F31 Diversity GUIDE FOR REVIEWERS

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships (F31) to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

Purpose of the Award

- Enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral, health services, and clinical research workforce in the United States by providing opportunities for academic institutions to identify and recruit students from diverse population groups to seek graduate degrees in health-related research and apply for this fellowship.

- Provides up to five years of support for research training leading to the PhD or equivalent research degree, the combined MD/PhD degree, or another formally combined professional degree and research doctoral degree in biomedical, behavioral, health services, or clinical sciences.

Applicants

- Must have a baccalaureate degree or equivalent.

- Must be currently enrolled in a PhD or equivalent research degree program, a formally combined MD/PhD program, or other combined professional/clinical doctoral/research PhD graduate program in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences at an accredited domestic or foreign institution.

- Must not be pursuing an MD, DDS, or other clinical, health-professional degree and/or training (with the exception of a combined degree program as mentioned above).

- This award seeks to stimulate the participation of individuals from diverse backgrounds, as including the groups specified in NOT-OD-20-031.

Applications

- Must propose a training program that falls in a research area within the scientific mission of the participating NIH Institutes.
• Must propose training that offers an opportunity to enhance the fellow's understanding of the health-related sciences and extend his/her potential for a productive, independent research career

• Should document the need for the proposed research training and the expected value of the proposed fellowship experience as it relates to the individual’s goals for a career as an independent researcher

• Proposed training should provide the applicant with:
  o experience conducting research using appropriate, state-of-the-art methods, as well as presenting and publishing the research findings as first author;
  o the opportunity to interact with members of the scientific community at appropriate scientific meetings and workshops (including NIH-sponsored meetings, where available); and
  o a strong foundation in research design, methods, and analytic techniques appropriate to the proposed dissertation research.

More Information

• Visit the parent F31 Diversity Announcement through the Parent Announcement page.

• Visit the F Kiosk for information about the Kirschstein-NRSA Individual Fellowships.

• For more about the review criteria and considerations for F applications, visit Review Criteria at a Glance.

• For more on scoring and critique templates: Scoring System and Procedure, Critique Template Instructions.