

What is the best source of funding for me?

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National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)



Funding Mechanisms

- Research or Career Development
- If research: pilot studies, small study, major research grant, clinical trial?
- Domain of interest:
 - Pathological, impairment, function, disability, societal barriers



Research or Career Development?

- What are your Career goals?
 - Needed skills, tools, techniques?
 - Credibility and focus
 - Patient populations and conditions
 - Research productivity



Career Development

- Choosing a mentor(s)
 - Complementary but not overlapping backgrounds
 - Commitment to mentoring?
 - Goals and expectations
 - Training project



NIH Training and Career Development Mechanisms

- Individual Fellowships
 - Graduate students (F31) or Postdoc (F32)
- Institutional Training Grants (T32)
 - Support graduate and/or Postdocs
- Career Development Mechanisms
 - New investigator, Clinician getting into research
 - Choice of mentor(s) is crucial



Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01)

- Clinically trained in targeted area and has advanced degree (e.g., Ph.D.),
- Seeking additional 3-5 years of mentored training
- Also appropriate if career had been interrupted by family obligations

<http://www.nichd.nih.gov/training/training.htm>



Mentored Clinical Scientist (K08)

- Clinically trained individual (e.g., MD), getting training in basic research approaches
- 3-5 years mentored support at 75% effort

<http://www.nichd.nih.gov/training/training.htm>



Career Transition Award (K22)

- Supports two years at NIH labs, followed by initial two years faculty position



Research Mechanisms

- Research or Career Development
 - Career goals and experience?
- If research: pilot studies, small study, major research grant, clinical trial?
 - Duration and budget?
- Domain of interest:
 - Pathological, impairment, function, disability, societal barriers
 - NIH, NIDRR, CDC, VA?
 - Foundations (e.g., disease-specific)



Mentored Patient-oriented Research Career Development Award (K23)

- Clinically trained individual (e.g., MD), getting training in clinical research
- 3-5 years mentored support at 75% effort



Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award (K25)

- Quantitative or Engineering background getting into biomedical Research
- 3-5 years mentored support at 75% effort

<http://www.nichd.nih.gov/training/training.htm>



Midcareer Investigator Award in Patient-Oriented Research (K24)

- Supports the mentoring of clinical researchers in your lab



Research Mechanisms

- Pilot studies, small study, major research grant, clinical trial?
 - Duration and budget?
- Domain of interest:
 - Pathological, impairment, function, disability, societal barriers



Funding Mechanisms

- Pilot studies, small grants
 - 1-2 years; \$10-50,000/year
 - Institutional and local support
 - Foundations
 - NIH R03 and R21 grants
 - Plan pilot studies as stepping stones to larger research grants



Larger Research Grants

Domain of interest:

- Pathology (NIH)
- Impairment (NIH)
- Function (NIH, VA)
- Disability (NIDRR, NIH, CDC, VA)
- Societal barriers (NIDRR, CDC, ?NIH)



NIH Research Award: R01

- Investigator-initiated applications (majority of basic and clinical NIH funding)
- Focus on specific set of aims
- Budget: no boundaries but typically \$150-250,000 per year
- May request up to 5 years; Renewable



NIH Small Grants: R03 and R21

- Pilot studies; feasibility; innovative; high-risk;
- Development of new methodology or technology
- New investigators especially encouraged
- Budgets up to \$50,000-100,000 per year*
- May request two or three years of funding*
- Not renewable
- May not be used to supplement funded projects

*Specifics duration depends on the NIH Institute!



AREA (Academic Research Enhancement Award): R15

- Schools that have not been major recipients of NIH funding
- Especially projects that engage undergraduate students
- Up to 3 years, aggregate budgets up to \$100,000 direct costs, Renewable



Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR, R41/42) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR, R43, R44)

Innovative research, potential for commercialization

- STTR:
 - Phase I: \$100,000 (1 year)
 - Phase II: \$500,000 (2 years)
- SBIR: Phase I: \$100,000 (6 months)
 - Phase II: \$750,000 (2 years)



NIH Research Initiatives

Publicized in *NIH Guide to Grants & Contracts*

- Program Announcements (PA)
- Request for Applications (RFA)
- Request for Proposals (RFP)



Program Announcement

- Highlights Institute interest in investigator-initiated applications in specific area
- No specific funds set aside by Institute
- Extends for several rounds (~3 years);
- Applications reviewed in peer-review panels



Request for Applications

- Specific funds set aside for investigator-initiated applications in specific area
- One-time solicitation
- Reviewed by specially convened peer-review panel



Request for Proposals

- Funds set aside for specific "product"
- Uses Contract or Cooperative Agreement
- One-time solicitation
- Reviewed by specially convened peer-review panel



NIH Supplements to already-funded grants

To add qualified individuals at any level (high school through investigator) who:

- are from under-represented minorities
- have disabilities
- are re-entering research after family obligations

Contact the NIH program director of the funded grant

