

F30 GUIDE FOR REVIEWERS

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Predoctoral M.D./Ph.D.
Fellowship Applications

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (Kirschstein-NRSA) is to provide support to individuals for combined MD/PhD and other dual doctoral degree training (e.g. DO/PhD, DDS/PhD, AuD/PhD). The participating Institutes award this Kirschstein-NRSA individual fellowship (F30) to qualified applicants with the potential to become productive, independent, highly trained physician-scientists and other clinician-scientists, including patient-oriented researchers in their scientific mission areas. This funding opportunity supports individual predoctoral F30 fellowships with the expectation that these training opportunities will increase the number of future investigators with both clinical knowledge and skills in basic, translational or clinical research.

It is expected that the research training experience will provide:

- A strong foundation in research design, methods, and analytic techniques appropriate to the proposed dissertation research;
- The development or enhancement of the applicant's ability to conceptualize and think through research problems with increasing independence;
- Experience in conducting, presenting, and publishing independent research;
- The opportunity to interact with members of the scientific community at appropriate scientific meetings and workshops (including NIH-sponsored meetings, where available); and
- A well-conceived career plan to increase the applicant's ability to secure federal support for his/her research.

An applicant must have a baccalaureate degree and show evidence of both high academic performance in the sciences and substantial interest in research in areas of high priority to the participating Institutes. In addition when the application is submitted, the applicant must be enrolled in an accredited combined MD/PhD (or DO/PhD, DDS/PhD, or AuD/PhD) program, and be supervised by a mentor for the research doctoral component.

Individuals may typically receive up to 6 years of aggregate Kirschstein-NRSA support at the predoctoral level, including any combination of support from institutional training grants (T32) and individual fellowship awards (F30).

Visit the parent F30 FOA at [PA-09-207](#).

MORE INFORMATION

To read more about the review criteria and considerations for F30 applications, visit <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/f.htm>.

Please see the following documents for more information on scoring and critique templates: [Scoring System and Procedure](#), [Critique Template Instructions](#). A comprehensive list of Guidelines for Reviewers is available at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/reviewer_guidelines.htm.