

**Research  
Training**



**rtat  
nida**

**National Institute  
on Drug Abuse**



Update

**Loan Repayment Programs**



## NIDA Research Training Support

*“The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) offers a strategic set of funding mechanisms to support the development of research scientists through various stages of their careers. These awards are designed to ensure that scientists of the very highest caliber will be available in adequate numbers and in the appropriate research areas and fields to meet the Nation’s drug abuse and addiction needs.”*

**—Nora D. Volkow, M.D.  
Director, NIDA**

**Since the previous printing of this brochure,** NIDA has added several additional programs designed to attract and develop new and junior investigators in the field of drug abuse, addiction, and AIDS research.

Our newest program is the AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition (A/Start) for newly independent or early career investigators. Another relatively new program is the Pathways to Independence Award (K99/R00), which is tooled for exceptionally promising postdoctoral researchers who are close to transitioning to independent research careers. Other additions include the Research Education Grant (R25) Award, which is an institutional grant, and the Early Career Award in Chemistry of Drug Abuse and Addiction (R03 ECHEM).

Also of note are the Roadmap and Blueprint programs, which transcend any single institute or center and offer funding opportunities for interdisciplinary and translational research training that serve the entire neuroscience community. Since new Roadmap and Blueprint awards are frequently being added, it is recommended that these funding opportunities be viewed online at <http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/> and <http://neuroscienceblueprint.nih.gov/>.

Information about these and other programs have been added or updated within the pages of this brochure.



Visit NIDA's Research Training Web page at [www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining](http://www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining) for additional information

# NIDA's Research Training Program Organization

NIDA's Research Training Program utilizes two major funding mechanisms:

1. **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA)**, including:
  - Individual predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships (F)
  - Institutional predoctoral and postdoctoral traineeships (T)
2. **Career Development Awards (Ks)**, including:
  - Mentored career development awards for young investigators
  - Career or salary awards for mid- or senior-level investigators.

The **NIDA Research Training Committee (RTC)**, headed by the Chief, Science Policy Branch, contains staff from all divisions and offices (see list at the end of this booklet). For more information on the description of each division's missions, please go to [www.drugabuse.gov/about/organization/organization.html](http://www.drugabuse.gov/about/organization/organization.html). The RTC, in collaboration with NIDA's budget office, makes funding recommendations for the NRSA awards, and suggests policy changes on NRSA and K programs when needed. The NIDA-K committee reviews most of the applications for the NRSA and K awards.

For general questions regarding NIDA's Research Training Programs, please contact Dr. Mimi M. Ghim, Deputy Research Training Coordinator, at [ghimm@nida.nih.gov](mailto:ghimm@nida.nih.gov) or 301-443-6071.

*Please note that the NIH is converting to all electronic submission of grant applications. Look for announcements and instructions on our Research Training Web page. The fellowships and career development award mechanisms will be affected near the end of 2007 or in 2008.*

## Research Training and Career Development

RESEARCH TRAINING			
RESEARCH TRAINING	Predocutorial	Predocutorial Individual NRSA (F30, F31) Predocutorial Training and Education Support (T32, R25) Dissertation Grant (R36)	
	Postdoctoral	Postdoctoral Training and Education Support (T32, R25) Postdoctoral Individual NRSA (F32)	
CAREER	Early	Pathways to Independence Award (K99/R00) Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01) Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (K08) Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Award (K12) Mentored Patient Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23) Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award (K25)	
		E/CHEM (R03) A/START (R03) B/START (R03) I/START (R03)	
		Middle	Independent Scientist Award (K02) Research Project Grant (R01) Mid-Career Investigator in Patient Oriented Research Award (K24)
		Senior	Senior Scientist Award (K05)

# Research Training Awards



## Individual Fellowships

### Postdoctoral

#### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Individual M.D./Ph.D. Fellows (F30)**

Provides combined medical school and predoctoral Ph.D. support for a maximum of 6 years, with an annual stipend, plus funds for tuition and fees and additional funds per year for research supplies, equipment, travel, and related items. *Receipt dates: April 8th, August 8th, December 8th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

#### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Individual Predoctoral Fellows (F31)**

Provides for up to 5 years of support toward a research doctoral degree (Ph.D., D.Sc.), with an annual stipend, plus funds for tuition and fees, and additional funds per year for research supplies, equipment, travel, and related items. *Receipt dates: April 8th, August 8th, December 8th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

#### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Predoctoral Fellows to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (F31)**

Provides up to 5 years of support toward a research doctoral degree (Ph.D., D.Sc.) or a combined professional doctoral/research degree (M.D./Ph.D.). The primary objective of this funding opportunity is to support individuals from underrepresented groups, including underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. These applications are reviewed by study sections arranged by the Center for Scientific Review at NIH rather than by the NIDA-K committee. *Receipt dates: April 13th, August 13th, December 13th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

#### **Drug Abuse Dissertation Research: Epidemiology, Prevention, Treatment, Services, & Women & Sex/Gender Differences (R36)**

Provides up to 2 years of support for drug abuse doctoral dissertation research in epidemiology, prevention, treatment, services, and women and sex/gender differences, areas in which there is a significant need for new investigators. *Receipt dates: February 16th, June 16th, October 16th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### Postdoctoral

#### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Individual Postdoctoral Fellows (F32)**

Provides up to 3 years of support at the postdoctoral level, with a stipend that is based upon the number of years of relevant postdoctoral experience at the time of award. Additional funds are provided to help defray expenses for research supplies, equipment, and travel, as well as tuition and fees. *Receipt dates: April 8th, August 8th, December 8th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*



# Career Development Awards



## Institutional Research Training Opportunities

### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Service Award for Institutional Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Traineeships (T32)**

NIDA supports predoctoral and postdoctoral students through over 50 institutional training grant sites across the country. Applications for these positions need to go directly to the training sites' program director. A list of training sites and brief program descriptions is available at [www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining/trainingsites.html](http://www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining/trainingsites.html).

*Applications for new institutional training grants: **Receipt date:** May 25th. **HIV/AIDS application receipt date:** September 7th*

### **Research Education Grants in Drug Abuse and Addiction (R25)**

Provides institutional support for clinically-focused, transdisciplinary educational programs that foster the development of drug addiction researchers at all levels of professional career development.

Educational partnerships between research institutions, drug abuse treatment facilities, and primary care organizations are highly encouraged. ***Receipt dates:** January 25th, May 25th, September 25th.*

***HIV/AIDS application receipt dates:** January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*



## Early Career—Individual

*Receipt dates: February 12th, June 12th, October 12th*

*HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### **Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01)**

Provides support for 3 to 5 years of intensive, supervised career development in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences leading to research independence.

### **Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (K08)**

Provides support for 3 to 5 years of supervised specialized study for outstanding clinical research scientists with health professional doctoral degrees, who have the potential to develop into independent investigators and who are committed to a career in laboratory or field-based research.

### **Mentored Patient-Oriented Career Development Award (K23)**

Provides support for 3 to 5 years of supervised study and research for the career development of investigators with a clinical doctoral degree, or its equivalent, who have made a commitment to focus their research endeavors on patient-oriented research.

### **Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award (K25)**

Provides support for 3 to 5 years of career development in clinical biomedicine, bioengineering, bioimaging or behavioral medicine for investigators in quantitative science and engineering research who had not previously focused primarily on questions of health and disease.



### **NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00)**

Provides up to 5 years of support consisting of two phases: 1–2 years of mentored support for highly promising, postdoctoral research scientists, followed by up to 3 years of independent support contingent on securing an independent research position. Award recipients will be expected to compete for independent R01 support from the NIH during the second phase of the award period. These applications are reviewed by NIDA special emphasis panels rather than by the NIDA-K committee.

### **NIDA Budget and Salary Guidelines**

NIDA Policy Update For Career Development Awards contains budget and salary guidelines. For details, please go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DA-06-013.html>

### **Early Career—Institutional**

*Receipt dates: February 12th, June 12th, October 12th*  
*HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### **Mentored Clinical Scientists Development Program Award (K12)**

Provides support to an educational institution or professional organization to support career development experiences for clinicians, leading to research independence. Newly trained clinicians are to be selected and appointed to the program by the grantee institution. Clinical research includes patient-oriented research and research with human tissues and specimens.



### **Middle Career**

*Receipt dates: February 12th, June 12th, October 12th*  
*HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### **Independent Scientist Award (K02)**

Provides support for newly-independent scientists who can demonstrate the need for a period of intensive research focus as a means of enhancing their research careers and expanding their potential to make significant contributions to their field of research. Eligibility: doctoral degree and peer-reviewed, independent, research support at the time of the award.

### **Mid-Career Investigator Award in Patient-Oriented Research (K24)**

Provides clinical scientists support to conduct patient-oriented research and to mentor clinical investigators by relieving them of patient care and administrative responsibilities. This is a 5-year award that requires a minimum of 25% effort, up to 50% effort, and provides additional funds for incidental expenses.



### **Senior Career**

*Receipt dates: February 12th, June 12th, October 12th*  
*HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### **Senior Scientist Award (K05)**

Provides support to outstanding scientists who have demonstrated a sustained, high level of productivity and research accomplishments critical to the mission of NIDA. This is a 5-year award to enhance the individual recipient's skills and dedication to his/her areas of research, and provide time for mentorship to new investigators. Senior scientists are expected to mentor from two to five new investigators or junior faculty members per year. Eligibility: senior scientist and recognized leader in field; peer-reviewed support at time of award.

### Research Supplements to Promote Reentry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers

Administrative supplements to support individuals with high potential to reenter an active research career after taking time off to care for children or attend to other family responsibilities. Funding is provided to existing NIH research grants to support full-time or part-time research by these individuals in a program geared to bring their existing research skills and knowledge up to date. The program supports candidates with doctoral-level degrees, with sufficient prior research experience to qualify for a doctoral level research staff or faculty position at the time they left active research. Period of support is for a maximum of 3 years. *Receipt dates: Continuous*

### Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

Administrative supplements to help increase the numbers of underrepresented scientists in biomedical and behavioral research. Funding is provided to existing NIH research grants to support underrepresented scientists who want to pursue a career in the biomedical or behavioral research sciences. The program supports individuals at the high school, undergraduate, predoctoral (graduate), postdoctoral and investigator levels. *Receipt dates: Continuous*

### NIDA Small Grants Program (R03)

Intended for newer, less experienced investigators; investigators at institutions without well-developed research traditions and resources; and more experienced investigators for exploratory studies representing a significant change in research direction or for testing new methods or techniques. Provides research support of a maximum of \$50,000 per year in direct costs for up to 2 years. *Receipt dates: February 16th, June 16th, October 16th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### A-START—AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition (R03)

Facilitates the entry of newly independent and early career investigators to the area of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS, and is for a period of 2 years with a maximum of \$100,000 per year in direct costs. Investigators who are funded under this mechanism are expected to use their data to develop R01 grant applications on the intersection of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS. *HIV/AIDS application receipt date: September 7th*

### B-Start—Behavioral Science Track Award for Rapid Transition (R03)

Facilitates the entry of investigators who are 5 or fewer years beyond training status into the field of behavioral science research and is for a period of 1 year with a maximum of \$50,000 in direct costs. *Receipt dates: February 16th, June 16th, October 16th. HIV/AIDS application receipt date: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### I-Start—Imaging-Science Track Award for Research Transition (R03)

Facilitates the entry of new investigators in the area of brain imaging/clinical neurobiology research, allowing for the design and collection of “proof of concept” brain imaging data that can then be used in the transition to more extensive research proposals. This mechanism has a 1-year maximum of \$150,000 in direct costs. *Receipt dates: February 16th, June 16th, October 16th. HIV/AIDS application receipt date: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*







A complete listing of Grant and Funding Opportunities at NIDA can be found at [www.drugabuse.gov/funding](http://www.drugabuse.gov/funding)

### **E-CHEM—Early Career Award in Chemistry of Drug Abuse and Addiction (R03)**

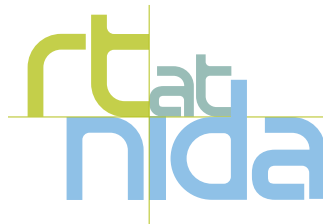
Facilitates the entry of newly independent investigators into basic chemistry research applied to drug abuse and addiction, and supports exploratory and pilot research related to NIDA's mission. The primary focus of the research must be on chemistry. Research on genetic, neural, or other biological processes would be appropriate only if its overall emphasis were on understanding the chemical mechanisms involved. This mechanism has a 2-year maximum of \$250,000 in direct costs. *Receipt dates: February 16th, June 16th, October 16th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### **Exploratory/Developmental Grant Applications (R21)**

This mechanism is designed to test innovative or conceptually-creative, scientifically-sound ideas and to enable exploration of the feasibility of the research question or approach. Data demonstrating feasibility are desirable. Novel and creative approaches are essential. Provides up to 2 years of funding to a maximum of \$275,000 in direct costs (both years combined). *Receipt dates: February 16th, June 16th, October 16th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

### **Regular Research Grant (R01)**

An independent grant mechanism that is used for many of the research grant opportunities available at NIDA. Grantees can support mentored research training opportunities on their R01 grants. *Receipt dates: February 5th, June 5th, October 5th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*



### **Minority Institutions' Drug Abuse Research Development Program (MIDARP) (R24)**

Provides research support to minority institutions to increase the capacity of their faculty, staff, and students. The grants enable minority institutions to conduct rigorous drug abuse research in all areas of research supported by NIDA including neuroscience, behavioral, clinical, social science, public health, biological, HIV/AIDS, and health services. *Receipt dates: January 25th, May 25th, September 25th. HIV/AIDS application receipt dates: January 7th, May 7th, September 7th*

As receipt deadlines can change annually, please see [grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm) to stay current.



# Research Training Committee

## General Grant Writing Tips

<http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/extra/extdocs/gntapp.htm>

## Glossary of NIH Terms

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm>

## NIH Acronym List

[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/acronym\\_list.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/acronym_list.htm)

## Other Resources for Grant Applicants

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/resources.htm>

## NRSA Stipends

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-057.html>

## What to Know About the Predoctoral Process

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining/predocfaqs.html>

## What to Know About the Postdoctoral Process

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining/postdocfaqs.html>

## NIDA Budget and Salary Guidelines for Career Development Awards (Ks)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DA-06-013.html>

## Career Development Kiosk

<http://grants.nih.gov/training/careerdevelopmentawards.htm>

## New Opportunities

Pathways to Independence Award

[http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/new\\_investigators/pathway\\_independence.htm](http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/pathway_independence.htm)

Blueprint Program

[http://neuroscienceblueprint.nih.gov/blueprint\\_basics/about\\_blueprint.htm](http://neuroscienceblueprint.nih.gov/blueprint_basics/about_blueprint.htm)

Roadmap Program

<http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/overview.asp>

New Investigators' Resources

[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new\\_investigators/index.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/index.htm)

For more information on NRSA or K awards, please contact a committee member in your area of research interest:

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# Loan Repayment Programs

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NIDA participates in the NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs), which are a key component of our nation's efforts to attract health professionals to careers in clinical and pediatric research within the drug abuse and addiction fields.

**A productive way to pay off educational debt:** In exchange for a 2-year substance abuse research commitment, NIH will repay half of a program participant's qualified repayable educational debt (up to \$35,000 each year during this 2-year period). Limited assistance to offset increases to Federal income tax due to LRP repayment will also be provided. Participants may apply for additional renewal contracts to repay remaining debt.

**Basic qualifications:** An applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S., have a doctoral-level degree, and have educational debt equal to at least 20% of base salary.

**Commitment of service:** Program participants must conduct clinical or pediatric research in the drug abuse and addiction field for a 2-year period. The research must be funded by a domestic nonprofit or U.S. Government (Federal, State, or local) entity and a minimum of 50% of total effort (at least 20 hours per week if full time is defined as 40 hours per week at your institution) is required.



**Application process:** The entire LRP application is online at [www.lrp.nih.gov](http://www.lrp.nih.gov). Please refer to the website for details of each LRP, eligibility requirements, current application deadline, and award schedule. The LRPs are competitive programs and there is no guarantee of an award.

**Additional information:** For additional LRP assistance, prospective applicants can visit [www.lrp.nih.gov](http://www.lrp.nih.gov) or call the NIH help line at 1-866-849-4047. E-mail inquiries should be sent to [lrp@nih.gov](mailto:lrp@nih.gov).



For more information on Loan Repayment Programs, go to [www.lrp.nih.gov](http://www.lrp.nih.gov)



As receipt deadlines can change annually,  
please see [grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/  
submissionschedule.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm) to stay current.

[www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov)

[www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining/traininghome.html](http://www.drugabuse.gov/researchtraining/traininghome.html)

[www.drugabuse.gov/ResFundslist.html#Training](http://www.drugabuse.gov/ResFundslist.html#Training)

[www.grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html](http://www.grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html)



NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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