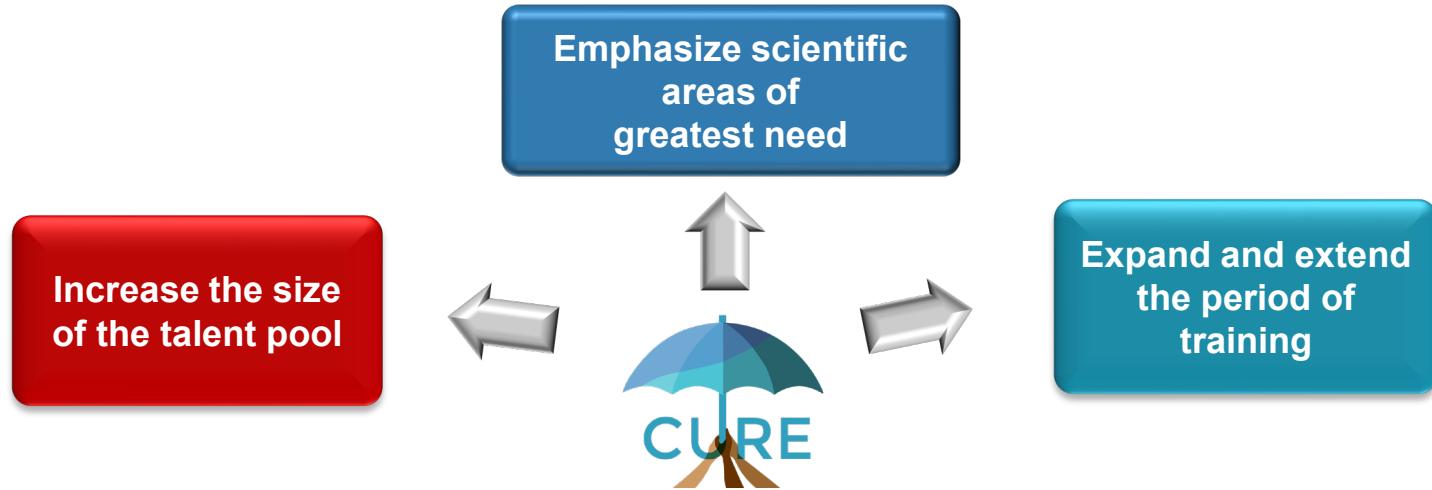


*Application Webinar: RFA-CA-21-020*  
NCI R25 Youth Enjoy Science (YES)  
Research Education Program

*Alison Lin, PhD*  
*Acting Chief, Diversity Training Branch*  
*NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities*

# Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE)



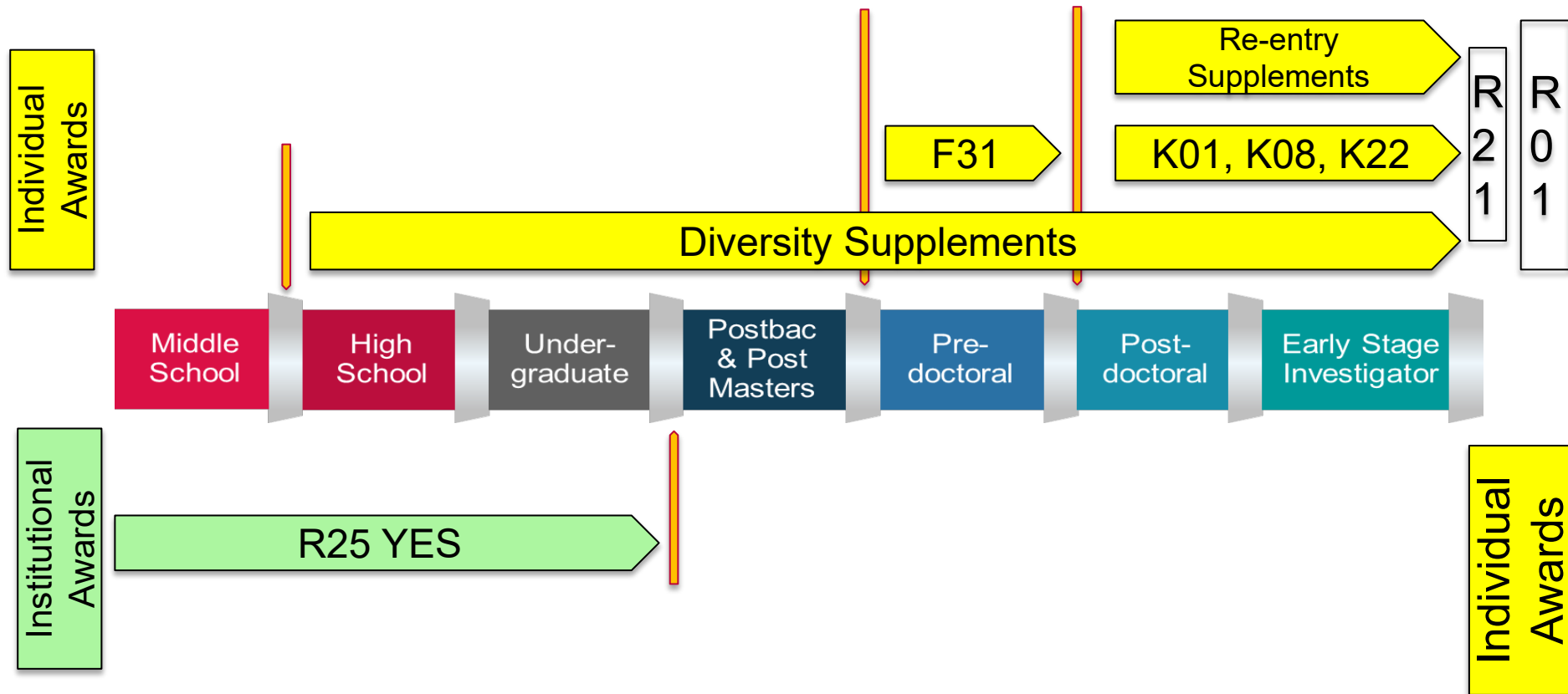
**Focused on enhancing diversity:** Trainees must be US citizen, non-citizen nationals or permanent resident

Race/Ethnicity

Disability

Disadvantaged  
Background

# CURE Funding Mechanisms



# Early Intervention Strategies within CURE

## P30 CURE Supplements (P30S)

- Supplement to the NCI-Designated Cancer Centers
- For high school and undergraduate students
- Engage, not just expose: two-year commitment of participants (at least 3 months per year)
- Holistic approach of the CURE: encourages support activities for students



## R25 Youth Enjoy Science (YES)

- Open to all institutions
- For middle school, high school and undergraduate students, their teachers and faculty
- Inspire interest in biomedical sciences and cancer research
- Help envision cancer research as a career path
- Strengthen practical research and career skills

Credit: COH

Credit: HCI

# R25 YES Requires Three Activities

## Research Experience

- Individual, mentored research experience for high school students and more senior
- **Strong mentoring support**

## Curriculum / Methods

- Education tools for students
- Teacher/faculty participants develop activities to bring back to classroom

## Outreach

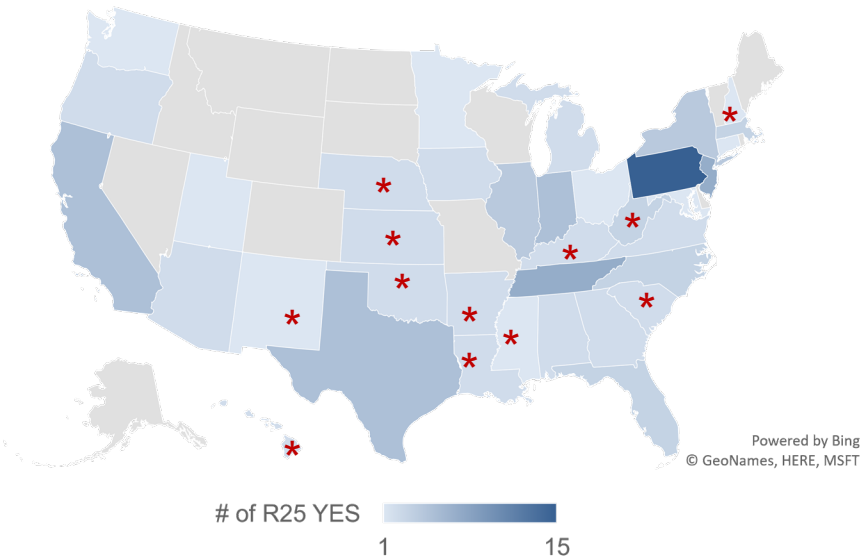
- To students:
  - Introduce middle school students to cancer research in organized and systematic fashion
  - Increase awareness of the YES and facilitate recruitment
  - Enhance understanding of significance of Research Experiences
  - Strengthen career skills
- For students:
  - **Meaningfully engage families, teachers, and communities**
- By students:
  - Education and dissemination of cancer-related information to family and community

# R25 YES Evaluation

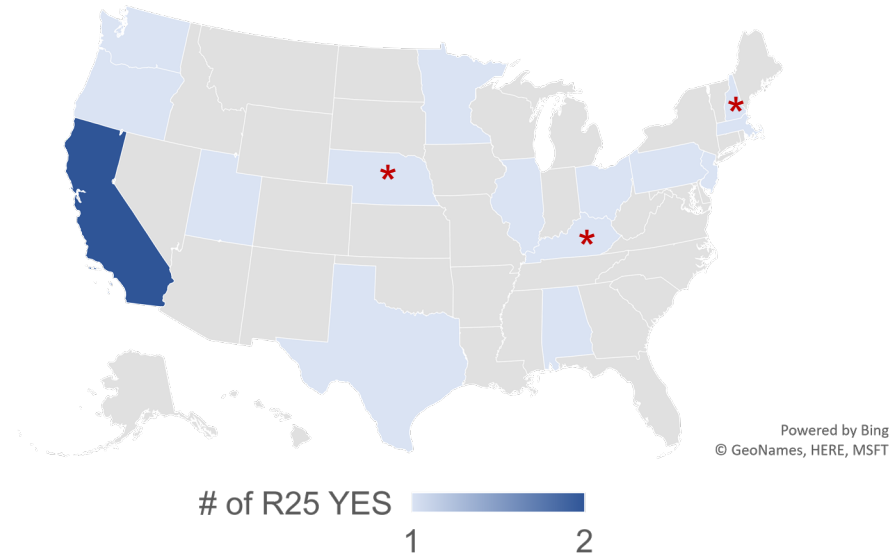
Activity	Evaluation
<b>Research Experiences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number and demographics of students</li> <li>▪ Interest in cancer research</li> <li>▪ Academic progress (graduation)</li> <li>▪ Career progress (continuation in cancer and biomedical research fields; continuation in CURE)</li> </ul>
<b>Curriculum or Methods Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number and effectiveness of education tools, activities, and/or curricula developed and implemented</li> <li>▪ Number of teacher/faculty participants</li> </ul>
<b>Outreach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Middle school student tracking (see above)</li> <li>▪ Number and effectiveness of activities that:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote student skills, knowledge and well-being</li> <li>▪ Support student participation in YES</li> <li>▪ Are conducted by the students in education and dissemination of cancer research findings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Collaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number and effectiveness of collaborative tools or activities developed and implemented</li> </ul>

# R25 YES Application and Awards Geographic Distribution

103 R25 YES Applications FY 2017-20

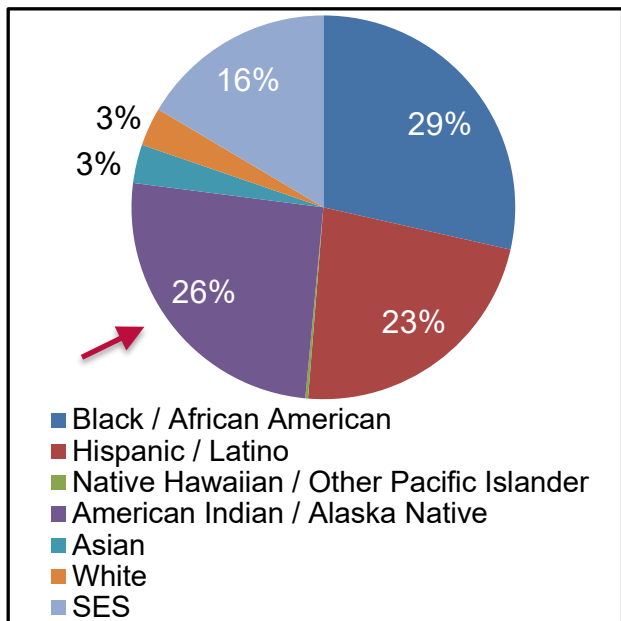


16 R25 YES Awards

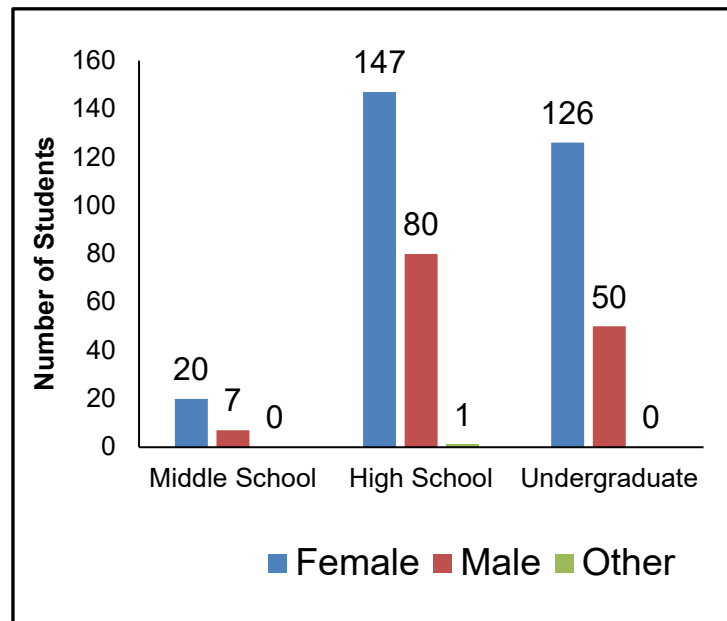


\* Institutional Development Award (IDeA)-eligible states: low NIH funding

# YES Outcome FY 2018-19 (8 Programs): Participant Recruitment



n = 431 students



Middle School Teachers	High School Teachers	Undergraduate Faculty
1	24	9

In high demand (5 programs reported):  
17% student participant selection rate



## R25 YES Participants (not outreach):

- Must be US citizens, non-citizen nationals or permanent residents
- Middle school, high school and undergraduate students and teachers and faculty
  - An application does not need to include all career levels
- At least two years (3 mo. per year) program participation
- YES particularly encourages applications supporting student participants from populations who are underrepresented in biomedical research:
  - In alignment with Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity ([NOT-OD-20-031](#))
  - Race/ethnicity: Black/AA, Hispanic/Latinx, AI/AN, NH/PI
  - Disability
  - Disadvantaged background

## R25 YES Application Should Have:

- **Clearly identified and justified need – specific to application**
- Cohesive and integrated program design
  - An overall central theme
  - Solid connections between the different components
  - Feasibility for implementation
- **Clear cancer focus**
- Convincing recruitment plan
- Strong support activities, especially for pre-college participants
- Evaluation plan that corresponds with the program goals (which corresponds with need)
- Clear and feasible exit strategy for the participants

# Things to Note for Potential Applicants:

- **Read the FOA ([RFA-CA-21-020](#))**
- Discuss with the Program Director ([Dr. Alison Lin](#))
- Scope: be realistic and focused with a program-specific budget
- Cancer focus: all education should be tied to cancer relevance
  - Ex: DNA alone – no; DNA followed by its role and impact in cancer – yes!
- Outreach: need to include activities that support the student participants
  - tied to meaningful engagement of family and community
- Teachers – be aware of how program will benefit teachers

# Allowed Budget for R25 YES in RFA-CA-21-020

- Maximum of \$400,000 direct cost per year
- F & A: 8%
- Maximum project period: 5 years
- Personnel cost (including consultant): up to \$4,500 per participant in direct cost → must specify target steady-state number of expected participants per year
  - Example: 2 year program for participants; Year 1 – 10 new; Year 2-4 – 10 new + 10 continuing; Yr 5 10 continuing; → steady-state number = 20 participants per year
  - Example: 20 participants per year → \$90,000 in DC per year personnel cost
- Participant compensation – allowed for participation in activities specifically required by the proposed research education program
- Research-related expense: up to \$1,500 per participant per year
- Housing allowance: average per participant per year cannot exceed \$1,000

# Important dates

- Letter of Intent: not required but strongly encouraged; 30 days before application receipt date
  - Descriptive title of proposed activity
  - Name(s), address(es), and telephone number(s) of the PD(s)/PI(s)
  - Names of other key personnel
  - Participating institution(s)
  - Number and title of this funding opportunity

Year	Application Receipt Date	Initial Review	Council Review	Earliest Possible Start Date*
2021	October 28	March/April 2022	May 2022	July 2022
2022	September 28	March/April 2023	May 2023	July 2023
2023	September 28	March/April 2024	May 2024	July 2024

*\* Start dates are determined by the availability of NCI funds and may not occur until well after the earliest possible start date.*

## Contact

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 @NCICRCHD

<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd>



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