NCI Funding Opportunities to Increase Diversity in Cancer Research

Alison Lin, PhD, Program Director

Diversity Training Branch

NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

August 11, 2017
Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE)

- Emphasize scientific areas of greatest need
- Increase the size of the talent pool
- Expand and extend the period of training

TRAINEES

- Undergraduate
- Post-Masters
- Post-baccalaureate
- Predoctoral
- Postdoctoral
- Investigators
- Grades 6-12
CURE Funding Mechanisms

Individual Awards:
- Diversity Supplements
- Re-entry Supplements
- F31
- K01; K08; K22
- R21

Institutional Awards:
- Multiple Trainee Research Education Grants - R25
- AI/AN P30 Supplements

Goal: To help trainees achieve scientific independence and self-sustainability
Diversity Supplements Serve as a Bridge

- Provide additional funding to currently active NIH grants (parent grants) to support research experiences of trainees
- Parent grant must have at least two years of active status at the time of supplement application;
- Application receipt: Oct 1 – Dec 1 and Feb 1 – Mar 30
Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (PA-16-288, Diversity Supplements)

- Individuals of Different Race/Ethnicity
- Individuals with Disability
- Individuals from Disadvantaged Background

US citizens or Permanent Residents

Diversity Supplements: Special Eligibility Criteria for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows

- No concurrent PHS support for graduate student or postdoctoral fellow candidate at the time of application:
  - Cannot be supported by parent grant;
  - If coming off of institutional training grant, need letter from institution.

- AFTER application submission:
  - Can be supported by the parent grant at the recipient’s own risk, pending funding decision of supplement application.
## What Do We Look for in a Supplement Application?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Mentoring and Career Development Plan</th>
<th>Research Plan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Motivation</td>
<td>• Scientific proficiency and mentoring expertise of mentor(s)</td>
<td>• Relevancy to Parent Grant project</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Accomplishments</td>
<td>• Defined role(s) and commitment of mentor(s)</td>
<td>• Scientific impact on Parent Grant project</td>
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<td>• Career goals</td>
<td>• Training of career skills</td>
<td>• Research design and feasibility</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Eligibility statement</td>
<td>• Clear benchmarks • Candidate-specific plans</td>
<td>• Alignment with candidate’s career goals</td>
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Sample Time Line for Preparing a Supplement Application

5 Months Prior
- Identify mentor/candidate;
- Match interests;
- Plan application;
- Contact NCI Program Director

3 Months Prior
- Write application;
- Ask people to review;
- Revise and revise;
- Assemble application components;
- Finalize

1 Month Prior
- Start submission process;
- Remember institution deadlines
- Leave room for submission logistics issues

Submission Deadline
Tips for Grant Applications:

- Find NIH grants and funding information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm
- Visit NIH extramural diversity website: https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov
- Learn about peer review at NIH Center of Scientific Review: https://public.csr.nih.gov/ApplicantResources/Pages/default.aspx
General Tips for Funding Success

- Know NCI’s mission
- Understand application and review process
- Find mentors and collaborators
- Improve writing skills
- Contact Program Directors early
- Make use of available resources
## NCI CURE Program Staff Contacts

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<tr>
<th>Mechanism</th>
<th>PD Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diversity and Re-entry Supplements</td>
<td>Drs. Alison Lin and Elena Schwartz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F31 Diversity</td>
<td>Dr. Nicole E. McNeil Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K01, K08, K22</td>
<td>Drs. John Ojeifo and Abigail Soyombo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R21 Diversity</td>
<td>Dr. Abigail Soyombo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R25 Research Education Grants</td>
<td>Dr. Alison Lin (R25 YES)</td>
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<td>Dr. Davyd Chung (R25 Research Experiences and R25 Courses for Skills Development)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Analyst</td>
<td>Rita LaPointe</td>
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