NCI CRCHD Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity Program Interactive Virtual Technical Assistance Workshop

July 15, 2020

NIH) NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

CENTER TO REDUCE CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

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Agenda

NCI CRCHD Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity Program Interactive Virtual Technical Assistance Workshop Agenda
July 15, 2020 | 11:00 AM – 4:30 PM ET

Workshop Objective: The Technical Assistance Workshop (TAW) will provide an interactive, skills-building, virtual workshop for select PACHE postdoctoral fellows, early stage investigators, and new investigators.

- Grantsmanship support (via 5 hours of didactic and interactive skills-building sessions)
- One-on-one meeting with the CURE) program director who manages the CURE funding opportunity
- One-on-one meeting with an NCI program director who manages the NCI grants portfolio in their area of research

Time	Topic
11:00 – 11:20 am	**Welcome/TAW Overview** Mary Ann S. Van Duyn, PhD, MPH: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Peter Ogunbiyi, DVM, PhD: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
11:20 – 11:45 am	**Introduction to the Grants Process: Effective Grant Writing Strategies** Speaker: Anil Wali, PhD: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
11:45 am – 1:00 pm	**Biosketch and Environment: Effective Grant Writing Strategies** Facilitator: Mary Ann S. Van Duyn, PhD, MPH: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Speaker: John Ojeifo, MD, PhD: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
1:00 – 1:10 pm	**Break**
1:10 – 2:25 pm	**Specific Aims/Research Strategy: Effective Grant Writing Strategies** Facilitator: Samson Y. Gebreab, PhD, MSc: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Speaker: Tiffany Wallace, PhD: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Discussants: • Brandy Heckman-Stoddard, PhD: NCI Division of Cancer Prevention • Damali Martin, PhD: NCI Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences • Joanna Watson, PhD: NCI Division of Cancer Biology
2:25 – 2:55 pm	**Summary Panel Discussion/Q&A: Program Directors** Facilitator: Peter Ogunbiyi, DVM, PhD: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
2:55 – 3:05 pm	**Break**
3:05 – 4:20 pm	**K Award Career Development Plan: Effective Grant Writing Strategies** Facilitator: Hana Odeh, PhD: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Speaker: Mulualem E. Tilahun, DVM, PhD: NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
4:20 – 4:30 pm	**Wrap-up/Concluding Remarks**

About the Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (PACHE) Program

About PACHE

Initiated in 2001, the Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (PACHE) is a program that provides institutional awards for the development of partnerships between institutions serving underserved health disparity populations and underrepresented students (ISUPS) and NCI-designated Cancer Centers (CCs). Each partnership is expected to conduct cancer and cancer health disparities research, develop and implement cancer research experiences and research education for scientists and students, and effectively conduct outreach and disseminate cancer advances to underserved communities. If you are interested in more information, contact the principal investigators listed in the PACHE Project Listing.

What PACHE Does

The PACHE program is designed to:

- Increase the participation of the ISUPS in cancer research and research training.
- Increase the involvement and effectiveness of NCI-designated CCs in developing effective research, education, and outreach programs to encourage diversity among competitive researchers and reduce cancer health disparities.

These partnerships foster and support intensive collaborations to develop stronger cancer programs intended to increase understanding of cancer health disparities that disproportionately affect racial and ethnic minority and socioeconomically disadvantaged populations.

The PACHE program charges participating ISUPS and NCI-designated Cancer Centers with combining their different areas of expertise to develop mutually beneficial partnerships. These partnerships are expected to achieve the following general objectives:

1. Increase the participation of ISUPS in the nation's cancer research and research training enterprise.
2. Produce more competitive grant applications from underrepresented scientists.
3. Increase competitive research capacity of ISUPS.
4. Increase the role of CCs in augmenting education related to underserved populations.
5. Develop more effective outreach and education programs that will have an impact on underserved populations and individuals from underrepresented backgrounds.
6. Enhance research in cancer health disparities at CCs.
7. Identify and share innovative methods and approaches that strengthen and sustain each partnership.

The PACHE program targets cancer research, cancer education, and cancer outreach. The PACHE grants support pilot and full research projects for a maximum period of three years, after which they are expected to be developed into independent projects supported by a traditional NIH/NCI peer-reviewed funding mechanism (i.e., R01/R21/U01, etc.) or other competitive funding support.

PACHE Funding Mechanisms/Opportunities

The PACHE establishes its partnerships through two different mechanisms: the Feasibility Studies to Build Collaborative Partnerships in Cancer Research (P20 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) and the Comprehensive Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (CPACHE) (U54 Clinical Trial Optional).

P20

The P20 mechanism is designed to facilitate the planning and execution of focused collaborations in cancer-related research, research experience, and research education. A major goal of the NCI P20 partnership programs is to provide support for investigators at ISUPS and Cancer Centers (or other institutions with highly organized, integrated research efforts focused on cancer) to conduct cancer research and cancer research education programs. The pilot projects and education programs are planned to allow awardees to obtain preliminary data that will lead to competitive applications for funding by NIH/NCI and/or other federal/non-federal agencies.

U54

The U54 mechanism develops and maintains comprehensive, long-term, and mutually beneficial partnerships between ISUPS and NCI-designated CCs. The institutions in each partnership are expected to work collaboratively to: 1) increase the cancer research and cancer research education capacity of the ISUPS; 2) increase the number of students and investigators from underrepresented populations engaged in cancer research; 3) improve the effectiveness of CCs in developing and sustaining research programs focused on cancer health disparities; 4) increase the number of investigators and students conducting cancer health disparities research; and 5) develop and implement cancer-related activities that benefit the surrounding underserved communities.

Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (PACHE) Partnerships

P20 Partnerships
University of Houston
Baylor College of Medicine
Langston University
University of North Texas Health Science Center
University of Houston
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center
University of California at Riverside
Beckman Research Institute/City of Hope
Howard University
Georgetown University

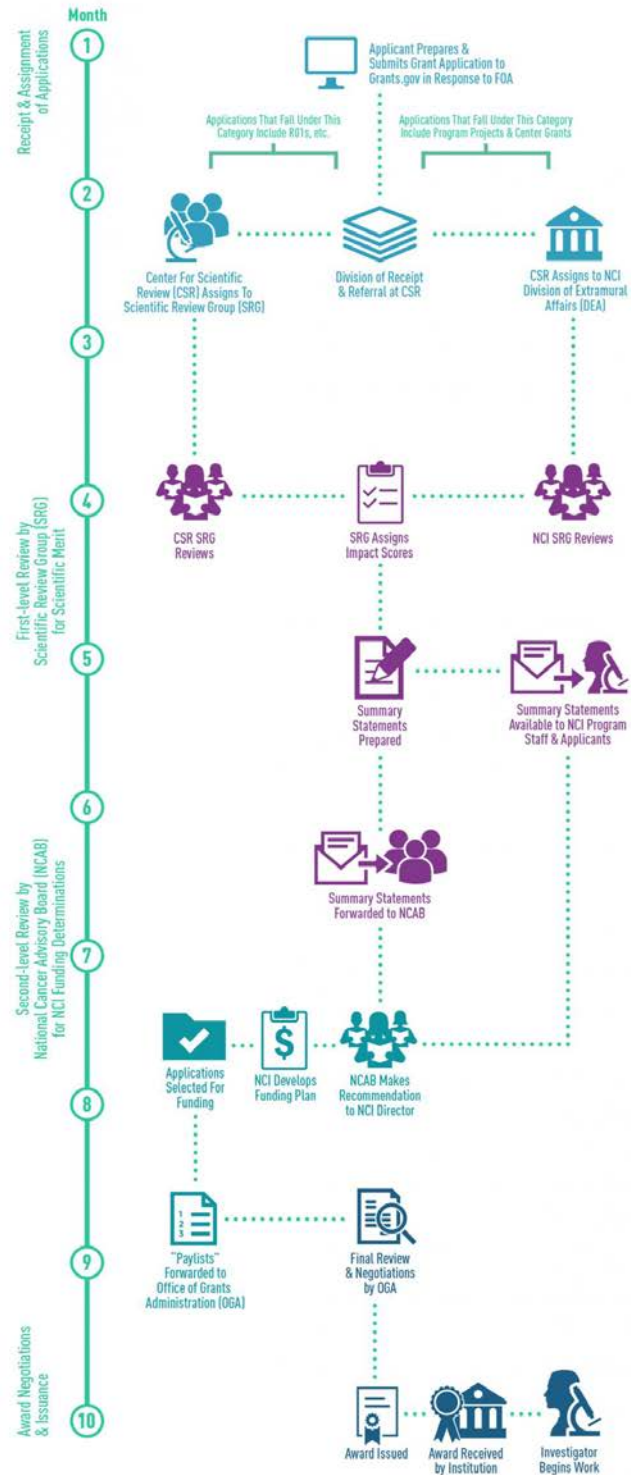| U54 Partnerships |
| --- |
| Northern Arizona State University |
| University of Arizona Cancer Center |
| University of Massachusetts, Boston |
| Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Partnership |
| North Carolina Central University |
| University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center |
| Tennessee State University |
| Meharry Medical College |
| Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center |
| Tuskegee University |
| Morehouse School of Medicine |
| University of Alabama Birmingham Comprehensive Cancer Center |
| Ponce School of Medicine and Public Health |
| H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center |
| New Mexico State University |
| Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center |
| City College of New York |
| Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center |
| University of Puerto Rico Cancer Center, Medical Sciences Campus |
| University of Texas-MD Anderson Cancer Center |
| Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science |
| University of California, Los Angeles |
| University of Guam |
| University of Hawaii Cancer Center |
| San Diego State University |
| University of California, San Diego Moores Cancer Center |
| Northeastern Illinois University |
| Northwestern University |
| University of Illinois at Chicago |
| South Carolina State University |
| Medical University of South Carolina Hollings Cancer Center |
| Hunter College and Temple University |
| Fox Chase Cancer Center |
| Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University |
| University of Florida |
| University of Southern California Norris CCC |

NIH Grants Process and Resources

National Cancer Institute Grants Process

Grant Application Development, Submission, Review, & Award

View infographic online

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE
GRANT APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT,
SUBMISSION, REVIEW, & AWARD

Month

Receipt & Assignment of Applications

1 — Applicant Prepares & Submits Grant Application to Grants.gov in Response to FOA

Applications That Fall Under This Category Include R01s, etc.

Applications That Fall Under This Category Include Program Projects & Center Grants

2 —
- Center For Scientific Review (CSR) Assigns To Scientific Review Group (SRG)
- Division of Receipt & Referral at CSR
- CSR Assigns to NCI Division of Extramural Affairs (DEA)

3

First-level Review by Scientific Review Group (SRG) for Scientific Merit

4 —
- CSR SRG Reviews
- SRG Assigns Impact Scores
- NCI SRG Reviews

5 —
- Summary Statements Prepared
- Summary Statements Available to NCI Program Staff & Applicants

6

Second-level Review by National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB) for NCI Funding Determinations

- Summary Statements Forwarded to NCAB

7 —
- Applications Selected For Funding
- NCI Develops Funding Plan
- NCAB Makes Recommendation to NCI Director

8 —
- "Paylists" Forwarded to Office of Grants Administration (OGA)
- Final Review & Negotiations by OGA

9

Award Negotiations & Issuance

10 —
- Award Issued
- Award Received by Institution
- Investigator Begins Work

www.cancer.gov

NIH Grants Process At-A-Glance

View infographic online

National Institutes of Health
Grants Process
At-A-Glance

Planning, Writing, and Submitting

Planning: Applicant should start early, collect preliminary data, and determine internal deadlines. → *Writing:* Applicant often begins writing application several months prior to application due date → *Submitting:* Applicant organization submits most applications to NIH through the Federal portal, *Grants.gov.*

Receipt and Referral   1 – 3 Months

Applications compliant with NIH policies are assigned for review by the Division of Receipt and Referral in the Center for Scientific Review (CSR). → CSR assigns application to an NIH Institute/Center (IC) and a Scientific Review Group (SRG). → Scientific Review Officer (SRO) assigns applications to reviewers and readers.

Peer Review   4 – 8 Months

Initial Level of Review: SRG members review and evaluate applications for scientific merit. → *Priority Scores:* Available to Principal Investigator in eRA Commons. → *Summary Statement:* Available to Principal Investigator in eRA Commons. → *Second Level of Review:* Advisory council/board reviews applications.

Award   9 – 10 Months

*NIH Requests additional information needed Just-In-Time for award.

Pre-Award Process: IC grants management staff conducts final administrative review and negotiates award.* → *Notification of Award:* Institute/Center issues and sends Notice of Award (NoA) to applicant institution/organization. → *Congratulations! Project period officially begins!*

Post-Award Management

Administrative and fiscal monitoring, reporting, and compliance

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

National Institutes of Health
Office of Extramural Research

NIH Grants Process Top Ten

Getting Connected: Online Resources
1. NIH Homepage
2. NIH Grants Homepage
3. NIH Institutes and Centers
4. RePORT (Funded research info)
5. RePORTER (Portfolios of funded research)
6. eRA Commons (eSubmission)
7. Applying Electronically
8. The NIH Guide
9. Application Basics
10. Grants.gov (Federal grant initiatives)

Most Common Components of NIH-Funded Applications
1. New or original ideas with potential for scientific impact
2. Projects of high scientific caliber
3. Solid qualifications for the investigator and key personnel
4. A clear statement of need or problem statement
5. Pilot data (essential for R01; less critical for Fs and Ks)
6. A focused, incisive research plan
7. A defined budget plan
8. Knowledge of published relevant work
9. Experience in the essential methodology
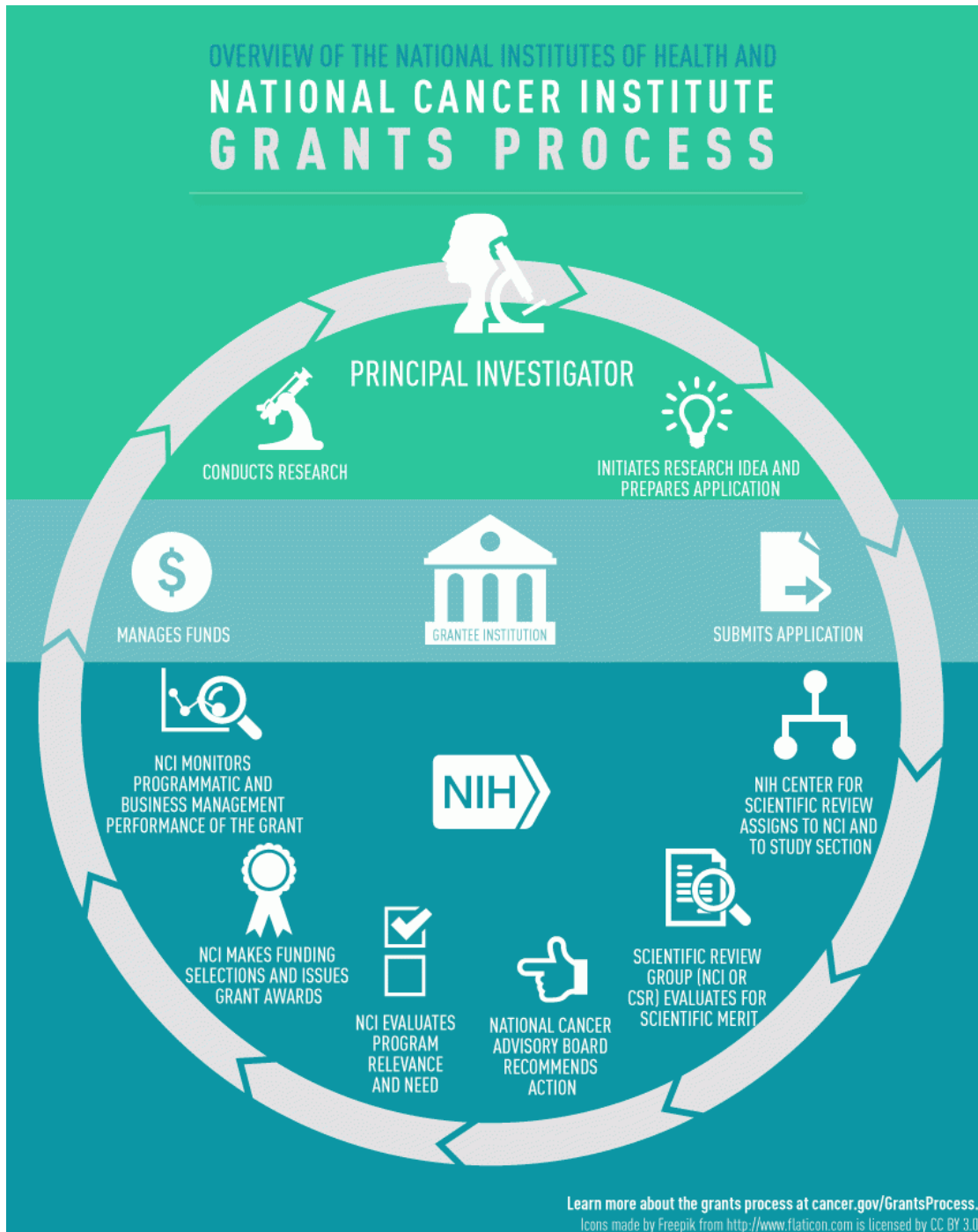10. Future direction and contingency plans

Helpful Hints for Submitting a Successful Proposal
1. Understand the NIH grants process.
2. Begin with a good idea. Ask yourself:
    - Will your idea advance scientific knowledge?
    - What do your colleagues think?
    - Did you talk to an NIH Program Official?
3. Check out funding opportunities, Institute/Center priorities, and currently funded projects.
4. Determine your institution's submission policies. Ensure you meet all registration requirements well before applying.
5. Find out if you are a new or early stage Investigator (special opportunities available).
6. Learn what works and what doesn't work in applications. The scope of the project should be reasonable and the research plan well written. Be clear about why the research is important.
7. Develop collaborations to fill in gaps and be explicit about them in your proposal.
8. Determine the appropriate application, review funding opportunity announcement details, read the application guide instructions, and don't be afraid to ask questions.
9. Make a good impression by creating a reviewer-friendly proposal. Use text, tables, and section headers to help with organization.
10. If at first, you don't succeed...try again! Use your Summary Statement to improve your next grant application, talk to NIH Program Officials for guidance, and review the guidelines for resubmitting an amended application.

And remember, NIH staff and NIH's websites are here to help!

NIH National Institutes of Health
Office of Extramural Research

OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AND
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE
GRANTS PROCESS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

CONDUCTS RESEARCH

INITIATES RESEARCH IDEA AND
PREPARES APPLICATION

MANAGES FUNDS

GRANTEE INSTITUTION

SUBMITS APPLICATION

NCI MONITORS
PROGRAMMATIC AND
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
PERFORMANCE OF THE GRANT

NIH

NIH CENTER FOR
SCIENTIFIC REVIEW
ASSIGNS TO NCI AND
TO STUDY SECTION

NCI MAKES FUNDING
SELECTIONS AND ISSUES
GRANT AWARDS

NCI EVALUATES
PROGRAM
RELEVANCE
AND NEED

NATIONAL CANCER
ADVISORY BOARD
RECOMMENDS
ACTION

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW
GROUP (NCI OR
CSR) EVALUATES FOR
SCIENTIFIC MERIT

Learn more about the grants process at cancer.gov/GrantsProcess.
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Tips and Tools for Applying for Grants
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
and Federal Sources

Grants.gov
This is an online resource where you can search for and apply for grants.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Act
This page provides information on HIPAA rules and policies.

NCI Resources

Division of Extramural Activities (DEA)
Learn about NCI's funding opportunities, research resources, advisory boards, and more.

Grant Application Submission
Find information about NCI's basic funding, forms and instructions, specific grant mechanisms and descriptions, review processes, and more.

The NCI Grants Process
Learn more about how National Cancer Institute grants are awarded and administered.

NCI Contacts for Applicants
Find contact information of Offices and Centers in the NCI Office of the Director and NCI Divisions.

NIH Resources

Center for Scientific Review (CSR)

Grants & Funding: Format Attachments
Instructions are provided on proper formatting for application attachments, including information on citations, font style, font size, line spacing, page limits, file size limitations, and much more.

Grants Policy & Compliance
Find information about NIH's grants policies and requirements for grantees, including specific policy topic pages.

Grants Policy & Guidance: Scoring Guidance

Grant Writing Tip Sheets
Links are provided to various NIH Institutes' guides and tip sheets.

Guide to Grants and Contracts
Learn about types of grants, contracts, and loan repayment programs, as well as about NIH's budget process, grant funding strategies and policies, and more.

[New and Early Stage Investigator Policies](#)
This page provides information on policies that support new investigators, as well as investigators early in their careers (Early Stage investigators or ESIs).

NIH Grant Application Guides
      [Career Development (K) Application Guide](#)
      [Fellowship (F31) Application Guide](#)

[NIH CSR Video - 8 Ways to Successfully Navigate NIH Peer Review and Get a Fellowship Grant](#)

[NIH Grants Getting Connected Page](#)
The NIH Office of Extramural Research offers a variety of ways to stay connected and informed about the latest news affecting the extramural research community using social media.

[NIH Grants YouTube Page](#)

[NIH RePORTER](#)

[Plan Your Application](#)

NIH Funding, Training, and Career Opportunities

Fogarty International Center (FIC)

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH)

National Eye Institute (NEI)

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)

National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)

National Institute on Aging (NIA)

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)

National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

National Library of Medicine (NLM)

NIH Common Fund

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR)

Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS)

Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH)

NCI CRCHD Resources and Programs

NIH》 NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE — Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

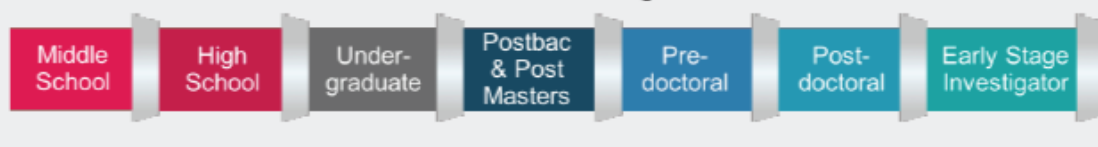## Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences

CURE Overview

Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) is a national research training and career development initiative that focuses on building and sustaining a pipeline of diverse cancer investigators.

CURE provides training opportunities for underrepresented students and trainees across the academic continuum in order to diversify the workforce in cancer and cancer health disparities research.

CURE
CONTINUING UMBRELLA OF RESEARCH EXPERIENCES
A program of the National Institutes of Health

CURE supports you through all stages of your education and career — beginning in middle school — ensuring that you have the skills you need to become a successful investigator.

| Middle School | High School | Under-graduate | Postbac & Post Masters | Pre-doctoral | Post-doctoral | Early Stage Investigator |

Training and Career Development Funding Opportunities

The CURE program offers students, postdoctoral trainees and early stage investigators training and career development funding opportunities using research supplements, predoctoral fellowships and career development awards. You may be eligible if you are a student or investigator from an underrepresented racial or ethnic group, have a disability, or come from a disadvantaged background. Additional eligibility information is described in the funding announcements.

Learn More

You are encouraged to contact a CRCHD Program Director before applying for funding:

Samson Y. Gebreab, PhD, MSc (Diversity Supplements)
samson.gebreab@nih.gov

Alison Lin, Ph.D. (Diversity Supplements, R25 YES)
alison.lin@nih.gov

Peter Ogunbiyi, D.V.M., Ph.D. (F31)
ogunbiyp@mail.nih.gov

John Ojeifo, M.D., Ph.D. (K08, R21)
ojeifojo@mail.nih.gov

Mulualem E. Tilahun, D.V.M., Ph.D., (K01, K22)
mulualem.tilahun@nih.gov

For more information about CURE: cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/cure

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services | National Institutes of Health

NCI Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity (K01)

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Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

NCI Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity (K01)

What is a K01 Award?

The NCI Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity (K01) is designed to enhance workforce diversity by promoting cancer research career development and mentored training experience to individuals from underrepresented groups.

What Does the K01 Award Offer?

This award offers several benefits, including:

- Three to five years of salary (up to $100,000), training, coursework, mentoring and research support
- Guidance from experienced mentors with a track record of NIH funding
- Increased publication productivity
- A pathway to an independent cancer research career and tenure track position
- Development of a strong skillset to help you be more competitive for NIH funding

AT A GLANCE

Submission Deadlines
February 12, June 12, and October 12, yearly

Resubmission Deadlines
March 12, July 12, and November 12, yearly

Eligibility
Postdoctoral and early stage investigators from an underrepresented racial/ethnic group or with a disability, as well as two to five years of training following completion of a doctoral degree

Award Budget
Up to $100,000 for salary and up to $30,000 in research development support for three to five years

How Does It Work?

The K01 award salary is based on a full-time, 12-month staff appointment:

- You must devote at least nine months to conducting cancer-related research
- You may devote the remaining effort to clinical pursuits, teaching, or other eligible activities
- NCI will provide up to $30,000 annually for career and research development support, which you may use for tuition and fees related to expenses such as: supplies, equipment, technical personnel, travel, and statistical services

Am I Eligible?

You may be eligible for a K01 award if you have a doctoral degree and you:

- Are from a racial or ethnic group underrepresented in biomedical, behavioral, social or clinical sciences, or have a disability
- Have completed at least two years of training following completion of a doctoral degree (but usually not more than five years)
- Are either a U.S. citizen or permanent resident

If you have a clinical doctoral degree, you may consider applying for an NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Award to Promote Diversity (K08).

Where Do I Learn More?

For the full text of this Program Announcement, visit:

Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-364.html

Clinical Trial Required: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-365.html

Prior to submitting an application, potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact:
Mulualem E. Tilahun, D.V.M., Ph.D., Program Director
mulualem.tilahun@nih.gov | 240-276-7360

crchd.cancer.gov

NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K08)

What is a K08 Award to Promote Diversity?

The K08 award enhances workforce diversity by providing clinical scientists with support and protected time for intensive, supervised research career development experience in the fields of clinical, behavioral, translational or patient-oriented cancer research.

Am I Eligible?

You may be eligible if you:

- Are from a group underrepresented in biomedical, behavioral, social, or clinical sciences. You may be eligible if you are from an underrepresented racial or ethnic group or have a disability.
- Have completed a clinical doctoral degree or a health professional doctoral degree (e.g., MD, DDS, DMD, DO, DC, OD, ND, DVM, PharmD, or PhD in clinical disciplines)
- Have completed two to five years of training following completion of a doctoral degree
- Are either a U.S. citizen or permanent resident by the time of award

AT A GLANCE

Submission Deadlines
February 12, June 12, and October 12, yearly

Resubmission Deadlines
March 12, July 12, and November 12, yearly

Eligibility
Clinical scientists from diverse backgrounds or with a disability, as well as two to five years of training following completion of a clinical doctoral degree

Award Budget
Up to the legislative salary cap, fringe benefits, and $50,000 in research development support for three to five years

What Does the K08 Award Offer?

This award offers several benefits, including:

- Three to five years of salary (up to the legislative salary cap and fringe benefits annually)
- Protected time for clinical research
- Mentorship from experienced investigators
- A pathway to an independent cancer research career

How Does It Work?

The award salary is based on a full-time, 12-month staff appointment.

- You must devote at least nine months to conducting cancer-related research
- You may devote the remaining effort to clinical pursuits, teaching, or other eligible activities
- NCI will provide $50,000 annually for career and research development support

Where Do I Learn More?

Learn more about this and other opportunities at: crchd.cancer.gov

For the full text of this PAR, visit:
No Independent Clinical Trials: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-337.html
Clinical Trial Required: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-336.html

Prior to submitting an application, potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact:
John Ojeifo, M.D., PhD., M.B.A at ojeifojo@mail.nih.gov or 240-276-6921

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services | National Institutes of Health

Exploratory Grant Award to Promote Workforce Diversity in Basic Cancer Research (R21)

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Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

EXPLORATORY GRANT AWARD TO PROMOTE WORKFORCE DIVERSITY IN BASIC CANCER RESEARCH (R21)

Overview

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications from investigators from diverse populations with interest in research projects focused on the basic biology of cancer. This FOA is also designed to improve the diversity of the research workforce by supporting and recruiting eligible investigators from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented.

Mechanisms of Support/Awards

The R21 award mechanism will be supported by this funding opportunity. The total project period for applications using the R21 award mechanism may not exceed 2 years; direct costs are limited to $275,000 over a 2-year period, with no more than $200,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year. Exploratory/developmental grant support is for new projects only; competing renewal (formerly competing continuation) applications will not be accepted.

Research Objectives

Research applications should focus on basic cancer research and cancer health disparities, consistent with the research interests of both the Division of Cancer Biology (DCB) and the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD).

How Does It Work?

The R21 mechanism is intended to encourage new exploratory and developmental research projects. These studies may involve considerable risk but may lead to a breakthrough in a particular area or to the development of novel techniques, agents, methodologies, models, or applications that could have a major impact on a field of biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research.

Where Do I Learn More?

For the full text of this PAR, visit: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-731.html

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AT A GLANCE

Submission Deadline: June 19; November 19, yearly

Eligibility: Investigators from diverse backgrounds

Award Budget: $275,000 in direct costs for up to 2 years; no more than $200,000 in direct costs in any given year

Research Topics

Research topics may include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Cell transformation, proliferation, or inhibition of cell death

- DNA damage/repair and related molecular, cytogenetic, epigenetic, and chromosomal effects

- Biological and chemical carcinogens and their properties, and mechanisms of oncogenesis and carcinogenesis

- Immune response to tumors and hematopoietic differentiation.

crchd.cancer.gov

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services | National Institutes of Health

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Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

BASIC RESEARCH IN CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES (R21/R01)

Overview

These funding opportunities encourage grant applications investigating the biological/genetic contributors to cancer health disparities. In addition to expanding knowledge of the biological factors of cancer health disparities, these awards help expand available resources and tools (such as biospecimens, patient-derived models and methods) that are necessary to further conduct basic research in cancer health disparities.

Research Objectives

Applications should focus on basic mechanistic research to investigate biological factors associated with cancer health disparities, with a particular focus on the interplay of race/ethnicity and cancer biology. Proposed studies may include:

- Mechanistic studies of biological factors associated with cancer disparities;
- Development and testing of new methodologies and cancer models; and/or:
- Secondary data analyses.

Access to annotated clinical samples and/or patient-derived models are encouraged, as applicable. Examples of responsive research topics include:

- Genetic/epigenetic cancer susceptibility differences among racial/ethnic populations;
- Causal drivers of early-onset cancer in specific populations;
- Similarities and differences in cancer metabolism among racial/ethnic populations.

Mechanisms of Support

Both R21 and R01 award mechanisms are supported by this funding opportunity:

- R21 awards are designed to support pilot and feasibility studies.
- R01 awards will fund more advanced projects that stem from preliminary studies/data.

Applications will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by a Special Emphasis Panel using the stated review criteria in the funding opportunity announcement.

AT A GLANCE

Submission Deadlines
June 19 and November 19, 2020

Award Budget
R01 budgets are not limited, but need to be well justified;

R21 budgets are limited to $275,000 direct costs for up to 2 years, with no more than $200,000 in direct costs in any given year.

Where Do I Learn More?

Visit the following links for the full text of these funding opportunity announcements.
Contact Dr. Tiffany Wallace for more information: Tiffany.Wallace@nih.gov.

- **R01**: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-654.html
- **R21**: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-655.html

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services | National Institutes of Health

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Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

Application Timeline for PAR-18-654 (RO1) and PAR-18-655 (R21)

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Scientific/Research Contact(s) listed in the funding opportunity announcements early in advance to submission. Please refer to the timeline below for key dates in the application process for the two submission periods.

Applications Due
June 19
November 19

Applications Reviewed
November
March

Advisory Council Review
January
May

Anticipated Start Date
April
July

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for PAR-18-654 (RO1) and PAR-18-655 (R21)

Are rural disparities considered responsive to this PAR?

This FOA is focused on racial/ethnic disparities. Addressing and understanding rural disparities is a priority at NCI and is encouraged through other FOAs.

Are at least two populations required for investigation?

Cancer disparities are defined as **adverse differences** in cancer incidence, prevalence, mortality, survivorship, and/or burden of cancer, or related health conditions, that exist **among specific populations**. As such, a competitive research design is encouraged. Investigating a cancer site with a documented disparity (e.g. Triple Negative Breast Cancer) without investigating differences among populations is not within the scope of this FOA.

Is preliminary data required?

Preliminary data is not a requirement for the R21 mechanism, however it is strongly encouraged.

Preliminary data is required for RO1 applications.

Does the research strategy need to be translational?

As this FOA is focused upon basic research, immediate clinically translational potential of the proposed project is not a requirement for the proposed projects.

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Center to Reduce Cancer
Health Disparities

Training Navigation

What is Training Navigation?

The NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD) training navigation facilitates underrepresented scholars' successful entry, transition and advancement through the Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) training pipeline to independent research careers.

What does training navigation offer?

Training navigation provides information about CURE funding opportunities tailored to your training or career level and helps make connections with CURE Program Directors and the Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Program (GMaP).

Training navigation provides the following career development support for potential and current CURE scholars:

- Assists new potential applicants in successfully entering the CURE training pipeline

- Assists current CURE scholars transitioning through the CURE pipeline to their next independent award

- Supports mid-career and established underrepresented investigators in developing the skills required to obtain R-type awards for career advancement

How can training navigation help me?

There are many ways that training navigation can support your career development:

- Help identify CURE funding opportunities that you may qualify for

- Introduce you to CURE Program Directors

- Share NIH and NCI resources for competitive application preparation

- Send periodic updates about submission dates and funding opportunities

- Connect you with your GMaP region and its resources, tools and networking opportunities

How do I get started?

Contact CRCHD training navigator Hana Odeh, Ph.D., at hana.odeh@nih.gov or 240-276-5572.

What is the CURE Pipeline?

CURE provides training opportunities across the academic continuum, ensuring that underrepresented students, trainees and investigators have the skills required to become competitive cancer researchers.

Middle & High School → Undergraduate → Postbac & Post Masters → Pre-doctoral → Post-doctoral → Early Stage Investigator

Learn more about CRCHD, CURE and GMaP: crchd.cancer.gov

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Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)

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Enhancing Diversity in the NCI Intramural Research Community

iCURE

Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)
Prospective Applicants

What is iCURE?

iCURE is a new program that attracts students and scientists into the multidisciplinary environment of the **NCI Intramural Research Program (IRP)** and supports their mentored experiences.

iCURE is an extension of the NCI **Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities' (CRCHD)** highly successful extramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) training program. CURE supports the career progress of its scholars toward research independence and fosters diversity in the biomedical research pipeline.

What Does iCURE Offer?

The iCURE program provides:

- **One-year awards** for post-baccalaureate (including post-master's) individuals
- **Two-year awards** for graduate students
- **Three-year awards** for postdoctoral fellows

iCURE scholars will also enjoy professional and career support such as:

- Opportunities to work closely with world-class researchers in the NCI IRP
- Support from NCI program staff as well as resources on intramural and extramural funding opportunities
- Professional development activities
- Connections to an extensive mentoring network

Am I Eligible?

Eligible candidates include:

- Post-baccalaureate (including post-master's) individuals, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows
- Citizens, non-citizen nationals, and legal permanent residents of the United States.

iCURE strongly encourages the participation of individuals from underrepresented populations and is aligned with NCI's interest in diversity.

What Types of Research Experiences Does iCURE Offer?

iCURE scholars will enjoy research opportunities in the NCI IRP, which includes the Center for Cancer Research (CCR) and the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG).

CCR conducts **basic and clinical cancer research** and develops breakthrough discoveries into novel therapeutic interventions for adults and children afflicted with cancer or HIV.

DCEG is a global leader in **cancer epidemiology and genetics research**, and is uniquely positioned to conduct projects that are high risk in nature.

AT A GLANCE

iCURE
Conduct research at the National Cancer Institute

Candidates
Post-baccalaureate (including post-master's) individuals, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows

Diversity
iCURE strongly encourages the participation of individuals from underrepresented populations

Submission Period
Applications accepted October - December. Please check the iCURE webpage for updates.

Where Do I Learn More?

For more information about iCURE, eligibility, and to learn how to apply, please visit:
www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/icure

Prospective candidates are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Alison Lin at iCURE@nih.gov.

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Becoming an iCURE Scholar

You must submit an application to be considered for an iCURE research experience. Once your application has been submitted, it will be reviewed by iCURE program staff and Principal Investigators (PIs) who are interested in being mentors.

You will complete several interviews during the matching process, both with iCURE staff and PIs. More than one PI may offer to interview you.

Generally, the application timeline is:

October - December
Applications Accepted

January - February
Application Review

March
First Round Decisions

March – May
Interviews

June
Final Award Decisions

September 1
iCURE Start Date

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Can I participate in iCURE and continue to conduct research at my current institution?
No. iCURE supports mentored research experiences within the NCI Intramural Research Program on-site in Bethesda, Rockville and Frederick, Maryland.

When do iCURE research experiences begin?
iCURE cohorts start on September 1.

I have a work permit/student visa, am I eligible for an iCURE award?
No, iCURE can only support citizens, non-citizen nationals, and legal permanent residents of the U.S.

Do iCURE scholars get paid?
Yes, iCURE scholars receive standard stipends from NIH.

Does iCURE pay for relocation or housing expenses?
No, iCURE does not provide relocation or housing costs.

Do I need to identify a mentor whom I wish to work with?
No, you do not need to identify or contact a PI or group when you apply to the iCURE program. iCURE will help you match with a mentor. However, we encourage you to let us know if there is a specific PI or project you are interested in.

Can I Interview with more than one potential mentor?
Yes, you may be offered interviews with more than one PI. Additionally, more than one PI may express interest in you joining their group. You may choose to accept or decline offers.

What if the research group I am interested in isn't listed on the iCURE web page?
Please let us know the group you are interested in and we will follow up.

Do I need to submit written recommendations with my application?
No, you do not need to provide reference letters, only the required information listed on the web page. We will contact references directly for recommendations.

Do I need to submit an official transcript by the application deadline?
No, you may provide an unofficial transcript when you apply. However, you may be asked to provide an official transcript at a later date.

What if I need more time to complete my research than the period of support iCURE offers?
iCURE PIs may choose to continue to support your research past the period of support iCURE provides. You will still be welcome to participate in iCURE activities.

For more detailed information about the application process and program requirements, please visit the iCURE webpage or email iCURE@nih.gov.

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Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

What is a Diversity Supplement?

The NCI Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Diversity Supplements) support research training for individuals from underrepresented groups throughout the continuum from high school students to investigators.

What Does a Diversity Supplement Offer?

This award offers several benefits, including:

- Support to advance academic and professional careers in cancer and biomedical research
- Budget that includes salary and fringe benefits for candidates, tuition for students, and limited supplies and travel with justification
- Opportunities to network with peers, mentors, and NCI Program Officers
- A gateway to further NCI and NIH funding opportunities

AT A GLANCE

Submission Periods: October 1 – December 1 and February 1 – March 31, yearly

Parent Grant: Must have at least two years of active status left at the time of supplement application

Candidates: High school students through investigator level individuals from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups, with a disability, or from disadvantaged backgrounds

Award Budget: Varies based on career level

Important Application Information

Principal Investigators (PIs) of parent grants are required to submit the application. Applications must include:

- Candidate qualifications and motivations
- An explanation about how the research project is relevant to the parent project and how it aligns with the candidate's career goals
- A clear description of the role of the mentor(s) and their qualifications
- A candidate-specific career development plan with appropriate benchmarks

Who is an Eligible Candidate?

Eligible candidates include:

- High school, undergraduate, or graduate students, Baccalaureate or Master's degree holders, postdoctoral fellows, or investigators
- Individuals from a racial or ethnic group underrepresented in the biomedical, behavioral, clinical, or social sciences, individuals with a disability, or students from a disadvantaged background
- U.S. citizens or permanent residents

Please see the program announcement for additional eligibility criteria.

Learn More

NIH Program Announcement: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-20-222.html
Guidelines: https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/cure/ds-guidelines.pdf

Prior to submitting an application, PIs, mentors, and candidates are strongly encouraged to contact the program officers at CUREsupplements@nih.gov.

Alison Lin, Ph.D.   Samson Y. Gebreab, Ph.D., M.Sc.
240-276-6177   (240) 276-6652

crchd.cancer.gov

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K Award Self-Check
Questions

K Award Self-Check Questions

K Award Biosketch

1. What should be included in my Contributions to Science (section C)? What if my scientific contributions to date are limited?
2. What should be included and avoided in my Research Support section?
3. Do you recommend keeping a "master Biosketch" that is continuously updated? Should I tailor my Biosketch to fit a specific funding opportunity?

K Award Research Plan

1. How much effort/time should I put into developing the Research Plan section relative to the other sections of the K award application?
2. How do I integrate and align the training activities proposed in my Career Development Plan (CDP) with my Research Plan?
3. What is considered innovative? How do I incorporate innovation into my Research Plan?
4. Why do I need to propose alternative strategies when I know that my proposed research plans will work?
5. How do I incorporate a rescue strategy into my Research Plan?

K Award Career Development Plan

1. What types of training activities should I include in my Career Development Plan?
2. Have I discussed my Research Plan and required didactic training required for my CDP with my mentor(s)?
3. Have I discussed my publication record with my mentor(s) and established a plan for publishing my work?
4. Am I increasing my mentoring experience by participating in mentoring activities (e.g., mentoring of undergraduates and graduate students)?
5. Have I discussed with my mentor(s) regarding identifying grant writing workshops/tutorials, networking, and collaboration opportunities?

K Award Mentors/Co-Mentors/Institutional Environment

1. How do I select/approach/build a complementary mentoring team for my application?
2. If I cannot achieve a specific training goal at my institution, how do I incorporate another institutional environment in my training plan?
3. Should a mentor have NIH funding to be considered and what is the ideal number of mentors I should have?
4. Should the institutional commitment letter include an institutional commitment for a tenure track position?
5. What is the role of the Scientific Advisory Committee?