



Exploratory Grant Award to Promote Workforce Diversity in Basic Cancer Research (R21)



Updated August 2024

AT A GLANCE

Application Due Date

November 19, 2024
June 17, 2025
November 18, 2025
June 15, 2026
November 17, 2026

Eligibility

Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as the program director(s)/principal investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) is invited to work with their organization to develop an application for support.

Award Budget

\$275,000 in direct costs for up to 2 years; no more than \$200,000 in direct costs in any given year

OVERVIEW

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to promote diversity in the cancer research workforce pool through recruiting and supporting New Investigators and Early Stage Investigators from diverse backgrounds, including those from underrepresented groups in the biomedical research workforce, who are interested in developing research projects focused on the basic biology of cancer.

Individuals from diverse backgrounds, including underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, and women, are always encouraged to work with their institutions to apply for NIH support.

MECHANISMS OF SUPPORT/AWARDS

This funding opportunity supports the R21 award mechanism. The total project period for applications using the R21 award mechanism may not exceed 2 years. Direct costs are limited to \$275,000 over a 2-year period, with no more than \$200,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

Research applications should focus on basic cancer research and cancer health disparities, consistent with the research interests of the Division of Cancer Biology and the Center for Cancer Health Equity.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The R21 mechanism is intended to encourage new exploratory and developmental research projects. These studies may involve considerable risk but may lead to a breakthrough in a particular area or to the development of novel techniques, agents, methodologies, models, or applications that could have a major impact on a field of biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research.



WHERE DO I LEARN MORE?

For the full text of this funding opportunity, visit <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-24-039.html>.



cancer.gov/cche



@NCI Center for Cancer Health Equity



@NCICCHE



INQUIRIES

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RESEARCH TOPICS

Please refer to the notice for complete research topics.

ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS (PROGRAM DIRECTOR/ PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)

Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as the program director(s)/principal investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) is invited to work with their organization to develop an application for support. Notice to clarify eligibility requirements: [NOT-CA-24-009](#).

Current or former PDs/PIs on an NIH research project grant (such as an R01) or any peer-reviewed non-NIH research grant over \$175,000 direct costs per year are not eligible for support under this NOFO. Current or former PD(s)/PI(s) of an NIH R03 or R21 grant, or a non-federal equivalent to an R03 or R21 grant, remain eligible for support under this NOFO.

An individual may receive support for no more than two awards from the Exploratory Grant Award to Promote Workforce Diversity in Basic Cancer Research program, including past and future iterations of this NOFO.

REVIEW

All applications will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by the appropriate Scientific Review Group(s) using the stated review criteria in the funding opportunity. Following initial peer review, recommended applications will receive a second level of review by the National Cancer Advisory Board. Scientific and technical merit of the proposed project, as determined by peer review; availability of funds; and relevance of the proposed project to program priorities will be considered in making funding decisions.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE

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Grant Writing Tip Sheets
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/grant_tips.htm



WHERE DO I LEARN MORE?



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