); https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_tva.asp (https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_tva.asp); https://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/advancing-diversity-inclusion.pdf (https://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/advancing-diversity-inclusion.pdf).

D. Literature shows that women from the above backgrounds (categories A, B, and C) face particular challenges at the graduate level and beyond in scientific fields. (See, e.g., From the NIH: A Systems Approach to Increasing the Diversity of Biomedical Research Workforce https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5008902/ (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5008902/)).

New and resubmission applications must include a description of plans to enhance recruitment, including the strategies that will be used to enhance the recruitment of <u>prospective participants</u> from underrepresented groups and may wish to include data in support of past accomplishments.

For those individuals who participated in the research education program, the report should include information about the duration of education and aggregate information on the number of individuals who finished the program in good standing.

Applications lacking a Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity will not be reviewed.

Plan for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research. All applications must include a plan to fulfill NIH requirements for instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). The plan must address the five, required instructional components outlined in the NIH policy: 1) *Format* - the required format of instruction, i.e., face-to-face lectures, coursework, and/or real-time discussion groups (a plan with only on-line instruction is not acceptable); 2) *Subject Matter* - the breadth of subject matter, e.g., conflict of interest, authorship, data management, human subjects and animal use, laboratory safety, research misconduct, research ethics; 3) *Faculty Participation* - the role of the program faculty in the instruction; 4) *Duration of Instruction* - the number of contact hours of instruction, taking into consideration the duration of the program; and 5) *Frequency of Instruction* – instruction must occur during each career stage and at least once every four years. See also NOT-OD-22-055 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-22-055.html) . The plan should be appropriate and reasonable for the nature and duration of the proposed program. Renewal (Type 2) applications must, in addition, describe any changes in formal instruction over the past project period and plans to address any weaknesses in the current instruction plan. All participating faculty who served as course directors, speakers, lecturers, and/or discussion leaders during the past project period must be named in the application.

Applications lacking a plan for instruction in responsible conduct of research will not be reviewed.

Evaluation Plan. Applications must include a plan for evaluating the activities supported by the award. The application must specify baseline metrics (e.g., numbers, educational levels, and demographic characteristics of participants), as well as measures to gauge the short and/or long-term success of the research education award in achieving its objectives. Wherever appropriate, applicants are encouraged to obtain feedback from participants to help identify weaknesses and to provide suggestions for improvements. For programs that aim to enhance institutional diversity, the emphasis of the evaluation activities should be on assessment of the overall impact of the program on the institution's baseline (as appropriate) and efforts to accomplish the proposed goals of enhancing the diversity of the workforce in the neurosciences, climate surveys to measure changes in attitudes toward diversity and inclusion, and improvement of the overall program outcome . The evaluation strategy and plan must be based on appropriate literature and cited methodology, and should identify the selected evaluator and present his/her credentials. Applications that lack an evaluation plan will not be reviewed.

Dissemination Plan. A specific plan must be provided to disseminate nationally any findings resulting from or materials developed under the auspices of the research education program, e.g., sharing course curricula and related materials via web postings, presentations at scientific meetings, workshops. *Publication of the program's findings and outcomes in peer-reviewed journals is highly encouraged.*

Letters of Support

A letter of institutional commitment must be attached as part of Letters of Support (see section above:"**Institutional Environment and Commitment")**.

Letters of collaboration from partner sites must be provided by authorized officials from the partner institutions addressing their institutional commitment to the proposed project and program goals. As applicable, key faculty or senior investigators at partner organizations who will have substantial involvement in curriculum development, teaching, research training and mentoring, or other activities should submit letters.

Resource Sharing Plan

Note: Effective for due dates on or after January 25, 2023, a Data Management and Sharing Plan is not applicable for this NOFO.

Individuals are required to comply with the instructions for the Resource Sharing Plans as provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide, with the following modification:

When relevant, applications are expected to include a software dissemination plan if support for development, maintenance, or enhancement of software is requested in the application. There is no prescribed single license for software produced. However, the software dissemination plan should address, as appropriate, the following goals:

- Software source code should be freely available to biomedical researchers and educators in the non-profit sector, such as institutions of education, research institutions, and government laboratories. Users should be permitted to modify the code and share their modifications with others.
- The terms of software availability should permit the commercialization of enhanced or customized versions of the software, or incorporation of the software or pieces of it into other software packages.
- To preserve utility to the community, the software should be transferable such that another individual or team can continue development in the event that the original investigators are unwilling or unable to do so.

Appendix

Only limited Appendix materials are allowed. Follow the instructions for the Appendix as described in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

The following modifications also apply:

Instructions provided here are in addition to the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide instructions. The Appendix is meant to provide additional details to the following topics, but not meant to substitute for clear descriptions in the body of the application. Do not include items other than the allowable materials described below and in the Application Guide, as doing so will result in administrative withdrawal of the application for noncompliance. A summary sheet listing all the items included in the Appendix may be included in the first Appendix attachment.

 The following are allowable Appendix materials :

- Evaluation and Assessment Instruments. Applicants may provide blank surveys, rubrics, and/or forms used to (a) document and monitor trainee progress and (b) determine whether the program and its environment are effective, inclusive, safe, and supportive.
- Research Education Outcomes (4 pages maximum).The application may provide information in table form on outcomes and subsequent educational/career progress as appropriate to career stage about recent (past 5 years) participants (including participants in a pilot program) and the pool of potential applicants, such as:
    - Aggregate number and demographic characteristics of participants
    - Educational level of participants
    - Successful completion of a graduate degree in neuroscience or neuroscience-related field
    - Subsequent authorship of scientific publications or scientific presentations to outside conferences in a biomedical field
    - Subsequent participation in a formal research training or career development program in a neuroscience field
    - Subsequent participation in research in a neuroscience field
    - Subsequent employment or promotion in a research or research-related biomedical field
    - Subsequent independent research grant support from NIH or another source
- Participating Faculty (3 pages maximum).The application may provide the following information in table form about participating faculty:
    - Faculty information: name, degree(s), academic rank, primary department or program, research interest, and training role (i.e., PD/PI, preceptor, executive committee member, other committee member, other)
    - Mentoring record of predoctorates and postdoctorates from the last 10 years: number currently in training, graduated/completed training, and continued in research or related careers

Applications that exceed the number of allowed appendices or the page limitation of any of the allowed materials will be considered noncompliant and will not be reviewed.

PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information

When involving human subjects research, clinical research, and/or NIH-defined clinical trials (and when applicable, clinical trials research experience) follow all instructions for the PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide, with the following additional instructions:

If you answered "Yes" to the question "Are Human Subjects Involved?" on the R&R Other Project Information form, you must include at least one human subjects study record using the **Study Record: PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information** form or **Delayed Onset Study** record.

1. **Study Record: PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information**

All instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide must be followed.

Delayed Onset Study

Note: Delayed onset (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm#DelayedOnsetStudy) does NOT apply to a study that can be described but will not start immediately (i.e., delayed start). All instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide must be followed.

PHS Assignment Request Form

All instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide must be followed.

3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

See Part 1. Section III.1 for information regarding the requirement for obtaining a unique entity identifier and for completing and maintaining active registrations in System for Award Management (SAM), NATO Commercial and Government Entity (NCAGE) Code (if applicable), eRA Commons, and Grants.gov

4. Submission Dates and Times

Part I. Overview Information contains information about Key Dates and times. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications before the due date to ensure they have time to make any application corrections that might be necessary for successful submission. When a submission date falls on a weekend or Federal holiday (https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/snow-dismissal-procedures/federal-holidays/), the application deadline is automatically extended to the next business day.

Organizations must submit applications to Grants.gov (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11128) (the online portal to find and apply for grants across all Federal agencies). Applicants must then complete the submission process by tracking the status of the application in the eRA Commons (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11123), NIH's electronic system for grants administration. NIH and Grants.gov systems check the application against many of the application instructions upon submission. Errors must be corrected and a changed/corrected application must be submitted to Grants.gov on or before the application due date and time. If a Changed/Corrected application is submitted after the deadline, the application will be considered late. Applications that miss the due date and time are subjected to the NIH Policy on Late Application Submission.

Applicants are responsible for viewing their application before the due date in the eRA Commons to ensure accurate and successful submission.

Information on the submission process and a definition of on-time submission are provided in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

5. Intergovernmental Review (E.O. 12372)

This initiative is not subject to intergovernmental review (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/html5/section_10/10.10.1_executive_orders.htm).

6. Funding Restrictions

All NIH awards are subject to the terms and conditions, cost principles, and other considerations described in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11120).

Pre-award costs are allowable only as described in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11143).

7. Other Submission Requirements and Information

Applications must be submitted electronically following the instructions described in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide. Paper applications will not be accepted.

Applicants must complete all required registrations before the application due date. Section III. Eligibility Information contains information about registration.

For assistance with your electronic application or for more information on the electronic submission process, visit How to Apply – Application Guide (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.html). If you encounter a system issue beyond your control that threatens your ability to complete the submission process on-time, you must follow the Dealing with System Issues (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/dealing-with-system-issues.htm) guidance. For assistance with application submission, contact the Application Submission Contacts in Section VII.

> **Important reminders:**
>
> All PD(s)/PI(s) must include their eRA Commons ID in the Credential field of the Senior/Key Person Profile form. Failure to register in the Commons and to include a valid PD/PI Commons ID in the credential field will prevent the successful submission of an electronic application to NIH.
>
> The applicant organization must ensure that the unique entity identifier provided on the application is the same identifier used in the organization's profile in the eRA Commons and for the System for Award Management. Additional information may be found in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.
>
> See more tips (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11146) for avoiding common errors.

Upon receipt, applications will be evaluated for completeness and compliance with application instructions by the Center for Scientific Review, NIH. Applications that are incomplete or non-compliant will not be reviewed.

Post Submission Materials

Applicants are required to follow the instructions for post-submission materials, as described in the policy (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=82299).

Section V. Application Review Information

1. Criteria

Only the review criteria described below will be considered in the review process. Applications submitted to the NIH in support of the NIH mission (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11149) are evaluated for scientific and technical merit through the NIH peer review system.

For this particular announcement, note the following:

The goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in neuroscience research and facilitate the career advancement/transition of the participants to the next step of their neuroscience careers.

Overall Impact

Reviewers will provide an overall impact score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to strongly advance research education by fulfilling the goal of this R25 Education Program, in consideration of the following review criteria and additional review criteria, as applicable for the project proposed.

Scored Review Criteria

Reviewers will consider each of the review criteria below in the determination of scientific merit and give a separate score for each. An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact.

Significance

Does the proposed program address a key audience and an important aspect or important need in research education? Is there convincing evidence in the application that the proposed program will significantly advance the stated goal of the program?

If the aims of the education program are achieved, will they lead to the development of a diverse group of highly trained scientists in increased numbers and in neuroscience research areas? Does the proposed program provide evidence of the effect it will have on the enrichment of the research skills and/or competence of participants engaged in neuroscience research?

Investigator(s)

Is the PD/PI capable of providing both administrative and scientific leadership to the development and implementation of the proposed program? Is there evidence that an appropriate level of effort will be devoted by the program leadership to ensure the program's intended goal is accomplished? If applicable, is there evidence that the participating faculty have experience in mentoring students and teaching science? If applicable, are the faculty good role models for the participants by nature of their scientific accomplishments? If the project is collaborative or multi-PD/PI, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance, and organizational structure appropriate for the project?

Innovation

Taking into consideration the nature of the proposed research education program, does the applicant make a strong case for this program effectively reaching an audience in need of the program's offerings? Where appropriate, is the proposed program developing or utilizing innovative approaches and latest best practices to improve the knowledge and/or skills of the intended audience?

Approach

Does the proposed program clearly state its goals and objectives, including the educational level of the audience to be reached, the content to be conveyed, and the intended outcome? Is there evidence that the program is based on a sound rationale, as well as sound educational concepts and principles? Is the plan for evaluation sound and likely to provide information on the effectiveness of the program? If the proposed program will recruit participants, are the planned recruitment, retention, and follow-up (if applicable) activities adequate to ensure a highly qualified participant pool?

Does the approach address asset models and leadership opportunities, rather than just deficit models and remediation? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the program is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? Is the proposed plan for dissemination of the education program sound and likely to provide data on the effectiveness of the education program? Is the approach feasible and appropriate to achieve the stated research education goals?

Are the requirements and timetable for completing the planned activities, the plan for program advertisement, and the size and caliber of the applicant pool appropriate to achieve the described program goals? Are the mentoring capability and quality of research programs at mentor institutions outlined and sufficient to support the scope of the R25? Are the selection criteria for participants, meetings and workshops, and the mechanisms for getting feedback from students, fellows, etc. clearly described and appropriate for ensuring that the program meets its goals?

Environment

Will the scientific and educational environment of the proposed program contribute to its intended goals? Is there a plan to take advantage of this environment to enhance the educational value of the program? Is there tangible evidence of institutional commitment? Is there evidence that the faculty have sufficient institutional support to create a sound educational environment for the participants? Where appropriate, is there evidence of collaboration and buy-in among participating programs, departments, and institutions?

If multiple sites are participating, is this adequately justified in terms of the research education experiences provided? Are adequate plans provided for coordination and communication between multiple sites and quality control assurances for remote research experiences (if appropriate)?

Do the institutions or organizations have experience providing educational opportunities to students or faculty from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in neuroscience research? If so, are outcomes described for previous or currently supported programs? How will this proposed program fit with the existing environment? What is the stated commitment for assuring a climate of inclusion for the R25 program participants?

If applicable, are plans for an Advisory Committee presented and is the proposed expertise adequate?

Additional Review Criteria

As applicable for the project proposed, reviewers will evaluate the following additional items while determining scientific and technical merit, and in providing an overall impact score, but will not give separate scores for these items.

Protections for Human Subjects

For research that involves human subjects but does not involve one of the categories of research that are exempt under 45 CFR Part 46, the committee will evaluate the justification for involvement of human subjects and the proposed protections from research risk relating to their participation according to the following five review criteria: 1) risk to subjects, 2) adequacy of protection against risks, 3) potential benefits to the subjects and others, 4) importance of the knowledge to be gained, and 5) data and safety monitoring for clinical trials.

For research that involves human subjects and meets the criteria for one or more of the categories of research that are exempt under 45 CFR Part 46, the committee will evaluate: 1) the justification for the exemption, 2) human subjects involvement and characteristics, and 3) sources of materials. For additional information on review of the Human Subjects section, please refer to the Guidelines for the Review of Human Subjects (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11175).

Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Individuals Across the Lifespan

When the proposed project involves human subjects and/or NIH-defined clinical research, the committee will evaluate the proposed plans for the inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals on the basis of sex/gender, race, and ethnicity, as well as the inclusion (or exclusion) of individuals of all ages (including children and older adults) to determine if it is justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed. For additional information on review of the Inclusion section, please refer to the Guidelines for the Review of Inclusion in Clinical Research (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11174).

Vertebrate Animals

The committee will evaluate the involvement of live vertebrate animals as part of the scientific assessment according to the following criteria: (1) description of proposed procedures involving animals, including species, strains, ages, sex, and total number to be used; (2) justifications for the use of animals versus alternative models and for the appropriateness of the species proposed; (3) interventions to minimize discomfort, distress, pain and injury; and (4) justification for euthanasia method if NOT consistent with the AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals. Reviewers will assess the use of chimpanzees as they would any other application proposing the use of vertebrate animals. For additional information on review of the Vertebrate Animals section, please refer to the Worksheet for Review of the Vertebrate Animals Section (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11150).

Biohazards

Reviewers will assess whether materials or procedures proposed are potentially hazardous to research personnel and/or the environment, and if needed, determine whether adequate protection is proposed.

Resubmissions

For Resubmissions, the committee will evaluate the application as now presented, taking into consideration the responses to comments from the previous scientific review group and changes made to the project.

Revisions

For Revisions, the committee will consider the appropriateness of the proposed expansion of the scope of the project. If the Revision application relates to a specific line of investigation presented in the original application that was not recommended for approval by the committee, then the committee will consider whether the responses to comments from the previous scientific review group are adequate and whether substantial changes are clearly evident.

Renewals

For Renewals, the committee will consider the progress made in the last funding period, and the success of the program in achieving its goals. Has the research education program successfully achieved its stated objectives during the prior project period(s)? Has the program had a strong impact on student success and if appropriate, provided added value to the participating institutions? If so, how has the added value been integrated into the fabric of the participating institutions? Is there evidence toward institutionalization of NIH-funded components?

Additional Review Considerations

As applicable for the project proposed, reviewers will consider each of the following items, but will not give scores for these items, and should not consider them in providing an overall impact score.

Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity

Peer reviewers will separately evaluate the Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity after the overall score has been determined. Reviewers will examine the strategies to be used in the recruitment of individuals from underrepresented groups. The review panel's evaluation will be included in the summary statement. Plans will be rated as **acceptable** or **unacceptable**, and the summary statement will provide the consensus of the review committee.

Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research

Taking into account the scope, duration, and content of the proposed research education program, the reviewers will evaluate the adequacy of the proposed RCR training in relation to the following five required components:

1. *Format -* the required format of instruction, i.e., face-to-face lectures, coursework, and/or real-time discussion groups (a plan with only on-line instruction is not acceptable);
2. *Subject Matter -* the breadth of subject matter, e.g., conflict of interest, authorship, data management, human subjects and animal use, laboratory safety, research misconduct, research ethics;
3. *Faculty Participation -* the role of the program faculty in the instruction;
4. *Duration of Instruction -* the number of contact hours of instruction, taking into consideration the duration of the program; and
5. *Frequency of Instruction –* instruction must occur during each career stage and at least once every four years.

See also: NOT-OD-22-055 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-22-055.html). The review panel's evaluation will be included in the summary statement. Plans will be rated as **acceptable** or **unacceptable**, and the summary statement will provide the consensus of the review committee.

Applications from Foreign Organizations

Not Applicable.

Select Agent Research

Generally not applicable. Reviewers should bring any concerns to the attention of the Scientific Review Officer.

Resource Sharing Plans

Reviewers will comment on whether the Resource Sharing Plan(s) (e.g., Sharing Model Organisms (https://sharing.nih.gov/other-sharing-policies/model-organism-sharing-policy#policy-overview)) or the rationale for not sharing the resources, is reasonable. If support for development, maintenance, or enhancement of software is requested in the application, the reviewers will comment on the proposed software dissemination plan.

Budget and Period of Support

Reviewers will consider whether the budget and the requested period of support are fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed research.

2. Review and Selection Process

Applications will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by (an) appropriate Scientific Review Group(s), in accordance with NIH peer review policy and procedures (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11154), using the stated review criteria. Assignment to a Scientific Review Group will be shown in the eRA Commons.

As part of the scientific peer review, all applications will receive a written critique.

- May undergo a selection process in which only those applications deemed to have the highest scientific and technical merit (generally the top half of applications under review) will be discussed and assigned an overall impact score.

Applications will be assigned on the basis of established PHS referral guidelines to the appropriate NIH Institute or Center. Applications will compete for available funds with all other recommended applications submitted in response to this FOA. Following initial peer review, recommended applications will receive a second level of review by the appropriate national Advisory Council or Board. The following will be considered in making funding decisions:

- Scientific and technical merit of the proposed project as determined by scientific peer review.
- Availability of funds.
- Relevance of the proposed project to program priorities.

3. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

After the peer review of the application is completed, the PD/PI will be able to access his or her Summary Statement (written critique) via the eRA Commons (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11123). Refer to Part 1 for dates for peer review, advisory council review, and earliest start date.

Information regarding the disposition of applications is available in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11120).

Section VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices

If the application is under consideration for funding, NIH will request "just-in-time" information from the applicant as described in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_2/2.5.1_just-in-time_procedures.htm).

A formal notification in the form of a Notice of Award (NoA) will be provided to the applicant organization for successful applications. The NoA signed by the grants management officer is the authorizing document and will be sent via email to the recipient's business official.

Recipients must comply with any funding restrictions described in Section IV.6. Funding Restrictions. Selection of an application for award is not an authorization to begin performance. Any costs incurred before receipt of the NoA are at the recipient's risk. These costs may be reimbursed only to the extent considered allowable pre-award costs.

Any application awarded in response to this NOFO will be subject to terms and conditions found on the Award Conditions and Information for NIH Grants (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/part_ii_subpart_b.htm) website. This includes any recent legislation and policy applicable to awards that is highlighted on this website.

Institutional Review Board or Independent Ethics Committee Approval: Recipient institutions must ensure that protocols are reviewed by their IRB or IEC. To help ensure the safety of participants enrolled in NIH-funded studies, the recipient must provide NIH copies of documents related to all major changes in the status of ongoing protocols.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

All NIH grant and cooperative agreement awards include the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11120) as part of the NoA. For these terms of award, see the NIH Grants Policy Statement Part II: Terms and Conditions of NIH Grant Awards, Subpart A: General (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11157) and Part II: Terms and Conditions of NIH Grant Awards, Subpart B: Terms and Conditions for Specific Types of Grants, Recipients, and Activities (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11159), including of note, but not limited to:

- Federal wide Research Terms and Conditions (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_3/3.1_federalwide_standard_terms_and_conditions_for_research_grants.htm)
- Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-041.html)
- Acknowledgment of Federal Funding (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_4/4.2.1_acknowledgement_of_federal_funding.htm)

If a recipient is successful and receives a Notice of Award, in accepting the award, the recipient agrees that any activities under the award are subject to all provisions currently in effect or implemented during the period of the award, other Department regulations and policies in effect at the time of the award, and applicable statutory provisions.

Should the applicant organization successfully compete for an award, recipients of federal financial assistance (FFA) from HHS will be required to complete an HHS Assurance of Compliance form (HHS 690) in which the recipient agrees, as a condition of receiving the grant, to administer programs in compliance with federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex and disability, and agreeing to comply with federal conscience laws, where applicable. This includes ensuring that entities take meaningful steps to provide meaningful access to persons with limited English proficiency; and ensuring effective communication with persons with disabilities. Where applicable, Title XI and Section 1557 prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and gender identity, The HHS Office for Civil Rights provides guidance on complying with civil rights laws enforced by HHS. See https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-providers/provider-obligations/index.html (https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hhs.gov%2Fcivil-rights%2Ffor-providers%2Fprovider-obligations%2Findex.html&data=05%7C01%7Ccarrie.mitchell%40nih.gov%7Ce8bc304bfdb644bb556e08dac343ad36%7C14b77578977342d58507251ca2dc2b06%7C0%7C0%7C63803699269951 and https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/nondiscrimination/index.html (https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hhs.gov%2Fcivil-rights%2Ffor-individuals%2Fnondiscrimination%2Findex.html&data=05%7C01%7Ccarrie.mitchell%40nih.gov%7Ce8bc304bfdb644bb556e08dac343ad36%7C14b77578977342d58507251ca2dc2b06%7C0%7C0%

HHS recognizes that research projects are often limited in scope for many reasons that are nondiscriminatory, such as the principal investigator's scientific interest, funding limitations, recruitment requirements, and other considerations. Thus, criteria in research protocols that target or exclude certain populations are warranted where nondiscriminatory justifications establish that such criteria are appropriate with respect to the health or safety of the subjects, the scientific study design, or the purpose of the research. For additional guidance regarding how the provisions apply to NIH grant programs, please contact the Scientific/Research Contact that is identified in Section VII under Agency Contacts of this NOFO.

- For guidance on meeting the legal obligation to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to programs or activities by limited English proficient individuals see https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/special-topics/limited-english-proficiency/fact-sheet-guidance/index.html (https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/special-topics/limited-english-proficiency/fact-sheet-guidance/index.html) and https://www.lep.gov (https://www.lep.gov/).
- For information on an institution's specific legal obligations for serving qualified individuals with disabilities, including providing program access, reasonable modifications, and to provide effective communication, see https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/disability/index.html (https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/disability/index.html).

- HHS funded health and education programs must be administered in an environment free of sexual harassment, see https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/sex-discrimination/index.html (https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/sex-discrimination/index.html). For information about NIH's commitment to supporting a safe and respectful work environment, who to contact with questions or concerns, and what NIH's expectations are for institutions and the individuals supported on NIH-funded awards, please see https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/harassment.htm (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/harassment.htm).

- For guidance on administering programs in compliance with applicable federal religious nondiscrimination laws and applicable federal conscience protection and associated anti-discrimination laws see https://www.hhs.gov/conscience/conscience-protections/index.html (https://www.hhs.gov/conscience/conscience-protections/index.html) and https://www.hhs.gov/conscience/religious-freedom/index.html (https://www.hhs.gov/conscience/religious-freedom/index.html).

Please contact the HHS Office for Civil Rights for more information about obligations and prohibitions under federal civil rights laws at https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/about-us/contact-us/index.html (https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/about-us/contact-us/index.html) or call 1-800-368-1019 or TDD 1-800-537-7697.

In accordance with the statutory provisions contained in Section 872 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417), NIH awards will be subject to the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) requirements. FAPIIS requires Federal award making officials to review and consider information about an applicant in the designated integrity and performance system (currently FAPIIS) prior to making an award. An applicant, at its option, may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through FAPIIS and comment on any information about itself that a federal agency previously entered and is currently in FAPIIS. The Federal awarding agency will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to other information in FAPIIS, in making a judgement about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants as described in 45 CFR Part 75.205 and 2 CFR Part 200.206 "Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants." This provision will apply to all NIH grants and cooperative agreements except fellowships."

3. Data Management and Sharing

Note: The NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing is effective for due dates on or after January 25, 2023.

Consistent with the NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing, when data management and sharing is applicable to the award, recipients will be required to adhere to the Data Management and Sharing requirements as outlined in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_8/8.2.3_sharing_research_resources.htm). Upon the approval of a Data Management and Sharing Plan, it is required for recipients to implement the plan as described.

4. Reporting

When multiple years are involved, recipients will be required to submit the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) (//grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/index.htm) annually. Continuation support will not be provided until the required forms are submitted and accepted.

Programs that involve participants should report on education in the responsible conduct of research and complete a Trainee Diversity Report (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=61198), in accordance with the RPPR Instruction Guide (//grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/rppr_instruction_guide.pdf).

NIH NOFOs outline intended research goals and objectives. Post award, NIH will review and measure performance based on the details and outcomes that are shared within the RPPR, as described at 45 CFR Part 75.301 and 2 CFR 200.301.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Transparency Act), includes a requirement for recipients of Federal grants to report information about first-tier subawards and executive compensation under Federal assistance awards issued in FY2011 or later. All recipients of applicable NIH grants and cooperative agreements are required to report to the Federal Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) available at www.fsrs.gov (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11170) on all subawards over the threshold. See the *NIH Grants Policy Statement* (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_4/4.1.8_federal_funding_accountability_and_transparency_act__ffata_.htm) for additional information on this reporting requirement.

Failure by the recipient institution to submit required forms in a timely, complete, and accurate manner may result in an expenditure disallowance or a delay in any continuation funding for the award.

In accordance with the regulatory requirements 45 CFR Part 75 and 2 CFR Part 200 and Appendix XII to 45 CFR Part 75.113 and 2 CFR Part 200.113, recipients that have currently active Federal grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies with a cumulative total value greater than $10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of a Federal award, must report and maintain the currency of information reported in the System for Award Management (SAM) about civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings in connection with the award or performance of a Federal award that reached final disposition within the most recent five-year period. The recipient must also make semiannual disclosures regarding such proceedings. Proceedings information will be made publicly available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently FAPIIS). This is a statutory requirement under section 872 of Public Law 110-417, as amended (41 U.S.C. 2313). As required by section 3010 of Public Law 111-212, all information posted in the designated integrity and performance system on or after April 15, 2011, except past performance reviews required for Federal procurement contracts, will be publicly available. Full reporting requirements and procedures are found in Appendix XII to 45 CFR Part 75 and 2 CFR Part 200 – Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.

Funded programs are expected to provide evidence of accomplishing the educational objectives in progress reports and upon renewal. Continuation support will not be provided until the required forms are submitted and accepted. Recipients must submit the Data (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/data-tables.htm)Tables 8A and 8C, as applicable, with the RPPR. In addition, recipients should provide a summary of participant information in Section G1 of the RPPR.

- The institution must submit a completed Statement of Appointment (PHS Form 2271 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=61189)) for each participant appointed full time for eight weeks or more or the equivalent. Recipients must submit the PHS 2271 data electronically using the xTrain system. More information on xTrain is available at xTrain (eRA Commons) (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=41183). An appointment or reappointment may begin any time during the budget period, but not before the budget period start date of the grant year.
- Participant Termination Notice: Within 30 days of the end of the total support period for each participant, the institution must submit a Termination Notice (PHS Form 416-7 (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=41179)) via xTrain (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=41183) for each participant appointed full time for eight weeks or more, or the equivalent.

A final RPPR and the expenditure data portion of the Federal Financial Report are required for closeout of an award as described in the *NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11161)*.

5. Evaluation

In carrying out its stewardship of human resource-related programs, the NIH or its Institutes and Centers will periodically evaluate their R25 research education programs, employing the measures identified below. In assessing the effectiveness of its research education investments, NIH may request information from databases, PD/PIs, and from participants themselves. Where necessary, PD/PIs and participants may be contacted after the completion of a research education experience for periodic updates on participants' subsequent educational or employment history and professional activities.

Upon the completion of a program evaluation, NIH and its ICs will determine whether to (a) continue a program as currently configured, (b) continue a program with modifications, or (c) discontinue a program.

In evaluating this research education program the NIH expects to use the following evaluation measures:

For Courses for Skills Development:

- Aggregate number and demographic characteristics of participants
- Educational level of participants

- Content
- Participants' feedback on the program
- New knowledge or skills acquired

For Research Experience and Mentoring Programs Involving the Following Groups:

Graduate Students:

- Aggregate number and demographic characteristics of participants
- Subsequent educational/career progress of participants, including:

> Successful completion of a STEM graduate program
> Subsequent participation in a formal research training or career development program in a STEM field
> Subsequent participation in research
> Subsequent employment in a research or research-related field
> Subsequent authorship of scientific publications in a STEM field
> Subsequent independent research grant support from NIH or another source

Postdoctorates and Early Career Investigators:

- Aggregate number and demographic characteristics of participants
- Subsequent educational/career progress of participants, including:

> Subsequent participation in research
> Subsequent employment in a research or research-related field
> Subsequent authorship of scientific publications in a STEM field
> Subsequent independent research grant support from NIH or another source

Section VII. Agency Contacts

We encourage inquiries concerning this funding opportunity and welcome the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants.

Application Submission Contacts

eRA Service Desk (Questions regarding ASSIST, eRA Commons, application errors and warnings, documenting system problems that threaten submission by the due date, and post-submission issues)

Finding Help Online: https://www.era.nih.gov/need-help (https://www.era.nih.gov/need-help) (preferred method of contact)
Telephone: 301-402-7469 or 866-504-9552 (Toll Free)

General Grants Information (Questions regarding application instructions, application processes, and NIH grant resources)
Email: GrantsInfo@nih.gov (mailto:GrantsInfo@nih.gov) (preferred method of contact)
Telephone: 301-637-3015

Grants.gov Customer Support (Questions regarding Grants.gov registration and Workspace)
Contact Center Telephone: 800-518-4726
Email: support@grants.gov (mailto:support@grants.gov)

SBA Company Registry (Questions regarding required registration at the SBA Company Registry and for technical questions or issues)
Website to Email: http://sbir.gov/feedback?type=reg (http://sbir.gov/feedback?type=reg)

Scientific/Research Contact(s)

Michelle Jones-London, Ph.D.
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
Telephone: 301-451-7966
Email: jonesmiche@ninds.nih.gov (mailto:jonesmiche@ninds.nih.gov)

Angela L Holmes
NIDA - NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE
Phone: (301) 827-2487
E-mail: angela.holmes2@nih.gov (mailto:angela.holmes2@nih.gov)

James Churchill, Ph.D.
National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
Telephone: 301-443-3621
Email: churchillj@mail.nih.gov (mailto:churchillj@mail.nih.gov)

Ivana Grakalic, Ph.D.
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
Telephone: 301-443-7600
Email: igrakalic@mail.nih.gov (mailto:igrakalic@mail.nih.gov)

Peer Review Contact(s)

Ernest Lyons, Ph.D.
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
Telephone: 301-496-9223
Email: LyonsE@ninds.nih.gov (mailto:LyonsE@ninds.nih.gov)

Ranga Srinivas, Ph.D.
National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
Telephone: 301-451-2067
Email: srinivar@mail.nih.gov (mailto:srinivar@mail.nih.gov)

Dharmendar Rathore, PhD
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Telephone: 301-402-6965
Email: Dharmendar.Rathore@nih.gov (mailto:Dharmendar.Rathore@nih.gov).

Financial/Grants Management Contact(s)

Chief Grants Management Officer
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
Email: ChiefGrantsManagementOfficer@ninds.nih.gov (mailto:ChiefGrantsManagementOfficer@ninds.nih.gov)

Pamela G Fleming
NIDA - NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE
Phone: 301-480-1159
E-mail: pfleming@mail.nih.gov (mailto:pfleming@mail.nih.gov)

Terri Jarosik
National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
Telephone: 301-443-3858
Email: tjarosik@mail.nih.gov (mailto:tjarosik@mail.nih.gov)

Judy Fox
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
Telephone: 301-443-4704
Email: judy.fox@nih.gov (mailto:judy.fox@nih.gov)

Section VIII. Other Information

Recently issued trans-NIH policy notices (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11163) may affect your application submission. A full list of policy notices published by NIH is provided in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11164). All awards are subject to the terms and conditions, cost principles, and other considerations described in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (//grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/url_redirect.htm?id=11120).
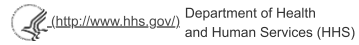
Authority and Regulations

Awards are made under the authorization of Sections 301 and 405 of the Public Health Service Act as amended (42 USC 241 and 284) and under Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 75.

NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices (/grants/guide/index.html)

NIH>National Institutes of Health (/grants/oer.htm)
Office of Extramural Research

(http://www.hhs.gov/) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

USA.gov (http://www.usa.gov/)
Government Made Easy

NIH... Turning Discovery Into Health®

Note: For help accessing PDF, RTF, MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Audio or Video files, see Help Downloading Files (/grants/edocs.htm).