NIEHS Diversity Funding Opportunities

NIEHS Workforce Diversity Supplements

NIEHS is committed to ensuring a diverse environmental health science workforce. Workforce Diversity Supplements are one way we help grantees recruit and train people who are typically underrepresented in the environmental health science field, or who are reentering the workforce after taking time off for personal reasons.

How do I apply for a supplement?

Use the NIH Assist program and apply using this funding announcement: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/announcements/PA-21-071.html

Who can apply?

Principal investigators (PIs) with active NIEHS research grants that have at least two years or more of funding remaining are eligible to apply.

What can funds be used for?

Funds can only be used to cover the cost of salary, supplies, and travel for eligible recipients. See the Program Announcement for more detail on budgetary limitations.

What are the submission deadlines?

NIEHS reviews diversity supplement applications once a month to ensure that individuals can get funding as soon as possible.

Are there restrictions?

An individual may be supported under only one diversity supplement at a time. However, the individual may be supported by more than one diversity supplement during their research career. Once an individual has been funded by a grant, they are not eligible to apply for a diversity supplement to that same grant.

How long can individuals be supported by diversity supplements?

- High School Students and Undergraduates: One year, but can be extended (12 months+)
- Predoctoral: Up to three years (36 months)
- Postdoctoral: Up to two years (24 months)
- Investigator: Up to two years (24 months)

Who is eligible for diversity supplement support?

NIH does not determine eligibility with regard to the categories listed below. We encourage PIs who are submitting an application for a diversity supplement to review the specific eligibility criteria in the funding opportunity announcement (FOA). It is up to the submitting institution to determine the candidate’s eligibility.

People eligible to be funded through a diversity supplement include:

- Individuals from racial and ethnic groups underrepresented in biomedical research, including Blacks and African Americans, Hispanics and Latinos, American Indians and Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders.
- Individuals with disabilities.
- Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, defined as those who meet two or more of the following criteria:
  - Were, or currently are, homeless.
  - Were, or currently are, in the foster care system, as defined by the Administration for Children and Families.
  - Were eligible for federal free or reduced-price school meals for two or more years.
  - Have, or had, no parents or legal guardians who completed a bachelor's degree.
  - Were, or currently are, eligible for Federal Pell Grants.
  - Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) as a parent or child.
  - Grew up in one of the following areas: a) a U.S. rural area, or b) a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services-designated Health Professional Shortage Area.
  - Students from low socioeconomic status (SES) backgrounds.

Program contacts:

Scientific: Frederick Tyson, tyson2@niehs.nih.gov
Superfund Scientific: Heather Henry, heather.henry@nih.gov
Grants Mgmt.: Michelle Victalino, victalinom@niehs.nih.gov
Extramural research and training

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Individual Predoctoral Fellowship to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Parent F31-Diversity)
https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/fellowships/F31

This program enhances the diversity of the health-related research workforce by supporting the research training of predoctoral students from population groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research workforce.

Eligibility: U.S citizen or permanent resident enrolled in a research doctoral degree program at U.S. and foreign institutions.

Application Dates: August 8, 2021; December 8, 2021; April 8, 2022

Program Contact: Mike Humble, humble@niehs.nih.gov

NIH Blueprint Diversity Specialized Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Advancement in Neuroscience (D-SPAN) Award (F99/K00)
https://neuroscienceblueprint.nih.gov/training/nih-blueprint-d-span-award-f99k00

This award supports a defined pathway across career stages for outstanding graduate students who are from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in neuroscience research.

Eligibility: U.S citizen or permanent resident enrolled in a research doctoral degree program at domestic U.S. institutions and graduating within 2 1/2 years at the time of application.

Application Dates: December 15, 2021; April 15, 2022

Program Contact: Jonathan Hollander, jonathan.hollander@nih.gov

Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Program
https://www.nigms.nih.gov/about/overview/Pages/SuRE.aspx

SuRE is a research capacity-building program designed to develop and sustain research excellence in higher education institutions that receive limited NIH research support and serve students who are underrepresented in biomedical research. Eligible institutions include, but are not limited to, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions, and Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions. SuRE-First awards will support investigators at the beginning of their research careers who have not had any prior externally funded research grants.

The SuRE Program supports two awards:
• SuRE (R16): Tenure-track faculty, with student participation
• SuRE-First (R16): Early-career faculty, with student participation

Eligibility: Institutions that may apply include, but are not limited to, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions, and Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions. Institutions are specifically eligible if they enroll significant numbers of students from backgrounds nationally underrepresented in biomedical research, award undergraduate degrees in biomedical sciences, receive less than $6 million in NIH support, and where at least 25% of students receive Pell Grants.

Program Contact: Toccara Chamberlain, toccara.chamberlain@nih.gov
Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) Postdoctoral Career Transition Award to Promote Diversity (K99/R00)


The MOSAIC program supports the transition of postdoctoral researchers from diverse backgrounds into independent research careers. The long-term goal of this program is to enhance diversity in the biomedical research workforce. The program is designed to facilitate a timely transition of promising postdoctoral researchers from diverse backgrounds (e.g., see NIH’s Interest in Diversity) from their mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions at research-intensive institutions. MOSAIC researchers will also have the opportunity to participate in mentoring, networking, and other professional development activities.

Eligibility: Early career researchers with no more than four years of postdoctoral research experience who are from backgrounds underrepresented in biomedical research. U.S. citizen or permanent resident enrolled in a research doctoral degree program at domestic U.S. institutions and graduating within 2 1/2 years at the time of application.

Application Dates: Applications accepted through September 8, 2024. Standard dates apply.

Program Contact: Carol Shreffler, shreffl1@niehs.nih.gov

R15 Grant Opportunities for Emerging Scientists: Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) and Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP)


R15 grants are intended to stimulate research funding and research experiences in environmental health sciences at institutions that receive limited NIH research funding

Eligibility: PIs to PDs with student researchers at institutions that receive limited NIH research funding.

Application Dates: October 25, 2021 (non-AIDS applications only); January 7, 2022 (AIDS applications only)

Program Contact: Astrid Haugen, haugen@niehs.nih.gov

Other opportunities and resources

Early Career Reviewer Program

https://public.csr.nih.gov/ForReviewers/BecomeARewriter/ECR

This program aims to help early-career scientists become more competitive as grant applicants through first-hand experience with peer review. It also helps enrich and diversify the Center for Scientific Reviews’ pool of trained reviewers.

Eligibility:
- At least one year of experience as full-time faculty or researcher (postdocs are not eligible). This program is intended for early-career investigators, so associate professors are not eligible.
- Have experience in independent research. This could be shown through publications, presentations, institutional research support, patents, acting as supervisor of student projects.
- Have at least one senior-authored research publication in a peer-reviewed journal in the last two years, plus at least one additional senior-authored research publication since receiving a doctorate.
- Have not served on an NIH study section in any capacity aside from as a mail reviewer. (Mail reviews do not include participation in the meeting.)
- Have not held an R01 or R01-equivalent (R35, R37, RF1, R23, R29, DP1, DP2, DP5, U01, RL1) grant in the PI or PD role.
- Have submitted a grant proposal, in the PI or PD role, to the NIH and received the associated summary statement.

NIH Early Career Funding Opportunities

https://researchtraining.nih.gov/career/early-career

NIH Funding Opportunities – Career Development

https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/career-development

NIH Diversity Funding Opportunities

https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/guidedata/data

NIH Grant Writing Guidance

https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/apply-grant
Supplements

Administrative Supplements to Promote Diversity in Research and Development for Small Businesses-SBIR/STTR
https://sbir.nih.gov/diversifying-your-workforce#diversity-supplement-contacts

Funds are available for administrative supplements to enhance the diversity of the research and entrepreneurial workforce by recruiting and supporting students, post-doctorates, and eligible investigators from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in health-related research, women, and socially or economically disadvantaged individuals. Administrative supplements must support work within the scope of the original project. This administrative supplement is designed to provide support for research and entrepreneurial experiences for individuals from the diverse backgrounds throughout the continuum from undergraduate to the faculty level.

Eligibility: Organizations and individuals must have an active SBIR or STTR grant, and the research proposed in the supplement must be accomplished within the competitive segment of the active award.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Program Contact: Lingamanaidu (Ravi) Ravichandran, lingamanaidu.ravichandran@nih.gov

Loan repayment

Loan Repayment Program
https://www.lrp.nih.gov

Attracts health professional to careers in clinical, pediatric, and health disparities research by offering funding for student loan repayment for doctoral-level biomedical or behavioral researchers. The loan repayment is a great way to retain people in science and research by paying their loans. For many, an LRP award is their first “funding,” which builds confidence and eventual grant applications from the LRP awardee.

Eligibility: Doctoral researchers at domestic universities or U.S. government agencies who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Application Period: September 1, 2021 – November 18, 2021

Program Contact: Astrid Haugen, haugen@niehs.nih.gov

Intramural opportunities

NIEHS Scholars Connect Program (NSCP)
https://niehs.nih.gov/careers/research/scholars

NSCP connects undergraduate STEM students with the NIEHS research experiences and development opportunities to encourage careers in science. This program is intended for highly-motivated junior and senior undergraduate STEM students within commuting distance to the NIEHS campus and offers:
1. An academic-year (three semesters) paid biomedical research internship.
2. Career mentoring from NIEHS investigators.
3. An opportunity to present findings to the NIEHS community, and at other conferences.
4. Opportunities to attend scientific talks by leading investigators, as well as specially designed professional and career development seminars.

Eligibility: Junior and senior undergraduate STEM students within commuting distance from the NIEHS campus.

Application Dates: Opens late November 2021 and closes mid-February 2022

Program Contacts: Suchandra Bhattacharjee and Ericka Reid, nscp@niehs.nih.gov

NIH Commitment to Ending Structural Racism

NIH recently launched a webpage highlighting efforts aimed at Ending Structural Racism. Please check this site for upcoming funding opportunities related to health disparities research, as well as increasing the diversity of our biomedical workforce.

For more information on the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, go to https://niehs.nih.gov.