



Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
Early Investigator Advancement Program
Mentored Mock Review

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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EIAP VIRTUAL MENTORED MOCK REVIEW
Wednesday, May 8, 2024

AGENDA

1:00 – 1:10 PM	Welcome/Introductions Dr. Behrouz Davani and Mr. Daniel Eckstein <i>NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities</i>
1:10 – 1:30 PM	Administrative Remarks Dr. Shahana Majid <i>NIH Center for Scientific Review</i>
1:30 – 3:25 PM	EIAP Mock Review Exercise Dr. Shahana Majid <i>NIH Center for Scientific Review</i>
1:30 – 1:55 PM	Elizabeth Gerstner, 1R01CA244975-01
1:55 – 2:20 PM	Wayne William Hancock, 1R01CA177852-01A1
2:20 – 2:45 PM	John Heintzman, 1R01CA258464-01A1
2:45 – 3:10 PM	Valerie McCormack, 1R01CA244559-01A1
3:10 – 3:25 PM	Kathrin Milbury, 1R01CA247307-01A1
3:25 – 3:50 PM	Session Summary Moderators: Dr. Shahrooz Vahedi and Mr. Daniel Eckstein <i>NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities</i>

AGENDA CONT.

3:50 – 4:00 PM	Break
4:00 – 4:45 PM	Panel Discussion Moderators: Dr. Shahrooz Vahedi and Mr. Daniel Eckstein <i>NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities</i> Dr. Behrouz Davani <i>NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities</i> Dr. Shahana Majid <i>NIH Center for Scientific Review</i> Dr. Michelle Mollica, Ph.D., M.P.H., R.N., OCN <i>NCI Division of Cancer Control & Population Sciences, Office of Cancer Survivorship</i> Dr. Goli Samimi, Ph.D., M.P.H. <i>NCI Division of Cancer Prevention</i> Dr. Elizabeth “Elisa” Woodhouse, Ph.D. <i>NCI Division of Cancer Biology</i>
4:45 – 4:50 PM	Evaluation Mr. Daniel Eckstein <i>NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities</i>
4:50 – 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks Dr. Nelson Aguila <i>NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities</i>

MOCK REVIEW ROSTER

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NCI CRCHD MENTORED MOCK REVIEW WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2024

MOCK REVIEW CHAIRS



**Cousin,
Lakeshia, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
University of Florida
Riverview, FL



**Kesarwala, Aparna,
M.D., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Emory University
School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA



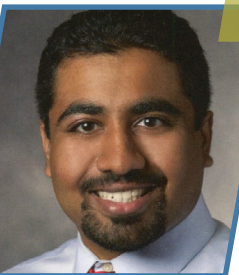
Kleckner, Amber, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
University of Maryland Baltimore
Baltimore, MD



**Ramos,
Katherine, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Duke University School
of Medicine
Durham, NC



**Salahudeen,
Ameen,
M.D., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
University of Illinois at Chicago
Oak Park, IL

ROSTER

REVIEWERS



**Adsul, Prajakta,
M.B.B.S., M.P.H.,
Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM



**Byrd, Doratha,
Ph.D., M.P.H.**

Assistant Member
Moffitt Cancer Center
Tampa, FL



Castillo, Paul, M.D.

Assistant Professor
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL



**Ene,
Chibawanye, M.D.,
Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
University of Texas, MD
Anderson Cancer Center
Pearland, TX



**Hazra, Aditi,
Ph.D., M.P.H.**

Assistant Professor
BWH/Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA



Hoang, Kimberly, M.D.

Assistant Professor
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA

ROSTER

REVIEWERS



**Jimenez Sainz,
Judit, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Medical University of
South Carolina
Charleston, SC



**Knollhoff, Stephanie,
Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO



**Mahoney, Diane,
Ph.D., D.N.P.**

Assistant Professor
University of Kansas School
of Nursing
Kansas City, KS



**Martinez Zamudio,
Ricardo, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School
Piscataway, NJ



Nagalo, Bolni, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences
Little Rock, AR



**Nwaozuru, Ucheoma,
Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Wake Forest University School
of Medicine
Winston-Salem, NC

ROSTER

REVIEWERS



**Perez, Giselle,
Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Mass General Hospital/Harvard
Medical School
Boston, MA



Simmons, Glenn, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY



**Singh, Komal, R.N.,
Ph.D.**

Nurse Scientist
Mayo Clinic
Phoenix, AZ



Tergas, Ana, M.D.

Assistant Professor
City of Hope
Duarte, CA



Thomas, Michael, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Howard University
Washington, DC



Vang, Suzanne, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
NYU Grossman School of Medicine
New York, NY

REVIEWERS



**Velazquez
Villarreal,
Enrique, M.D., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
City of Hope
Duarte, CA



Yeboa, Nana, M.D.

Associate Professor
University of Texas, MD Anderson
Cancer Center
Houston, TX

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OFFICER



Majid, Shahana, Ph.D.

Scientific Review Officer
Center for Scientific Review
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD

BIOGRAPHIES

BIOGRAPHIES

MODERATORS



**H. Nelson Aguila,
D.V.M.**

Deputy Director
NCI Center to Reduce
Cancer Health Disparities

Dr. Aguila is Deputy Director of NCI's CRCHD. In this capacity, he plays a central role in coordinating the day-to-day functions of the Center and development of strategic planning, priority-setting, and management of CRCHD's disparities research, diversity training, and community education/outreach efforts.

Previously, Dr. Aguila served as Chief of CRCHD's Diversity Training Branch. Prior to coming to NIH, Dr. Aguila worked at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a Reviewer Toxicologist at the Center for Veterinary Medicine. Earlier in his career, Dr. Aguila held senior research scientist positions in neuropathology at the University of Miami and, later, in cancer gene therapy at Aventis-Gencell.

Dr. Aguila earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at Austral University in Chile and trained as a neurobiologist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas.



Daniel Eckstein

Program Director,
NCI Center to Reduce
Cancer Health Disparities

Mr. Eckstein has been a program director in the Diversity Training Branch (DTB) of NCI's CRCHD since April 2023. Mr. Eckstein is a program director on several programs including the Early Investigator Advancement Program (EIAP) and the R13 Conference Grant mechanism. Prior to joining DTB, Mr. Eckstein served as the Vice President for Health Communications and Education for NOVA Research Company (now Lumina Corps) where he and his team supported numerous communications contracts across NIH and within other HHS agencies. In addition, Mr. Eckstein was the principal investigator on several NIH Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) projects related to the development of health communication and health education products.

Mr. Eckstein earned a B.S. in journalism from the University of Maryland, College Park. He received his M.A. in public communication from American University focusing on health communication.



Shahrooz Vahedi, Ph.D.

Program Director
NCI Center to Reduce
Cancer Health Disparities

Dr. Vahedi has been a program director in the Diversity Training Branch of NCI's CRCHD since September 2022. He primarily oversees and manages K01 and K22 career development awards. Prior to joining CRCHD, he was a scientific review officer at the Immunology and Infectious Diseases A review branch at the Center for Scientific Review, organizing the Innate Immunity and Inflammation study section.

Dr. Vahedi received his Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Sciences and completed his post-Ph.D. training as an NCI intramural fellow. His primary research interest focused on defining the role of lymphocyte-specific tyrosine kinase in cancer development and progression.

PANELISTS



Behrouz Davani, Ph.D.

Chief, Diversity Training
Branch
NCI Center to Reduce
Cancer Health Disparities

Dr. Davani has been Chief of the Diversity Training Branch of NCI's CRCHD since 2022. In this capacity, he plays a central role in the strategic planning of the Branch and program implementation to enhance workforce diversity in cancer research. He oversees management of NCI's diversity-focused training programs, including the extramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) program.

Prior to his appointment as Chief, Dr. Davani served as a program director in the Division for Research Capacity Building, National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), where he oversaw the IDeA Regional Entrepreneurship Development Program and managed grants for the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence, IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence, Science Education Partnership Awards, and Native American Research Centers for Health Programs. Before his time at NIGMS, Dr. Davani was a program director in NCI's CRCHD, during which time he led the development, implementation, and management of various programs that address cancer health disparities. In this capacity, Dr. Davani managed, comanaged, or coordinated multiple CURE programs, Comprehensive Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (CPACHE U54) partnerships, and the PACHE Feasibility Studies to Build Collaborative Partnerships in Cancer Research (P20) program, among others.

Prior to first joining NCI, Dr. Davani served as a scientific review manager in the Peer Review Science and Management Division of Society of Research Administrators (SRA) International. While at SRA, he oversaw and managed the scientific review process for multiple research programs, including breast, ovarian, and lung cancer, for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. He received his Ph.D. in molecular endocrinology from Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden.

Dr. Davani is committed to developing innovative research and educational programs to advance health equity and promote diversity in biomedical research.



**Shahana Majid,
Ph.D.**

Scientific Review Officer
NIH Center for
Scientific Review

Dr. Majid was an associate professor at the University of California, San Francisco, prior to joining CSR. The main focus of Dr. Majid's research was to understand the genetic, epigenetic, molecular signaling pathways and non-coding RNAs that drive initiation, progression, and metastasis of urological cancers. In addition, she worked to develop novel molecular biomarkers for early detection and risk assessment of urological cancers. Through collaborations, Dr. Majid also investigated molecular mechanisms underlying melanoma, cholangiocarcinoma, and breast cancer. Dr. Majid has published 94 research articles in peer reviewed journals including *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *National Academy of Sciences*, *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, *Cell Death & Disease*, *Cancer Research*, and *Clinical Cancer Research*.



**Michelle Mollica,
Ph.D., M.P.H., R.N.,
O.C.N.**

Deputy Director
NCI Division of Cancer
Control & Population
Sciences,
Office of Cancer
Survivorship

Dr. Mollica serves as deputy director of the NCI Office of Cancer Survivorship. In this role, she is responsible for developing, supporting, and promoting research efforts focused on cancer survivorship. Dr. Mollica also holds a secondary appointment as a program director in the Outcomes Research Branch (ORB) of the Healthcare Delivery Research Program, where she manages a research portfolio of grants focused on cancer survivorship and healthcare delivery across the lifecourse, from childhood through older adulthood. Dr. Mollica serves as scientific lead for several recent notices of funding opportunities focused on specific aspects of survivorship care.

With an enduring interest in improving care for those impacted by cancer, Dr. Mollica has specific expertise in the intersection of survivorship and healthcare delivery, including the transition into post-treatment survivorship, models of survivorship and palliative care, integration of oncology and non-oncology providers, and special survivorship populations (e.g., individuals living with advanced and metastatic cancers, cancer caregivers, and pediatric and adolescent and young adult cancer survivors). She has a background in mixed methods research and community-engaged research and has experience conducting qualitative research and intervention development in underserved populations.

Dr. Mollica came to NCI as a Cancer Prevention Fellow in ORB, before serving as a program director in the branch. Prior to NCI, Dr. Mollica spent over 10 years working clinically as an oncology nurse at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City and at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo, New York.



Goli Samimi, Ph.D.

Program Director
NCI Division of
Cancer Prevention

Dr. Samimi received her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences from the University of California, San Diego, focusing on molecular mechanisms in ovarian cancer that conferred resistance to platinum-based chemotherapy. For her postdoctorate, she joined the Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program (CPFP) at NCI in 2005, in which she completed her Master of Public Health degree at Harvard School of Public Health, examining associations between measures of energy balance and mammographic density using data from the Nurses' Health Study. Her research at NCI as a CPFP Fellow focused on molecular profiling of the tumor microenvironment in high-grade serous ovarian cancer. In 2011, Dr. Samimi joined the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in Sydney, Australia, as Head of the Ovarian Cancer Research Group. Her lab research focused on the development of a blood-based DNA test for early detection of ovarian cancer, and the evaluation of a novel targeted therapeutic in high-grade serous ovarian cancer.

Since 2015, Dr. Samimi has served as a program director in the Breast and Gynecologic Cancer Research Group, DCP, NCI. She manages the ovarian and endometrial cancer prevention portfolios and serves as scientific lead within the NCI Division of Cancer Prevention Clinical Trials Network. Dr. Samimi's research interests include molecular mechanisms of ovarian cancer etiology and identification of women and families at high risk for ovarian cancer.

Dr. Samimi leads the Traceback program, aimed to increase identification of families at increased risk for ovarian cancer by genetic testing of previously diagnosed cases. She is also working with DCP's PREVENT program and the Center for Advanced Preclinical Research at NCI-Frederick to develop relevant ovarian cancer mouse models to test agents with potential for ovarian cancer prevention. In addition, Dr. Samimi leads studies investigating perceptions of cancer risk and decision-making regarding cancer prevention in primary care physicians. Dr. Samimi also works with the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to identify the gaps in the field related to progression of benign gynecologic disease to gynecologic cancer.



Elizabeth Woodhouse, Ph.D.

Program Director
NCI Division of
Cancer Biology

Dr. Woodhouse has expertise in extracellular vesicles, extracellular matrix, cell adhesion, angiogenesis, and cancer cell migration. She manages a grant portfolio focusing on tumor microenvironment dynamics that facilitate co-organization and regulation of early lesion indolence/aggressiveness, tumor progression, and response to cancer therapy.

She is excited about the growing interest in the complex tumor microenvironment, in particular the role of heterogeneous stromal cell types-tumor interplay at different stages of tumorigenesis.

Along with her work in DCB, Dr. Woodhouse is also a member of the Trans-NIH Lymphatic Coordinating Committee, and the Federal Working Group on Bone Diseases.

RESOURCES

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OVERVIEW

[Website](#)

[Contact Information and Staff Bios](#)

Twitter: [@NCICRCHD](#)

LinkedIn: [NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities \(CRCHD\)](#)

CRCHD FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

DISPARITIES RESEARCH

Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Tiffany Wallace, Ph.D.

Chief, Disparities Research Branch

tiffany.wallace@nih.gov

Exploratory/Developmental Grants Program for Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Tiffany Wallace, Ph.D.

Chief, Disparities Research Branch

tiffany.wallace@nih.gov

Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Tiffany Wallace, Ph.D.

Chief, Disparities Research Branch

tiffany.wallace@nih.gov

Exploratory Grant Award to Promote Workforce Diversity in Basic Cancer Research (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Laritza M. Rodriguez, M.D., Ph.D.

Program Director

laritza.rodriquez@nih.gov

Sangeeta Ghosh, Ph.D.

Program Director

sangeeta.ghosh@nih.gov

Patient Derived Xenograft (PDX) Development and Trial Centers (PDTs) Network (U54 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Tiffany Wallace, Ph.D.

Chief, Disparities Research Branch

tiffany.wallace@nih.gov

Note: This program is not currently accepting applications.

Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPoREs) in Cancer Health Disparities and Minority Health (CHD-MH) (U54 Clinical Trial Optional)

CONTACTS

Leah Hubbard, Ph.D.
 Program Director and
 Chief Diversity Officer
leah.hubbard@nih.gov

Tiffany Wallace, Ph.D.
 Chief, Disparities Research Branch
tiffany.wallace@nih.gov

DIVERSITY TRAINING

MENTORED CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS:

NCI Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity
(K01 Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed) and (K01 Clinical Trial Required)

Shahrooz Vahedi, Ph.D.
 Program Director
shahrooz.vahedi@nih.gov

NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity
(K08 - Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed) and (K08 Clinical Trial Required)

Laritza M. Rodriguez, M.D., Ph.D.
 Program Director
laritza.rodriguez@nih.gov

NON-MENTORED CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD:

NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity
(K22 Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed) and (K22 Clinical Trial Required)

Shahrooz Vahedi, Ph.D.
 Program Director
shahrooz.vahedi@nih.gov

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Individual Predoctoral Fellowship to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Parent F31-Diversity)

Sangeeta Ghosh, Ph.D.
 Program Director
sangeeta.ghosh@nih.gov

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry, Re-Integration into, and Re-training in Health-Related Research Careers
(Admin Supp - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

JoBeth McCarthy, D.H.Sc.(c), M.P.H., CPH (C)
 Program Director
jobeth.mccarthy-jean@nih.gov

Jiexin (Jason) Liu, Ph.D., M.B.A., M.S.
Program Director
liuj9@mail.nih.gov

Fulera Salami, M.P.H.
Health Specialist
fulera.salami@nih.gov

Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Admin Supp - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

JoBeth McCarthy, D.H.Sc.(c), M.P.H., CPH (C)
Program Director
jobeth.mccarthy-jean@nih.gov

Jiexin (Jason) Liu, Ph.D., M.B.A., M.S.
Program Director
liuj9@mail.nih.gov

Fulera Salami, M.P.H.
Health Specialist
fulera.salami@nih.gov

Chantel Fuqua, Ph.D.
Program Director
chantel.fuqua@nih.gov

WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

Cancer Moonshot Scholars Program

LeeAnn Bailey, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., M.S.
Chief, Integrated Networks Branch
leeann.bailey@nih.gov

Tiffany Wallace, Ph.D.
Chief, Disparities Research Branch
tiffany.wallace@nih.gov

Early Investigator Advancement Program (EIAP)

JoBeth McCarthy, D.H.Sc.(c), M.P.H., CPH (C)
Program Director
jobeth.mccarthy-jean@nih.gov

Daniel Eckstein, M.A. (C)
Program Director
daniel.eckstein@nih.gov

Maria Jamela (Jay) R. Revilleza, Ph.D., M.Sc.
 Program Director
mariajamela.revilleza@nih.gov

CRCHD PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)

Jessica Calzola, Ph.D., P.M.P.
 Program Director
iCURE@nih.gov

Gregory Adams, Jr., M.S., Ph.D.
 Program Director
iCURE@nih.gov

Comprehensive Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (CPACHE) (U54 Clinical Trial Optional)

Sandra L. San Miguel-Majors, Dr.P.H., M.S.
 Program Director
sandra.sanmiguel@nih.gov

Transformative Educational Advancement and Mentoring Network (TEAM)

Whitney Barfield Steward, Ph.D.
 Program Director
whitney.barfield@nih.gov

Note: This program is not currently accepting applications.

Youth Enjoy Science (YES) Research Education Program (R25)

Sangeeta Ghosh, Ph.D.
 Program Director
sangeeta.ghosh@nih.gov

Administrative Supplements to Support Cancer Disparity Collaborative Research (Clinical Trial Optional)

Maria Jamela (Jay) R. Revilleza, Ph.D., M.Sc.
 Program Director
mariajamela.revilleza@nih.gov

Sarah M. Szurek, Ph.D. (C)
 Program Director
sarah.szurek@nih.gov

CONNECTING UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS TO CLINICAL TRIALS (CUSP2CT)

A Multilevel Approach to Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (CUSP2CT; U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Sandra L. San Miguel-Majors, Dr.P.H., M.S.
 Program Director
sandra.sanmiguel@nih.gov

Whitney Barfield Steward, Ph.D.
 Program Director
whitney.barfield@nih.gov

Note: This program is not currently accepting applications.

Data, Evaluation and Coordinating Center for: A Multilevel Approach to Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (CUSP2CT) (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Whitney Barfield Steward, Ph.D.
 Program Director
whitney.barfield@nih.gov

Sandra L. San Miguel-Majors, Dr.P.H., M.S.
 Program Director
sandra.sanmiguel@nih.gov

Note: This program is not currently accepting applications.

Feasibility Studies to Build Collaborative Partnerships in Cancer Research (P20 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Behrous Davani, Ph.D.
 Chief, Diversity Training Branch
behrous.davani@nih.gov

Note: This program is not currently accepting applications.

Notice of Special Interest in Research on the Health of Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations

LeeAnn Bailey, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., M.S.
Chief, Integrated Networks Branch
leeann.bailey@nih.gov

Whitney Barfield Steward, Ph.D.
Program Director
whitney.barfield@nih.gov

Research on the Health of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Populations: [R21](#), [R01](#)

LeeAnn Bailey, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., M.S.
Chief, Integrated Networks Branch
leeann.bailey@nih.gov

Whitney Barfield Steward, Ph.D.
Program Director
whitney.barfield@nih.gov

NIH GRANT APPLICATION RESOURCES

NIH Grants and Funding Information: grants.nih.gov

[Find funding](#)

[How to apply](#)

Explore NIH-funded research: ([RePORT](#))

Center for Scientific Review: public.csr.nih.gov

Early Stage Investigator Policies: grants.nih.gov/policy/early-stage/index.htm

NIH/NCI TRAINING RESOURCES

NCI Resources for Researchers: cancer.gov/research/resources

EXTRAMURAL

Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE): cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/cure

NIH Extramural Diversity: extramural-diversity.nih.gov

Center for Cancer Training: cancer.gov/grants-training/training/about

INTRAMURAL

Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE): cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/icure

Office of Intramural Training and Education: training.nih.gov

NIH Intramural Research Program: irp.nih.gov

NCI Center for Cancer Research: ccr.cancer.gov

NCI Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics: dceg.cancer.gov

Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program: cpfp.cancer.gov

Lasker Clinical Research Scholars:

nih.gov/research-training/lasker-clinical-research-scholars

Stadtman Tenure-Track Investigators:

irp.nih.gov/careers/trans-nih-scientific-recruitments/stadtman-tenure-track-investigators

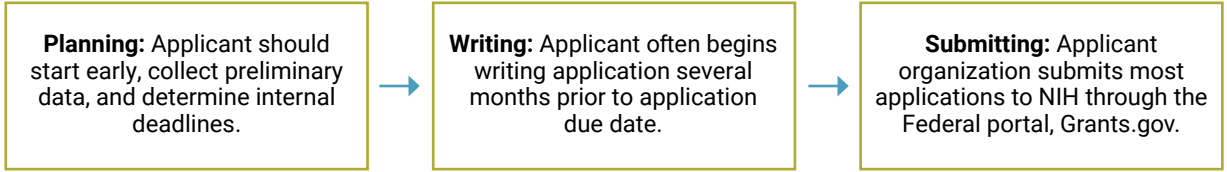
See our [Fact Sheets](#) for additional information about CRCHD programs, initiatives, and funding opportunities.



NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH GRANT PROCESS AT-A-GLANCE



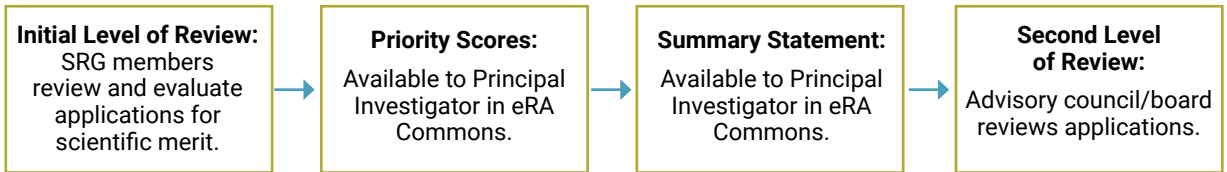
Planning, Writing and Submitting



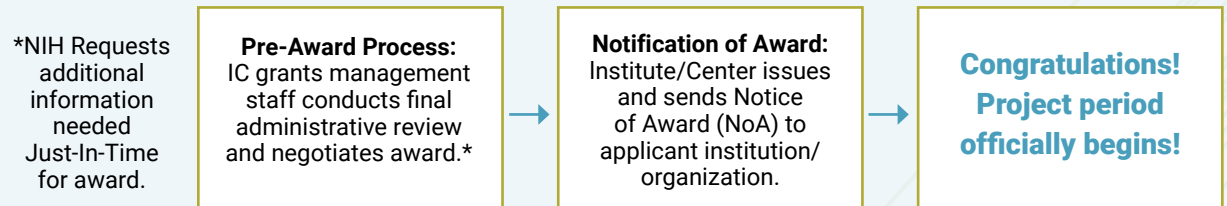
Receipt and Referral | 1-3 Months



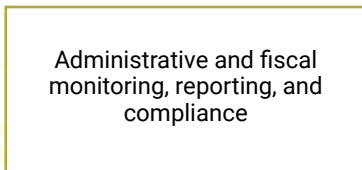
Peer Review | 4-8 Months



Award | 9-10 Months



Post-Award Management



Visit: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants_process.htm for more about the NIH grants process.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The bottom right corner of the page features a series of thin, parallel yellow lines that curve upwards and to the right, creating a sense of motion and modern design.

CRCHD would like to give a special thanks to the Planning Committee members, the Mock Review Facilitators, Panelists, Lumina Corps, the Center for Scientific Review (CSR), and the Electronic Research Administration (eRA). We appreciate their contributions, commitment, and dedication in organizing the 2024 EIAP Mentored Mock Review.

NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

Co-Chairs

Mr. Daniel Eckstein
Dr. Shahrooz Vahedi

Members

Ms. Dionne Burt
Dr. Behrouz Davani
Ms. Janice Jeter

Lumina Corps

Ms. Kara Hannah
Ms. Michelle Murray
Mr. Ben Neal

Mock Review Panelists

Dr. Michelle Mollica, NCI Division of Cancer Control & Population Sciences, Office of Cancer Survivorship
Dr. Goli Samimi, NCI Division of Cancer Prevention
Dr. Elizabeth Woodhouse, NCI Division of Cancer Biology

Mock Review Facilitators

Dr. Shahana Majid
Ms. Akila Vasudevan





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