Purpose of the Award
- Provides support for promising doctoral candidates who will be performing dissertation research and training in scientific health-related fields relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes during the tenure of the award.
- Provides up to five years of support for research training which leads to the PhD or equivalent research degree, the combined MD/PhD degree, or another formally combined professional degree and research doctoral degree in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences.

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

Applicants
- Must have a baccalaureate degree.
- Must be currently enrolled in a PhD or equivalent research degree program, a formally combined MD/PhD program, or other combined professional/clinical and research doctoral 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).
- Typically may receive up to 5 years of aggregate Kirschstein-NRSA support at the predoctoral level, including any combination of support from an institutional training grant (e.g., T32 or T90) and an individual fellowship award (F31).
More Information

- Visit the parent F31 Announcement through the Parent Announcement page.
- Visit the F Kiosk for information about the Kirschstein-NRSA Individual Fellowships.
- To read more about the review criteria and considerations for F applications, visit Review Criteria at- a-Glance.
- Please see the following documents for more information on scoring and critique templates: Scoring System and Procedure, Critique Template Instructions.