



Pediatric & Reproductive Environmental Health Scholars Program

RFA-ES-20-007

<https://go.usa.gov/xGJwW>

November 23, 2020

Pre-application Webinar

Webinar Agenda

- Welcome
- Programmatic Perspective and Vision
- Grants Management Matters
- Scientific Review Themes
- Questions & Discussion
- Adjourn



Ask questions via the Q&A box.
Post them at any time, but we'll save them to the end

Programmatic Perspective and Vision

Pediatric & Reproductive Environmental Health Scholars Program

Purpose: Research training opportunity for

- Pediatricians
- Family medicine doctors
- Obstetricians/Gynecologists
- Nurses

Goal: Strengthen Scholars' Research Capacity & Environmental Health Literacy

- Enhance expertise in EHS research
- Improve capacity in communication, outreach, and education
- Increase understanding of health outcomes from environmental exposures

Outcome: Expanded network of healthcare professionals who possess the skills and knowledge to address the complexities of pediatric and reproductive environmental health.

Program Rationale

- **Identified need**
 - Consistent funding for research training
 - Strengthen environmental health literacy
- **Improved coordination among NIEHS research community & Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSUs)**
 - Ongoing relationships between several Centers and PEHSUs
 - Solid infrastructure of research and community outreach



PEHSU Network Partnership Rationale



PEHSU:

Pediatric Environmental Health
Specialty Unit

Activities:

1. Outreach and Education
2. Train Health Professionals
3. Consult and Refer

Affiliations:

Academic & Hospital

ABOUT PEHSU

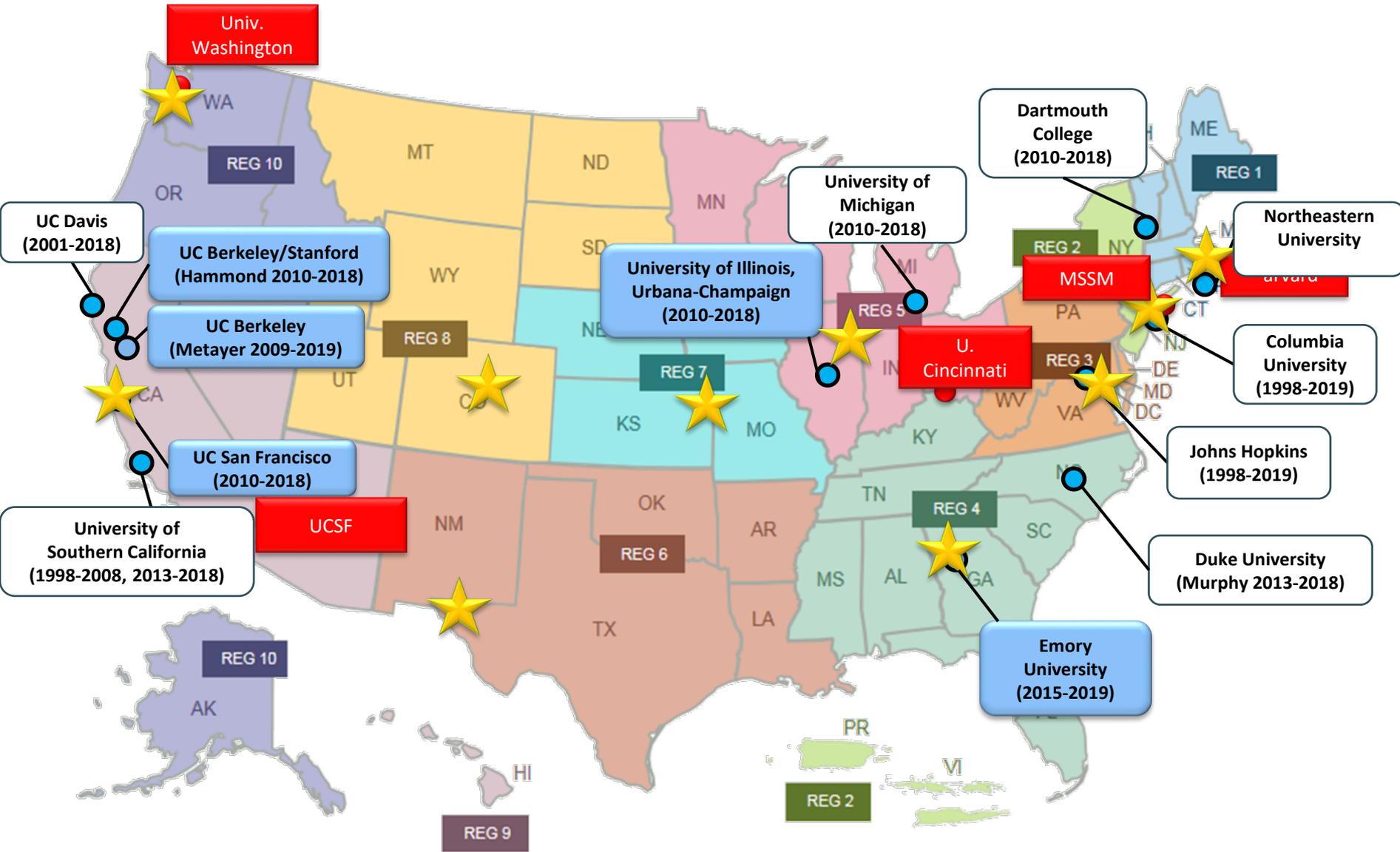
We are an interconnected system of specialists located throughout North America who respond to questions from public health professionals, clinicians, policy makers, and the public about the impacts of environmental factors on the health of children and reproductive-age adults.

[READ MORE](#)

PEHSUs do not conduct research.

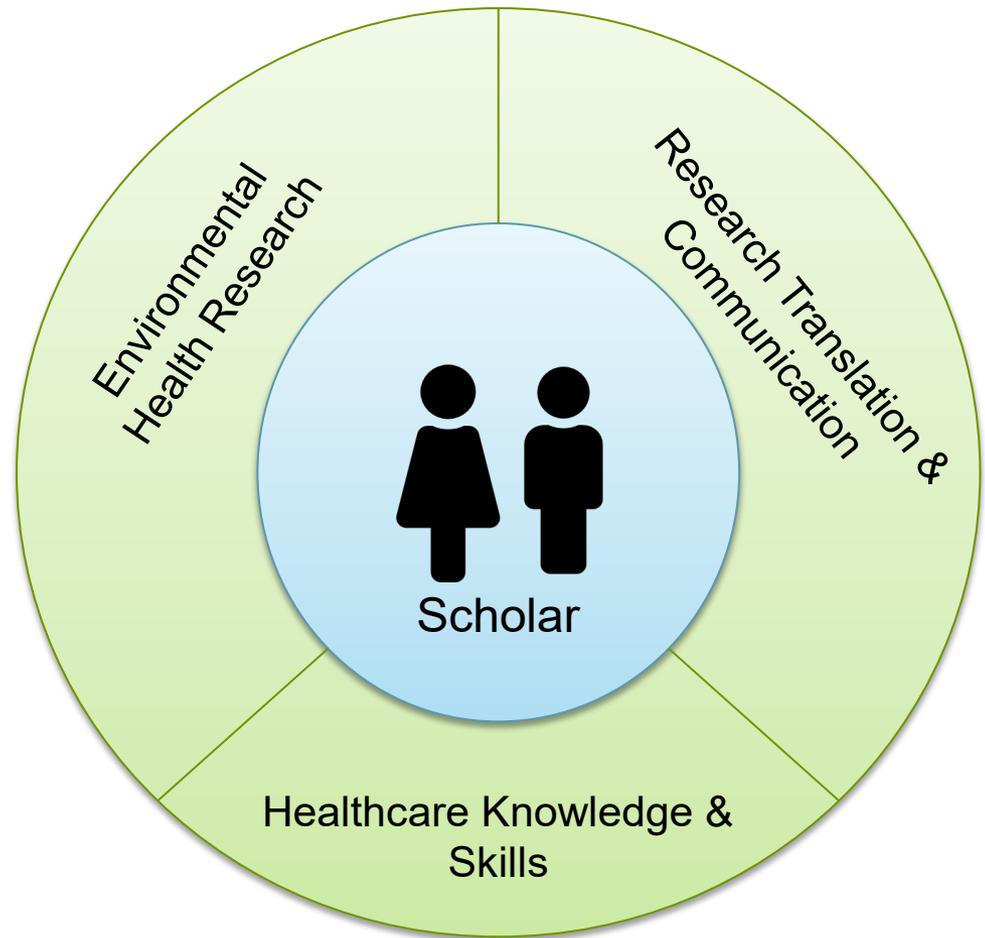


PEHSU Partnership Rationale: Ongoing interactions

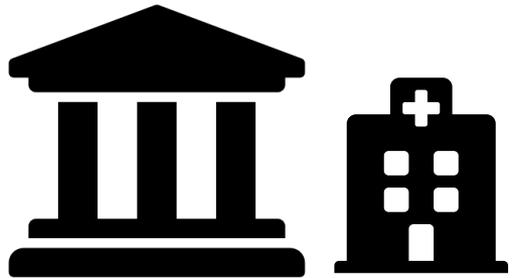


Importance of PREHS Program

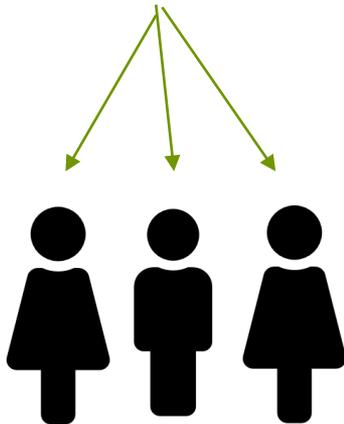
- **Build research capacity**
- **Strengthen environmental health literacy**
- **Nurture a national resource**



Pediatric and Reproductive Environmental Health Scholars Program: K12 Award to Institutions



University & PEHSU



Concept

- Academic institution with strong PREH research is required to partner with a funded PEHSU
- Institution must:
 - Develop research training plan
 - Solicit scholar applications
 - Offer research opportunities
 - Advance outreach and engagement through PEHSU

PREHS Program: Duration and Scholars

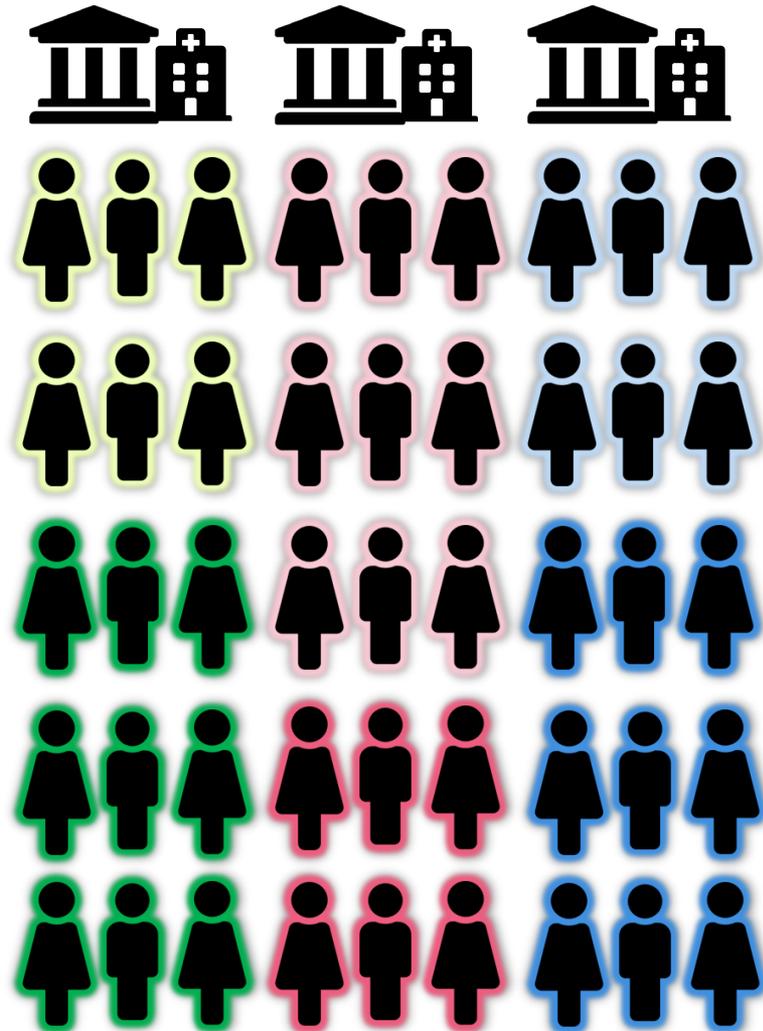
Length of award: 5 yrs

Number of awards: 3

Training experience: 2-3 yrs

Scholars per award: 3/yr

Estimated cost per Scholar: \$135K



Program Costs

- **Personnel – up to \$30K**
For all persons directly involved in designing, directing, and administering the K12 program
- **Scholars – up to \$135K**
 - Salary & Fringe (\$110K)
 - Res/Career dev (\$25K)
- **Other expenses – up to \$25K**
Non-scholar travel and meetings
- **Indirect Costs**
Capped at 8%



Total Direct Costs

\$450K/year

Applicants will need to decide how to distribute Personnel and Other Expenses.

Program Key Players

- **PI or Multiple PI**
In charge of the overall program
- **Scholars Director**
Oversees the day-to-day elements of the program
- **PREHS Advisory Committee**
Evaluate potential scholars and program
- **Mentors**
1-2 assigned to each scholar
- **Scholars**
Jr. Faculty possessing clinical doctoral degree



Community Involvement

- CBO Mentor
- PREHS Advisor

These roles are encouraged if community-engaged research approaches are proposed

Program Elements

- Didactic coursework
- Environmental Health Research
 - Lab-based/population-based
 - Mentoring
 - Grant writing
- Communication activities
 - Patient education, outreach and risk communication
 - Healthcare professional education
- Clinical practice



Academic institution:

develops research training plan
provides research experiences

PEHSU:

provides communication &
environmental health research
translation experience

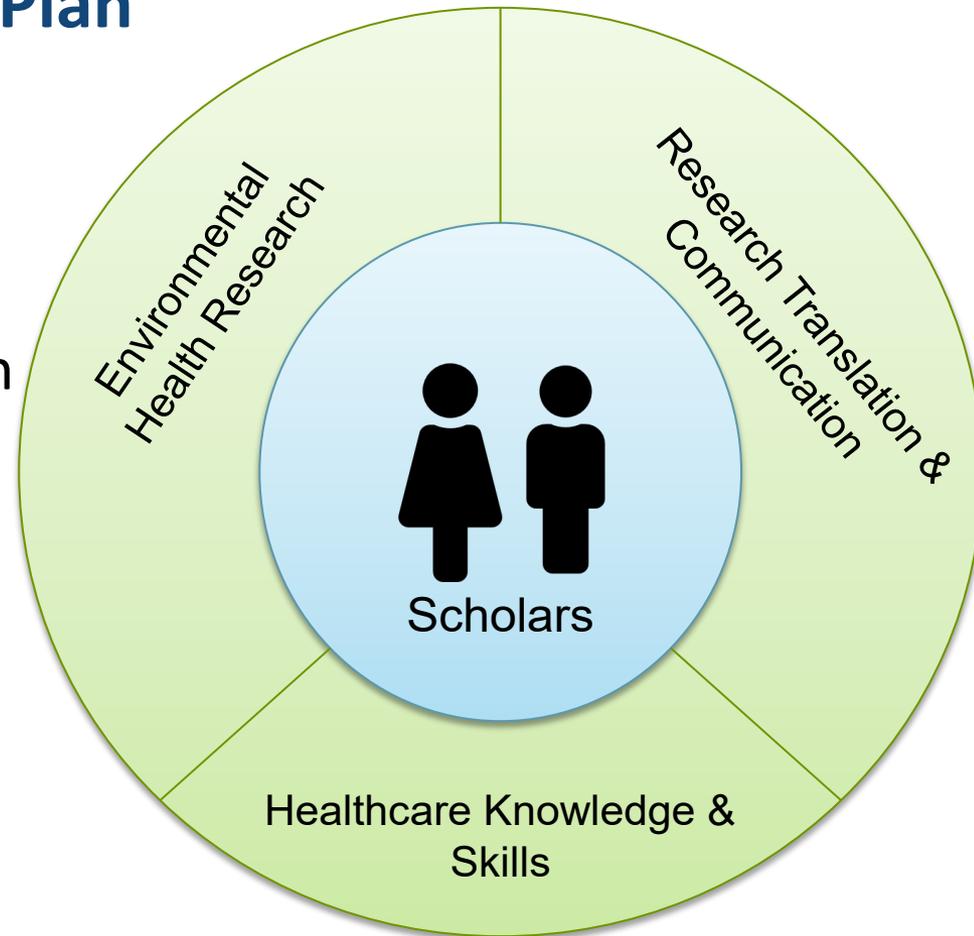
Possible Research Training Plan

- **Year 1**

- Masters in Public Health
- Foundations in environmental public health

- **Years 2 & 3**

- Environmental health research opportunities
- Grant writing
- Health communication
- Education
- Research translation



Well-rounded Scholars:
Researchers, Resources, and Leaders

Grantee Meeting: Scholar Network

- Promote interactions among program participants
- Share research efforts
- Advance approaches
 - Research
 - Training
 - Communication

Research Networks

It will be important for Scholars to plug into environmental health research networks to gain greater understanding of the field and share their knowledge

Program Outcomes

- Scholars gain and apply PREH research skills & knowledge
- Scholars gain communication skills & knowledge
- Strengthen Environmental Health Literacy of health care professionals
 - Scholars (directly)
 - Practitioners (indirectly)
- Expand the pipeline of healthcare professionals with EH knowledge and skills
- Increased PREH in medical education (long term)
- Increased interaction among NIEHS research community and PEHSUs



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Grants Management Matters

Jenny Greer

Chief, Grants Management Branch

Ask questions via the Q&A box.
Post them at any time, but we'll save them to the end

Budget

- Provide a budget for the applicant organization
- Provide a separate budget for each subrecipient/consortia
- Use the SF424 Forms-F Budget forms
 - Sections A-B = Personnel
 - Section C = Equipment
 - Section D = Travel
 - Section E = DO NOT COMPLETE – this is for training grants only
 - Section F = Other Direct Costs (materials and supplies, subawards, etc.)
 - Section G = Total Direct Costs (automatically calculates)
 - Section H = Indirect Costs



RESEARCH & RELATED BUDGET - Budget Period 1

OMB Number: 4040-0001
Expiration Date: 12/31/2022

ORGANIZATIONAL DUNS: Enter name of Organization:

Budget Type: Project Subaward/Consortium

Budget Period: 1 Start Date: End Date:

A. Senior/Key Person

Prefix	First	Middle	Last	Suffix	Base Salary (\$)	Months			Requested Salary (\$)	Fringe Benefits (\$)	Funds Requested (\$)
						Cal.	Acad.	Sum.			
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>									

Project Role:

Additional Senior Key Persons:

Total Funds requested for all Senior Key Persons in the attached file

Total Senior/Key Person

B. Other Personnel

Number of Personnel	Project Role	Months			Requested Salary (\$)	Fringe Benefits (\$)	Funds Requested (\$)
		Cal.	Acad.	Sum.			
<input type="text"/>	Post Doctoral Associates	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Graduate Students	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Undergraduate Students	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Secretarial/Clerical	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Total Number Other Personnel

Total Other Personnel

Total Salary, Wages and Fringe Benefits (A+B)



C. Equipment Description

List items and dollar amount for each item exceeding \$5,000

Equipment item	Funds Requested (\$)
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

Additional Equipment:

Total funds requested for all equipment listed in the attached file	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Total Equipment	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

D. Travel

	Funds Requested (\$)
1. Domestic Travel Costs (Incl. Canada, Mexico and U.S. Possessions)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
2. Foreign Travel Costs	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Total Travel Cost	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

E. Participant/Trainee Support Costs

	Funds Requested (\$)
1. Tuition/Fees/Health Insurance	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
2. Stipends	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
3. Travel	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
4. Subsistence	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
5. Other <input style="width: 450px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
<input style="width: 45px;" type="text"/> Number of Participants/Trainees	Total Participant/Trainee Support Costs
	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>



F. Other Direct Costs

Funds Requested (\$)

1. Materials and Supplies	
2. Publication Costs	
3. Consultant Services	
4. ADP/Computer Services	
5. Subawards/Consortium/Contractual Costs	
6. Equipment or Facility Rental/User Fees	
7. Alterations and Renovations	
8. <input type="text"/>	
9. <input type="text"/>	
10. <input type="text"/>	
Total Other Direct Costs	

G. Direct Costs

Funds Requested (\$)

Total Direct Costs (A thru F)

H. Indirect Costs

Indirect Cost Type	Indirect Cost Rate (%)	Indirect Cost Base (\$)	Funds Requested (\$)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total Indirect Costs			<input type="text"/>

Cognizant Federal Agency
(Agency Name, POC Name, and POC Phone Number)

I. Total Direct and Indirect Costs

Funds Requested (\$)

Total Direct and Indirect Institutional Costs (G + H)

J. Fee

Funds Requested (\$)

K. Total Costs and Fee

Funds Requested (\$)

Total Costs and Fee (I + J)

L. Budget Justification

(Only attach one file.)

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

Allowable costs

- Personnel
 - Up to \$30,000 total personnel for individuals involved in designing, directing and administering the K12 program
- Program-related expenses
 - Up to \$25,000
- Scholars
 - Up to \$110,000 for salary and fringe (9cm effort required)
 - Up to \$25,000 research and career development costs
- F&A costs at a rate of 8% on Modified Total Direct Costs

Unallowable costs

- Salaries and fringe benefits for the program mentors
- Salary and support for central institutional administrative personnel (e.g., budget officers, grant assistants, and building maintenance personnel), which are usually paid from F&A
- Salary and support for administrative activities such as institutional public relations or health and educational services
- Travel of the PD(s)/PI(s), Scholars Director, or program mentors to scientific meetings other than those involving K12 program-specific activities
- Patient care costs such as inpatient bed days or outpatient visits, except for clinical laboratory analyses essential for the Scholars research
- Alterations and renovations



THANK YOU!

Jenny Greer
Chief, Grants Management
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jenny.greer@nih.gov



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Scientific Review Themes

Varsha Shukla

**Scientific Review Officer,
Scientific Review Branch**

Ask questions via the Q&A box.
Post them at any time, but we'll save them to the end

Schedule and Deadline

- Letters of Intent: December 15, 2020
 - Title of the study
 - Details of PD/PI and other key personnel
 - Participating institution and FOA number

- Application Due: **January 15, 2021**
Due by 5:00 p.m. local time of application organization.

- Peer Review Meeting: Late May/Early June 2021

- Priority Scores: within 48 hours after Review Meeting ends

- SS Released in IMPAC: No later than end of August

- Council: October 2021



Electronic Submission

Electronic Submission of Grant Applications - Home Page - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt/>

[Home](#)

[Electronic Application Process](#)

[Transition Timeline \(from paper to electronic\)](#)

[Avoiding Common Errors](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

[Training](#)

[Resources](#)

[Finding Help](#)

[Site Map](#)

[eRA Commons](#)

[Intranet Link \(NIH Staff only\)](#)

Electronic Submission

All electronic submissions to NIH via Grants.gov require the use of Adobe-based forms! Follow the links below for important information about applying electronically, including the latest news and announcements, registration information, tips for successful submission and more.

Important Registration Reminder:
ORGANIZATIONS MUST REGISTER IN BOTH GRANTS.GOV and eRA COMMONS TO APPLY FOR MOST NIH GRANTS
Registration can take four weeks or more to complete. [Start now!](#)

- [NIH eRA System Status Update \(May 29, 2009\) ^{NEW}](#)
- [Error Correction Window Extended for Opportunities Due May 20 - May 29, 2009 ^{NEW}](#)
- [Recovery Act Grand Opportunities "GO" Grant Submission Deadline Moved to May 29, 2009](#)
- [Latest eSubmission news from NIH](#)
- [Resources for Using the Adobe Forms](#)
- [Latest News from Grants.gov](#)

Electronic Application Process

```

graph TD
    1[1. Prepare to Apply] --> 2[2. Find Opportunity and Download Application Package]
    2 --> 3[3. Prepare Application]
    3 --> 4[4. Submit Application to Grants.gov]
    4 --> 5[5. Check Submission Status in Commons]
    5 --> 6[6. Check Assembled Application]
    
```

[View Process Flow Chart \(PowerPoint - 72 KB\)](#)

Transition Timeline

- [Timeline \(Graphic format\) ^{More...}](#)

Avoiding Common Errors

- [Missing Commons User ID](#)
- [PDF Issues](#)
- [Total Cost does not equal direct and indirect costs ^{More...}](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Having Problems With Your Submission?

[Subscribe to the latest eSubmission News!](#)

[May 29, 2009 eRA System Status Update](#)

[May 12, 2009 Helpful Information, Resources and Updates](#)

[May 6, 2009 Processing caught up; Beware of Duplicate Applications](#)

[May 1, 2009 Error-Correction Window Extended to May 8](#)

[April 29, 2009 Helpful Information, Resources and Updates ^{More...}](#)

Latest Updates

Tips

- [PI \(PDF - 48 KB\)](#)
- [Small Biz \(PDF - 66 KB\)](#)
- [Reviewers \(PDF - 52.3 KB\)](#)
- [International \(PDF - 150 KB\)](#)
- [Q&A \(PDF - 36 KB\)](#)
- [Contact Info \(PDF - 30 KB\)](#)

Related NIH Guide Notices

- [Error-correction window for Challenge Grants extended to May 8](#)



ASSIST

(Application Submission System & Interface For Submission Tracking)

Organizations need to register for both grants.gov and eRA Commons

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

eRA Commons Home Logout Service Desk Contact Us

Application Submission System & Interface for Submission Tracking (ASSIST)
Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Username: IAMKIROK

Welcome

Welcome to the Application Submission System & Interface for Submission Tracking (ASSIST)

INITIATE APPLICATION
Funding Opportunity Announcement #
(Example: PA-XX-XXX or LITC-ABCD-XX-000)

The National Institutes of Health posts Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) in the [NIH Guide for Grants & Contracts](#) and in [Grants.gov's Search Grants](#). Each resource has robust search functionality to identify opportunities of interest. ASSIST can only be used to prepare and submit applications when explicitly stated in the FOA.

SEARCH FOR APPLICATION

Need Help?

Resources

- APPLICATION GUIDE
- ASSIST USER GUIDE
- ERA COMMONS



Electronic Submission and Timeline

- **Application Submission is only through ASSIST (via Grants.gov)**
-At least 5 Business Days prior to Deadline
- **Accepted by DHHS/NIH**
-Notification of Acceptance or Error (2-3 days)
- **Assigned to an Institute/Center**
-CSR: Receipt & Referral
-Assigned an Application #
- **Accepted by the Institute/Center (NIEHS)**
-Assigned to a Review Group

eRA Help Desk, Monday-Friday, 7am-8pm Eastern Time

301-402-7469; Toll Free: 866-504-9552

<http://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html>



Application Preparation

Pre-Submission Checklist:

- Read and follow instructions in PHS 398 and any additional instructions specific to an application
- Substitute the term “scholars” instead of “trainees” and “career development” for all references to “training”
- Key Personnel
- Biographical Sketches (NIH format)
- Font size, page numbering & page limitation
- Checkpoints for Budgets

Application Preparation

➤ Page limit:

- ✓ Project Summary – 30 lines of text
- ✓ Program Plan- 25 pages
- ✓ Plan for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research- 3 pages
- ✓ Plan for Instruction in Methods for Enhancing Reproducibility- 3 pages
- ✓ Biosketches- 5 pages
- As indicated in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide must be followed <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/page-limits.htm#train>

Application Preparation

Project Summary/Abstract:

- Should include the objectives, rationale and design of the research career development program, as well as key activities in the training plan.
- Indicate the planned duration of appointments, the projected number of scholars including their levels (i.e., , postdoctoral, faculty), and intended scholar outcomes.

Other Attachments: A plan must be provided for the appointment of an Advisory Committee.

Scholars Director (SD):

- A Scholars Director (SD) may be designated for the day-to-day administration of the program. The Scholars Director may be one of the PD(s)/PI(s).
- The Scholars Director should be an established pediatric or reproductive environmental health physician scientist with the expertise, leadership, and administrative capabilities required to coordinate and supervise a multidisciplinary research and career development program of this scope.



Appendix Material/Information

NOT-OD-18-126:

Allowable- Blank data collection forms, blank survey forms and blank questionnaire forms.

“Reduce the burden on peer reviewers and to prevent applicants from submitting inappropriate or excessive materials in their application appendices”

Post Submission Material:

NOT- OD-19-083:

The allowable post-submission materials will be accepted only if **submitted 30 days before the study section meeting.**

Review Criteria: (Section V. Application Review Information)

- Career Development Program and Environment
- Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) and Scholars Directors (SD(s) if applicable)
- Mentors
- Scholars
- Training Record

Additional Review Criteria and Considerations:

- Training in Methods for Enhancing Reproducibility
- Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity
- Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research



Career Development Program and Environment

- Clear plan to recruit and develop diverse, well-qualified junior clinical investigators or clinical researchers.
- An adequate pool of environmental health researchers at the proposed PREHS program.
- The content and duration of any proposed didactic, training-related, and research-related activities to help meet the goals of the PREHS program.
- Presence of any NIEHS-supported Centers or other large research projects at the applicant institution to leverage resources.

Career Development Program and Environment (contd.)

- Appropriate timelines for career progression and transition to independence.
- The institutional environment and institutional commitment.
- Adequate justification if multiple sites are participating.
- The level of effort of the PD/PI, mentors and scholars devoted to research career development and related activities.
- Role of advisory committee regarding the provision of input, guidance and oversight of the program.

Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s) and Scholars Directors SD(s) (if applicable)

- Do the PD(s)/PI(s) and SD(s) have the experience to develop, direct and administer the proposed program?
- Does the leadership team bring complementary and integrated expertise to the program?
- Level of effort devoted by the program leadership.
- Appropriate research and clinical qualifications, scientific stature, previous leadership and mentoring experience, and track record(s).
- PD(s)/PI(s) currently engaged in research and clinical practice relevant to the scientific area of the proposed program.
- Current funding and engagement in research and clinical practice related to pediatric or reproductive environmental health.



Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s)

For applications designating multiple PDs/PIs:

- Strong justification for the multiple PD/PI leadership approach benefiting the career development program and the scholars.
- Is a strong and compelling leadership approach evident, including the designated roles and responsibilities, governance, and organizational structure consistent with and justified by the aims of the career development program and the complementary expertise of the PDs/PIs?

Mentors

- Do the mentors have appropriate expertise and experience, as well as track records of past mentoring and training?
- Are the quality and extent of the mentors' roles in providing guidance and scientific advice to the scholars acceptable?
- Are the mentors currently engaged in research and clinical practice relevant to the PREHS program?
- Are the mentors from a broad range of basic and applied biomedical science related to pediatric or reproductive environmental health, from collaborating departments.

Scholars

- Plans proposed with strategies likely to attract high quality scholars.
- Whether the recruitment and selection strategies are well-defined and well justified.
- Evidence of a sufficiently large, competitive scholar pool to warrant the proposed size of the career development program.
- Are the content, phasing, and proposed duration of the career development plan appropriate for achieving scientific independence of the scholars?
- The likelihood that the career development plan will contribute significantly to the scientific development of the scholars.

Training Record

- Evidence of a successful past training record of the PD(s)/PI(s), Scholars Director, and mentors, including the success of former scholars in seeking independent support and establishing productive scientific careers.
- A rigorous evaluation plan to assess the quality and effectiveness of the career development program.



Submit Early!!





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Questions and Answers

Program, Grants Management, & Scientific Review

Submit questions via the Q&A box

Questions Received

- Must you have a partnership with a PEHSU?
Yes. It is a requirement.
- Why just PEHSU when there are other clinical translation groups out there that do the same thing?
We wanted to work with an existing federally supported program with expertise in PREH & a history of fostering similar training programs.
- There is a PEHSU in Mexico. Could I partner with them?
Sorry. Foreign components aren't allowed.
- What is the intended PEHSU involvement?
The PEHSU is envisioned as providing expertise in communication and research translation.
- Is this just research training?
It is a research training grant, but it also requires a focus on communication and research translation.
- What is the proportion of activities related to PEHSU vs. research?
We leave that up to you. You need to develop and justify a program that plays to your strengths.
- Is the research component of their work supposed to be related to environmental health or is it flexible?
Yes. Applicants must demonstrate a strong/robust environmental health research portfolio.

Questions Continued

- Are multi-site collaborative submissions OK, encouraged?
- Are the intended awardees individual candidates? Or is the award going to a program that will then find candidates to fill positions?
- Who is the K grant targeting, particularly as it relates to their primary department?
- Mentors can't get any salary support, can other PEHSU or non-PEHSU-affiliated academics get funding?
- Only \$30K to support people involved with the program?
- How do you set up a budget with multiple people training the scholar?

Yes. They are allowed, but they should make sense.

The K12 is an institutional award, so it goes to a university/program that has the responsibility for finding the scholars.

It is for scholars coming from clinical setting and getting environmental health research training.

Consultant costs, equipment, supplies, travel for key persons, and other program-related expenses may be included in the proposed budget.

Correct. Up to \$30K.

If you are talking about multiple institutions, then you would place that under sub-awards.

Questions Continued

- Does the program need to be 2-3 years? Could it be 5?
- How many scholars are expected for each program? 3 or up to 3?
- If you are a Mentor or Key Personnel on the award, does that impact your own future K?
- Are we allowed to integrate with other extant training programs (such as the NRSA-funded program)? How could we tie into it? Can we leverage them?
- Are programs expected to provide scholars with a degree (MPH) at the end?
- Which tables am I supposed to use?
- Are nurses eligible for this program?

The length of the scholar training needs to be justified.

3, but we recognize that this program is new, so it might not be feasible to get 3 in the first year.

No. You are not the PI.

Yes. There is language that recognizes such possibilities. How you do it, is up to you.

No. However, you could do it if it makes sense as part of your training curriculum.

Please use the K Instructions.

Yes. So long as they meet the other requirements.



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Questions from the Q&A box

Thank You!



Liam O'Fallon



Mike Humble



Jennifer Collins



Jenny Greer



Varsha Shukla

Slides and FAQ Document will be posted within 2 weeks.

<http://go.usa.gov/x75hQ>