



Students
Career Path Postbaccalaureate Predoctoral
Mentoring Opportunities
Grants Training Prevention
Research Internships Fellowships Clinical
Basic Science Cancer Diversity
Collaboration Postdoctoral Innovation
Data Science Epidemiology



NCI Opportunities for Early Career Cancer Researchers

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Outline

1. *NCI Overview and Funding Opportunities for Training in Cancer Research*
2. *Resources for Early Career Researchers*

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Empowering Goals

Health-centric Goals



Discovery
Science



Improved
health
outcomes
for
everyone

CANCER
MOONSHOT
GOAL:
Reduce
cancer
mortality
by 50% by
2047

National Cancer Institute (NCI): Cancer Training Branch

- **Promotes and supports** a new generation of cancer researchers by funding and administering fellowships, career development awards, and training/education research awards in all areas of cancer research.
- **Works collaboratively** to assess and identify areas of need in cancer research training and education.
- **As NCI Program Directors** we provide scientific expertise, application guidance and support, manage new and existing awards, and support the development of new training/funding opportunities.

<https://www.cancer.gov/grants-training/training/about>

NCI Promotes Diversity in the Cancer Research Workforce

NCI particularly encourages applications from individuals from groups identified in NIH's Notice of Interest in Diversity ([NOT-OD-20-031](#)) as underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences consistent with applicable Federal, State, and local laws.



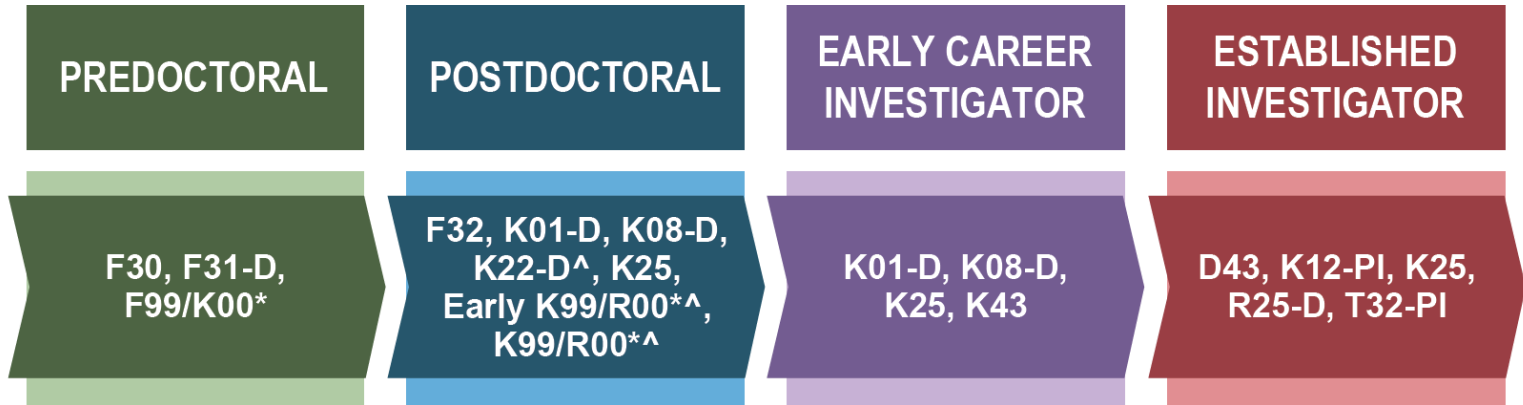
NCI Supports Funding for Training in All Areas of Cancer Research

CANCER RESEARCH CONTINUUM



NCI Funding Opportunities for Training in All Areas of Cancer Research

The career stage indicated is when an applicant is eligible to apply for each award



Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs)

Supplements to Active Awards to Promote Diversity, Re-entry, and Re-integration in Cancer Research Careers

KEY		
F = Fellowship	-D = Awards available to promote diversity in addition to the parent funding opportunity	
K = Career Development	* = Non-U.S. citizens eligible to apply	
R = Research	^ = NIH Intramural postdocs eligible to apply	
T = Training	-PI = The principal investigator of the application must be an established investigator	



The NIH Loan Repayment Program Helps Pay Back Education Loans

- NCI Eligible Candidates: Researchers conducting cancer-focused studies in clinical translation, pediatric cancer, cancer health disparities, epidemiology, population sciences, and prevention; including clinical research for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Award is up to \$100K for up to 2 years and renewable if applicant continues to meet eligibility criteria and has eligible educational debt
- 2-year research commitment
- Application deadline: annually in November
- FY23: NCI funded 226 applications. Success rate: 83%
- NCI LRP Liaison: Mark Damico, PhD mark.damico@nih.gov



Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA)

Individual Fellowships

F30 Predoc

- Supports predocs during clinical & graduate training for a **combined doctoral** degree (e.g., MD/PhD, DDS/PhD, DVM/PhD, AuD/PhD, DO/PhD).
- Must be **within 48 months** of matriculation into an accredited MD/PhD program for the initial application (not resubmissions).
- Provides **up to 6 years support** for tuition/fees & \$4,750 annually for training related expenses/ health insurance.

F31 Predoc

- F31 supports **PhD research** candidates who have achieved candidacy and performing dissertation research.
- **Diversity F31:** supports under-represented predocs in **both** dual degree (up to 6 years) and PhD only programs (up to 5 years).
- Provides **up to 5 years support** for tuition/fees & \$4,750 annually for training expenses/ health insurance.

F32 Postdoc

- Supports mentored **postdoctoral** training under the guidance of a faculty sponsor to support transition to independence.
- Fellows must have a research or clinical **doctoral degree** from an accredited US or foreign institution.
- Provides **up to 3 years** of stipend & \$4,500 for tuition/fees, training expenses/health insurance up to \$12,400.

Individual Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Transition Award (F99/K00)



Eligibility

- 3rd and 4th year health-related PhD students
- US Citizens, non-citizen nationals, permanent residents, Non-US Citizens
- 1 nominee per institution (for NCI and some other NIH Institutes)

1-2 years of support for completing PhD dissertation (F99)

- Stipend, Tuition, and Training Related Expenses at NRSA levels

Up to 4 years of support for postdoc training (K00) at a US institution

- Salary with annual increases at levels greater than NRSA levels



NIH Fellowship Application Updates

- **New Review Criteria!** For all applications submitted on or after **January 25, 2025**, NRSA fellowship applications will be reviewed using a simplified review criteria.
- On/and after January 25, 2025, **scholastic performance (e.g., grades) are not required nor permitted** to be included in NRSA applications.



Thursday, September 19, 2024
2:00 - 3:00PM ET

[Register here](#)



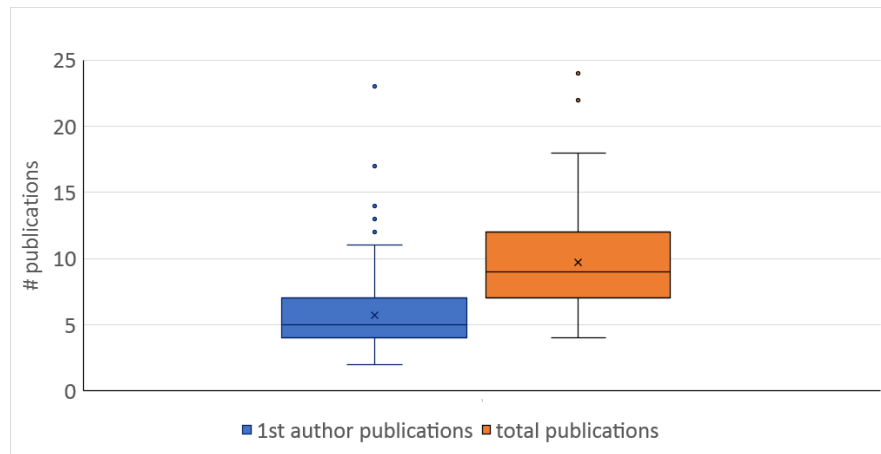
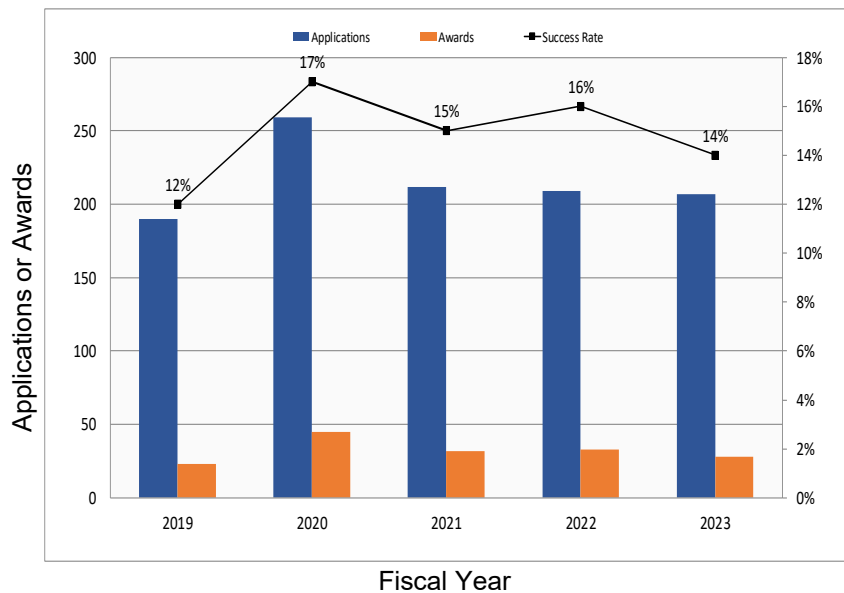
<https://grants.nih.gov/policy/peer/revisions-nih-fellowship-application-review-process/changes-to-fellowship-review-criteria.htm>

NCI Research Career Development Awards (Ks)

Fostering the transition of new investigators to research independence

	“Early” K99/R00 (data sci, prevention, control, pop sci)	Parent K99/R00	K01 and K01 Diversity (NCI-CCHE)	K22 and K22 Diversity	K08 and K08 Diversity
Mentored vs non-mentored (independent)	Mentored phase / Non-mentored phase	Mentored phase / Non-mentored phase	Mentored	Non-mentored	Mentored Clinical Scientist
Citizenship	U.S. citizens or non-U.S. citizens	U.S. citizens or non-U.S. citizens	U.S. citizens or permanent residents	U.S. citizens or permanent residents	U.S. citizens or permanent residents
Eligibility	≤ 2 years postdoc training	≤ 4 years postdoc training	Postdoc and early career	2 – 8 years postdoc training	Postdoc and early career
Duration of Award	1-2 years K99 1-3 years R00	1-2 years K99 1-3 years R00	Support for 3 – 5 years protected time	Support for 3 years activated when independence begins	Support for 3 – 5 years protected time
Budget	Salary up to \$100K Fringe benefits Research \$30K (K99 portion)	Salary up to \$100K Fringe benefits Research \$30K (K99 portion)	Salary up to \$100K Fringe benefits Research \$30K-\$50K	Salary up to \$100K Fringe benefits Research \$50K	Salary up to legislative cap Fringe benefits Research \$50K

NCI K99 Application Metrics and Awarded PI Productivity




Home > Journal of Cancer Education > Article

Evaluation of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) Program

Open access | Published: 18 March 2024

(2024) [Cite this article](#)

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Avoid common mistakes on your manuscript.

Schmidt et al. J Cancer Educ. 2024



The NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Early-Stage Postdoctoral Researchers (K99/R00)

- Funding opportunities PAR-23-286; PAR-23-287; PAR-23-288
- Postdocs with **less than 2 years of postdoctoral research experience** (as of submission due date); research in **data science, molecular/precision cancer prevention, or cancer control science** especially encouraged
 - Extensions of eligibility window may be considered on a case-by-case basis (contact NCI program director)
- **Candidate must be nominated by an institution. Institution may nominate up to 4 candidates, one in data science, one in cancer control science, one in molecular/precision cancer prevention, and one in other cancer research.**
- U.S. citizenship or permanent residency not required - **Individuals on visas are eligible to apply**
- Due dates annually on **Feb 14, June 14, Oct 14**

<https://www.cancer.gov/grants-training/training/funding/early-k99>

Upcoming Changes to NCI K99/R00 and NCI K22 Awards

- The NCI K22 (PAR-24-117) award will sunset effective November 13, 2025. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-24-079.html>
 - Applications will be accepted until November 2025.
- The NCI K99/R00 award will undergo significant changes including expanding the eligibility window from 4 years to 6 years of postdoctoral research training experience. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-24-077.html>
 - Notice of Funding Opportunity publication is November 1, 2024.
 - First estimated application due date February 14, 2025.
 - Earliest estimated award date is January 2, 2026.
 - Earliest estimated start date is January 2, 2026.

Pay Attention to the Review Criteria

FELLOWSHIPS ([changes will occur](#) for due dates on or after Jan 25, 2025)

Scored Review Criteria:

- Candidate (Fellowship Applicant)
- Sponsors, Collaborators, and Consultants
- Research Training Plan
- Training Potential
- Institutional Environment and Commitment to Training

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Scored Review Criteria:

- Candidate
- Mentors, Co-Mentors, Consultants, Collaborators
- Research Plan
- Career Development Plan
- Environment and Institutional Commitment to Training

Non scorable items (additional review considerations):

- Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
- Biohazards
- Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources
- Resource Sharing Plans
- Budget & Period of Support
- Vertebrate and/or human subject's considerations



Common Reviewer Concerns

- Aims underdeveloped – not thought through
- Lack of feasibility – lack of preliminary data
- Too focused - or too broad / ambitious
- Grantsmanship errors
- Too few publications as first author (more applicable for K awards)
- Publications not related to the application

Before You Apply



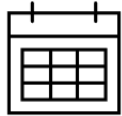
Read **funding opportunity** and **SF424**



Check eligibility



Talk with your **mentor**



Plan ahead



Keep organized



[Application Guide](#)
([SF424](#))

Outline

1. *NCI Overview and Funding Opportunities for Training in Cancer Research*
2. *Resources for Early Career Researchers*

New Resources for Applicants: NCI FAQ and Video Overview



General All Funding Awards

Read frequently asked questions about NCI fellowships, career development awards, training grants, and cancer research education awards.

General Fellowship Awards

Read about frequently asked questions about NCI fellowship awards (F30, F31, F32, and F99/K00). Fellowship awards are individual research training opportunities for mentored researchers at the graduate and postdoctoral levels.

General Career Development Award

Read about frequently asked questions about NCI Career Development Awards. These awards provide individual and institutional research training opportunities to mentored researchers at the graduate and postdoctoral levels.

NCI Transition Career Development Award (K22)

Read about frequently asked questions about NCI Transition Career Development Award (K22). The K22 supports mentored, non-independent investigators ready to transition to independent academic faculty positions.

NIH K99/R00 The Pathway to Independence Award

Read about frequently asked questions about the NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00). The K99/R00 helps postdoctoral researchers complete needed mentored training and transition in a timely manner to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions.

Subscribe to **NCI Bottom Line: A Blog about Grants and More** to learn the latest on NCI's fiscal landscape, funding decisions, grant policy news and more.



Overview: Applying to NCI Fellowships

This video describes an overview of the main components involved in applying to NCI fellowships, provides tips for successful applications, and shares additional resources to support the application process.



**Overview:
Applying to
Fellowships**

Overview: Applying to NCI Career Development (K) Awards

This video describes an overview of the main components involved in applying to NCI Career Development (K) Awards, provides tips for successful applications, and shares additional resources to support the application process.



**Overview:
Applying to Career
Development (K)
Awards**

NIH Early-Stage Investigator (ESI) Extensions

- An ESI is a Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) who has completed their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever date is later, within the past 10 years and who has not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH independent research award.
- NIH will consider requests to extend the ESI status period for reasons that can include the following, as determined on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of NIH.

- Medical concerns
- Disability
- Family care responsibilities
- Natural disasters
- Active-duty military service



- Submit a request for an extension to NIH ESI status and describe the nature of the circumstances and research productivity in the request.
- Link in the Education section of the PI's Personal Profile in [eRA Commons](#).

- More Info: <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-stage/extensions>
- FAQ: <https://grants.nih.gov/faqs#/early-investigators.htm?anchor=4112>
- Access ESI info on eRA commons:
https://www.era.nih.gov/erahelp/ESIE_ext/PPF_Help/ESIE_EXT/ESIE_Overview.htm

NIH Grants YouTube Channel



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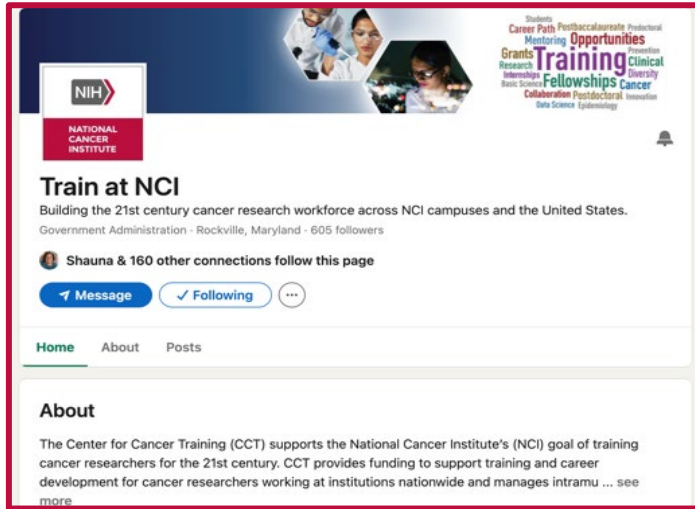
All About Grants Podcasts

The Office of Extramural Research (OER) talks to NIH staff members about the ins and outs of NIH funding. Designed for investigators, fellows, students, research administrators, and others just curious about the application and award process, we provide insights on grant topics from those who live and breathe the information. Episodes are available as mp3s for download here, via iTunes, or via RSS feed. [Information on RSS and Podcasts](#)

All	Preparing To Apply	Developing A Successful Grant Application	Advice For New & Early Career Scientists	Submitting Your Application	Peer Review	Post-Award Activities & Requirements	Special Programs
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NCI Cancer Training Branch Contacts

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Thank you for your attention

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<https://go.nih.gov/VK2NONH>