NIAID Postdoc Funding and Training Opportunities

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My Role at NIAID

- Program officer for microbiology/ ID training grants (T32/ T35)
- Program contact for microbiology/ ID fellowships
- Division coordinator for international, policy, and communications activities

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NIH Comprises 27 Institutes and Centers (ICs)

NIH is made up of 27 Institutes and Centers, each with a specific research agenda, often focusing on particular diseases or body systems.

NCI	NEI	NHLBI
NHGRI	NIA	NIAAA
NIAID	NIAMS	NIBIB
NICHD	NIDCD	NIDCR
NIDDK	NIDA	NIEHS
NIGMS	NIMH	NIMHD
NINDS	NINR	NLM
CC	CIT	CSR
FIC	NCATS	NCCIH

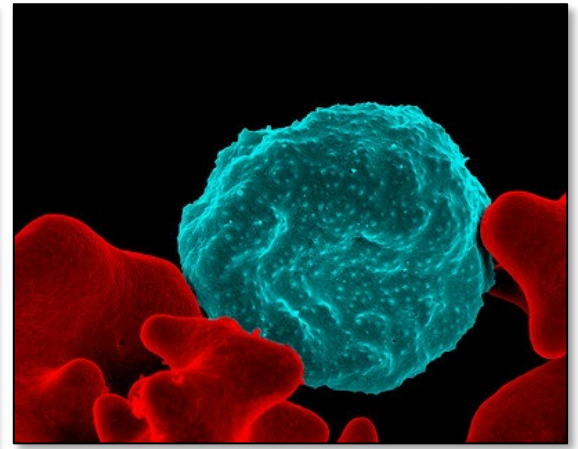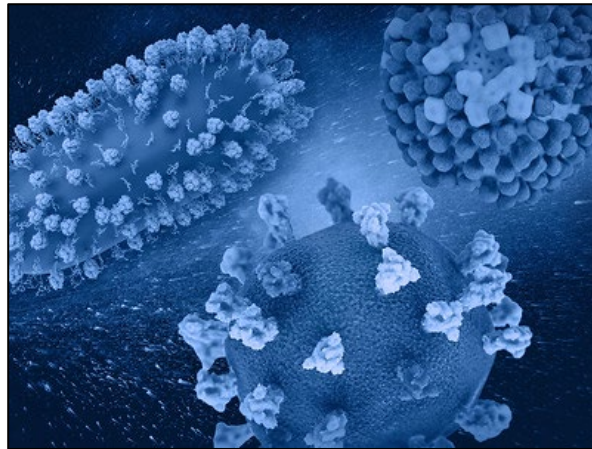National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Mission

Mission: Conduct and support research to better understand, treat, and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases
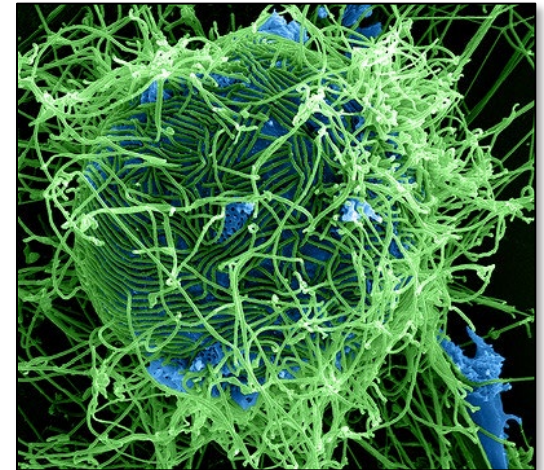

Image credit: A. Fauci

Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (DMID) Mission

Mission: Support extramural basic through applied research to control and prevent diseases caused by virtually all human infectious agents except HIV

DMID's Scientific Priorities

- Maintain a robust portfolio of basic, translational, and clinical research in microbiology and infectious diseases

- Develop countermeasures to mitigate emerging infectious disease outbreaks and biodefense threats

- Support the development of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics for tuberculosis

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DMID's Scientific Priorities

- Combat the health impact of antibacterial resistance

- Advance the development of universal influenza and coronavirus vaccines

- Improve strategies for prevention and treatment of malaria

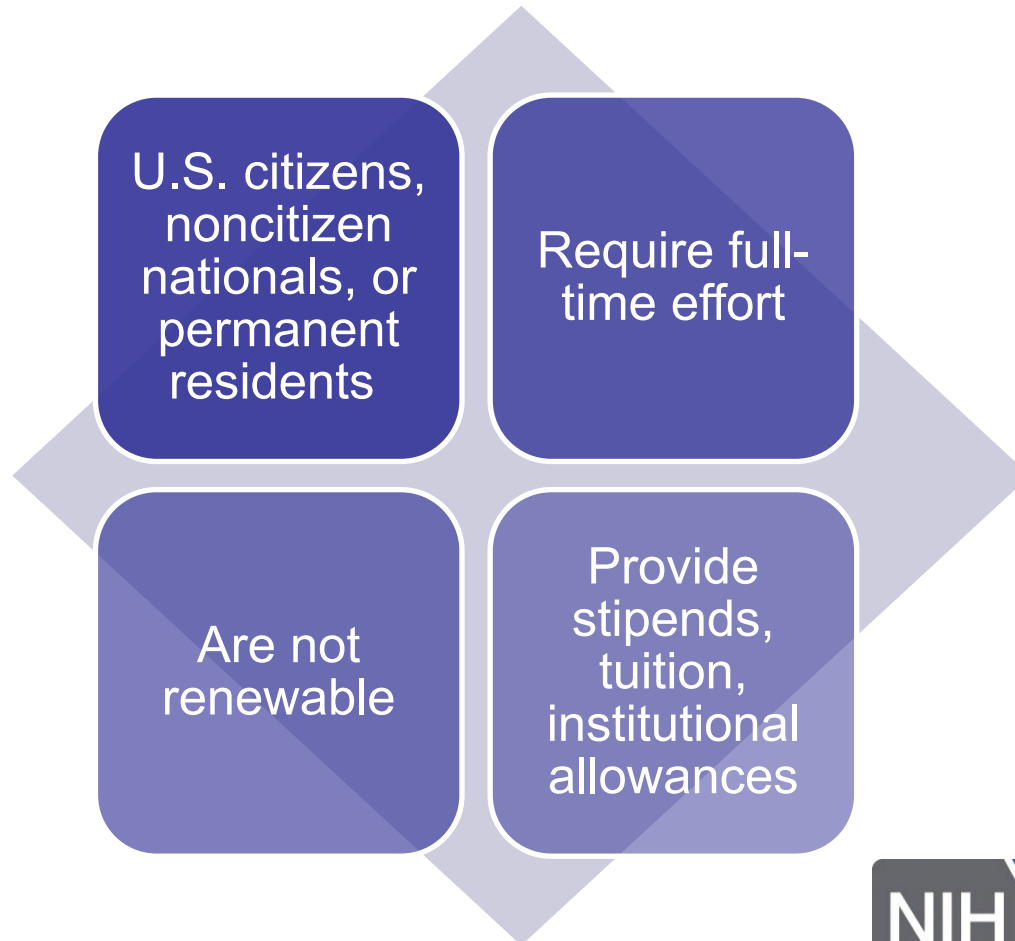# Overview of NIAID Funding Opportunities for Postdocs

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA)

Support the training of biomedical, behavioral, and clinical researchers through individual pre- and postdoctoral **fellowships (Fs)** and **institutional research training (Ts)** grants
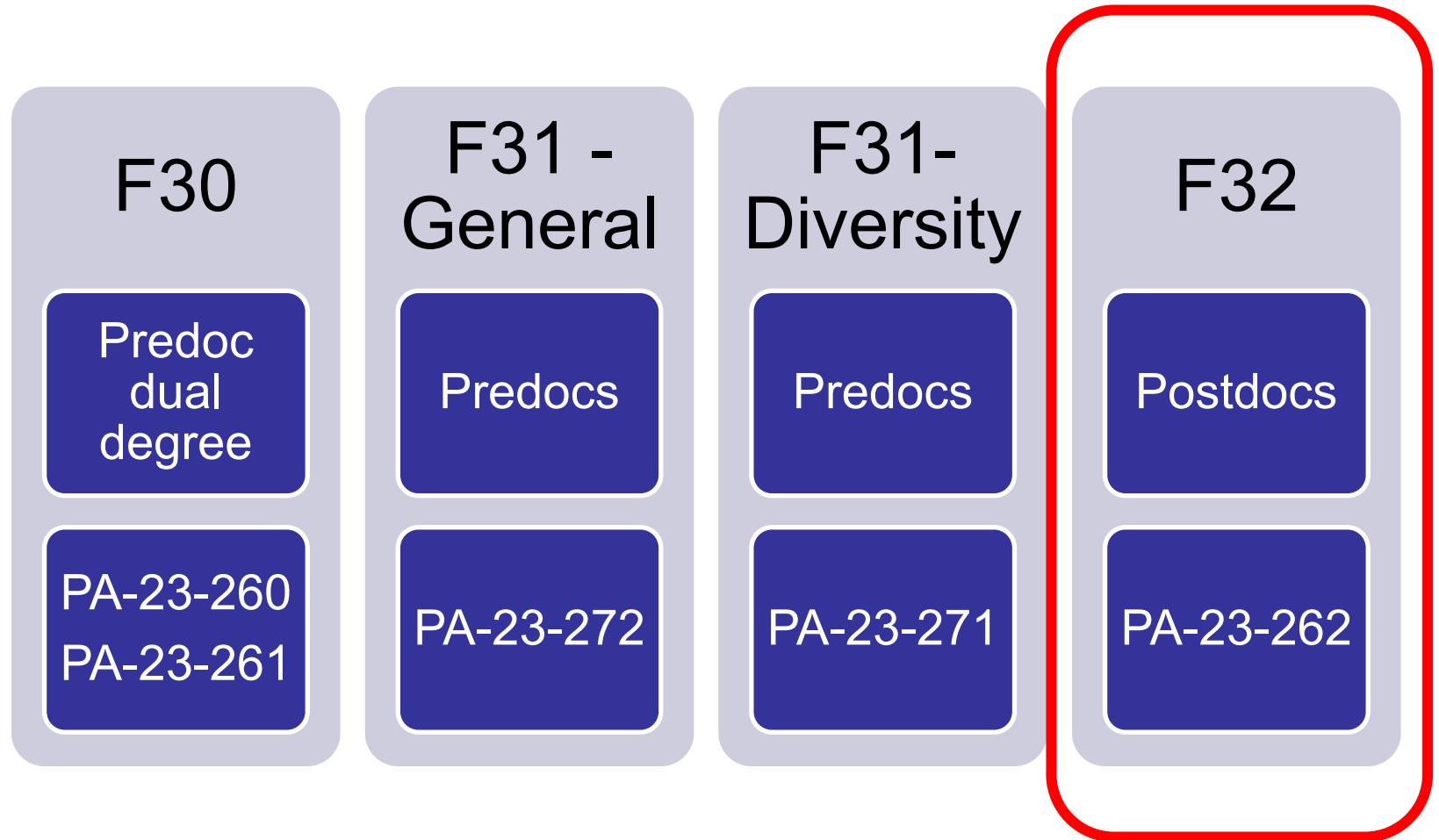

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NRSA Fellowship Awards (F)

Individual awards for predocs and postdocs

U.S. citizens, noncitizen nationals, or permanent residents

Require full-time effort

Are not renewable

Provide stipends, tuition, institutional allowances

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NRSA Individual Fellowships (F)

F30	F31 - General	F31- Diversity	F32
Predoc dual degree	Predocs	Predocs	Postdocs
PA-23-260 PA-23-261	PA-23-272	PA-23-271	PA-23-262

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NIAID fellowship applications are reviewed at the NIH Center for Scientific Review

- CSR organizes the peer review groups or study sections that evaluate the majority (75%) of the research grant applications sent to NIH
- There are currently 26 fellowship study sections

https://public.csr.nih.gov/StudySections/Fellowship

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Two things to remember about NRSA awards (T and F)

There is a limit to the period of total NRSA support
- Predoc – 5 years
- Postdoc – 3 years

There is a payback requirement
- Postdocs only

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NRSA Awards (T and F) Now Support Some Childcare Costs

- Each NRSA fellow may request $3,000 per budget period to defray childcare costs

- See link for FAQs and details:
  https://grants.nih.gov/faqs#/funding_programs_childcare_costs.htm?anchor=alphaHeader4225

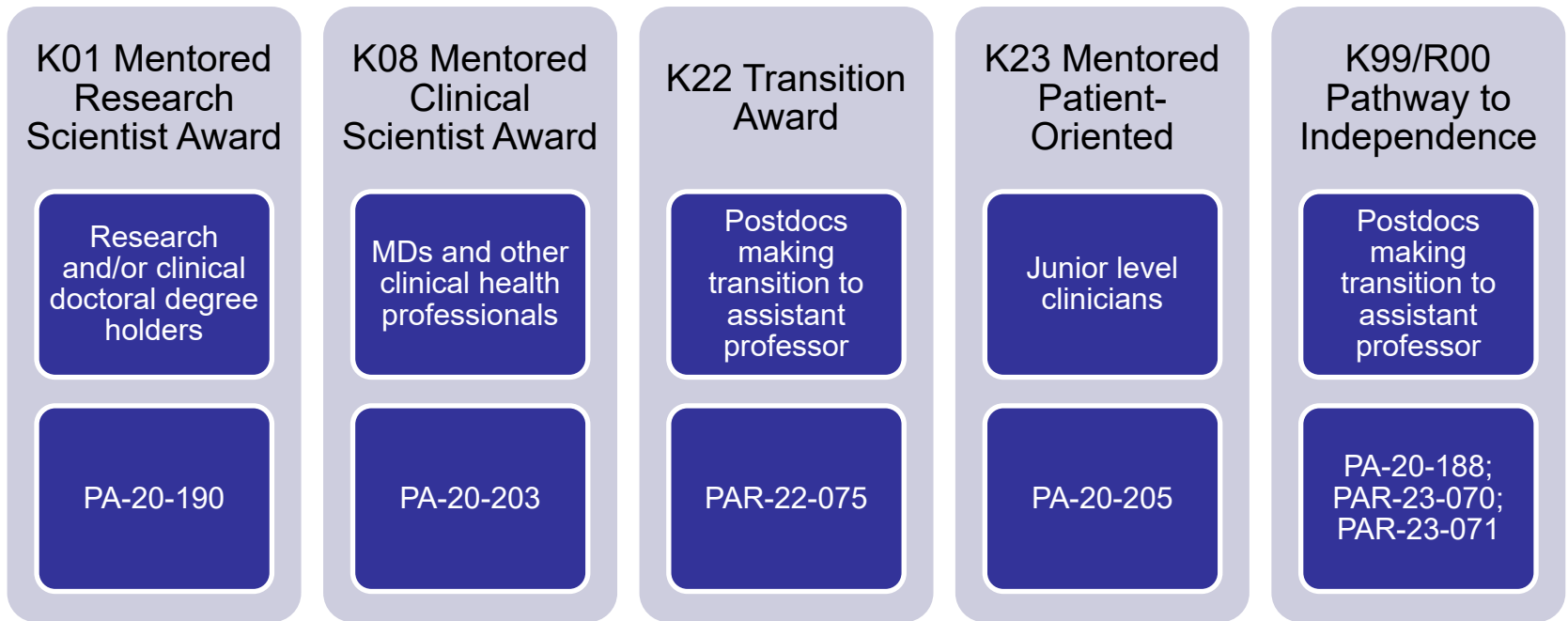
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NIAID Career Awards (K)

Provide individual and institutional career development opportunities to supported candidates at the postdoctoral, early career, and mid-career levels

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Overview of Select NIAID Career Awards (K)

K01 Mentored Research Scientist Award	K08 Mentored Clinical Scientist Award	K22 Transition Award	K23 Mentored Patient-Oriented	K99/R00 Pathway to Independence
Research and/or clinical doctoral degree holders	MDs and other clinical health professionals	Postdocs making transition to assistant professor	Junior level clinicians	Postdocs making transition to assistant professor
PA-20-190	PA-20-203	PAR-22-075	PA-20-205	PA-20-188; PAR-23-070; PAR-23-071

https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/understanding-research-career-development-k-award-specifics

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NIAID K applications are reviewed in NIAID charter committees

- [Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research Committee](#) (MID)

- [Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research Committee B](#) (MID-B)

- [Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome Research Review Committee](#) (AIDS)

- [Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research Committee](#) (AITC)

Recent Policy Changes to NIAID K Awards

- **NIAID K99, K25, and K01 award levels**:

  - Salary Support
    Up to *$100,000* plus fringe benefits per year (*increased from $75,000*). As always, salary must be consistent with effort committed to the award and institutional compensation policies.

  - Research Support
    Up to *$50,000* per year (*increased from $25,000* for K99 and K01, *increased from $20,000* for K25)

- **R00 Years for Support:**

  - K99 phase will provide support for up to 2 years of mentored postdoctoral career development. The R00 phase will provide *up to 3 years* (*increased from 2 years*) of independent research support.

https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/career-development-training-awards-policy-changes

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Grant Supplement Programs

- Funds added to an existing grant to:
  - Increase the participation of scientists from underrepresented groups in biomedical research
  - Help promising researchers return to a scientific career

Diversity

Re-entry

Technical Assistance

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Grant Supplement Programs

Diversity: PA-23-189	Re-entry: NOT-OD-23-170	Tech Assistance: NOT-AI-21-074
Improve the diversity of the research workforce	Support individuals with high potential to re-enter a research career after an interruption for family responsibilities or other qualifying circumstance	Support postdoctoral scientists to maintain high productivity in an NIAID-funded lab while engaging in primary caregiver responsibilities

https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/research-supplements

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Current Efforts to Balance NIAID Training Portfolio

⬆ **Overall NIAID Training Budget**

Increase F and K Award Success Rates

Increase R00 phase to 3 years

Maintain Innovative T32 Program

Increase K Award Salaries & Research Support Costs

NIAID Training Working Group to Assess the Portfolio Annually

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Identifying Funding Opportunities

- Search NIH and IC webpages
- Contact a program officer to ask about opportunities/ verify that your idea fits within that IC's mission
- Contact the program contacts for each opportunity to confirm your eligibility
- Be sure to check out opportunities at other relevant NIH ICs

https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/training-career-grant-programs

What is the role of an NIH program officer?

- To help identify an appropriate type of grant program and/or funding opportunity for you and your research

- To obtain input on whether your specific aims fit within the mission and priorities of an NIH institute or center

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You can use NIH Matchmaker to help you find a program officer in your research area

https://reporter.nih.gov/matchmaker

NIAID provides sample applications and summary statements

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications>

Thank you!

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