NIH Diversity Supplements

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April 14, 2023

NIH Research Supplements To Promote Diversity In Health-related Research: PA-21-071

Goal: *"improve the diversity of the research workforce by recruiting and supporting students, post-doctorates, and eligible investigators from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in health-related research"*

- Adds funds to an existing NIH parent award to support work within the scope of the original project
  - ➢ $5k to more than $100k depending on candidate career level

- Administrative supplement not reviewed by study sections:
  - ➢ high success rates
  - ➢ relatively quick decisions (~3-4 months)

- Springboard for future awards (e.g., Fellowship (F))

These Candidates Are Eligible For Support

- High school students through early investigators/faculty

- Trainee must be U.S. citizen, non-citizen nationals, permanent resident

Many types of diversity (NIH's Interest in Diversity [NOT-OD-20-031](#))

- Racial and ethnic groups

- Disability

- Socioeconomic background
  - Individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds and meet **two or more criteria** (see next slide)
- Women from above backgrounds and at senior or faculty levels

[NIH: Populations Underrepresented in the Extramural Scientific Workforce](#)

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Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds must meet <u>two or more</u> of the following criteria:

Were or currently are homeless	Were or currently are eligible for Federal Pell grants
Were or currently are in the foster care system	Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), as a parent or child
Were eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for two or more years	Grew up in an area designated either as a: U.S. rural area OR Low-Income and Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)
Have/had no parents or legal guardians who completed a bachelor's degree	

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These Are the First Steps If You Consider Applying

- NIH-wide program, *most* activity codes included - check: PA-21-071

- Parent grant must have at least 2 years remaining (1 year for high-school or undergraduate student)

- Awards based on programmatic needs: contact your IC designated POC
  - ➢ **Table of IC-Specific Information, Requirements and Staff Contacts**

- Submission dates vary by awarding IC; application goes through SPO, with same PI as parent grant

- One individual per supplement (possible exception for high-school or undergraduate student)

- ➔ Must support work within scope of original project but not overlapping (exception for high-school or undergraduate student)

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How much can you ask for?

High School: consistent with the institutional salary policies, justified if exceeding hourly minimum wage. Support of 3 months/year encouraged.

Undergraduates: consistent with the institutional salary policies, justified if exceeding $12/hour. Expected 3 months/year full-time effort; $200/month for supply/travel.

Post-baccalaureate and Master: consistent with the institutional salary policies, not exceeding graduates; $3,000/year for supplies/travel.

Postdoc: reflects project effort and must follow NRSA guidelines; $6,000/year for supplies/travel.

Early-career investigators: consistent with project efforts. ICs have varying salary caps; $10,000/year supplies/travel ok

see: PA-21-071, NOT-OD-23-076

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How much can you ask for Graduate Students

Graduates

- reflects project efforts
- salary, tuition and fringe benefits not exceeding level 0 postdoc guidelines ($4,707/month)
- $4,000/year for supplies/travel

see: PA-21-071, NOT-OD-23-076

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Check IC Requirements, but *In General* Submissions Include:

- Abstract

- Project Narrative

- Specific Aims page   same as parent award, follow those [Page Limits](#)

- Facilities

- Equipment

- Research Plan
    - ➢ abstract or summary of parent award
    - ➢ research plan for supplement: demonstrate unique opportunity for trainee
    - ➢ **training and mentoring plan**: convey commitment of mentor, augment normal academic experience

- Assurances (if applicable)

- Eligibility letter (signed by institutional official)

- Biosketches (PI, candidate)

- Proposed budget and justification

[Institute- and Center-Specific Information and Contacts](#)

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Common FAQs

Can graduate students or postdoctoral fellows currently supported by an institutional Kirschstein-NRSA award be supported by a diversity supplement?
If the candidate is on a NIH-funded T32 at your current intuition, they cannot start a diversity supplement until the end date the T32 appointment. They can apply for a diversity supplement in advance, but cannot terminate the T32 appointment early to start the supplement.

Can principal investigators (PIs) receive a Diversity Supplement for an underrepresented minority (URM) who is already paid from an [NIH] existing grant?
The short answer is "no." In addition, individuals may not be transferred to a supplement to increase the availability of funds to the parent grant for other uses. Individuals may be supported by the parent grant for short periods, at the recipient's risk, pending Institute/Center decision on the supplement application.

How long can I receive support from the Diversity Supplements program?
In general, a diversity supplement recipient is eligible to receive up to five years total funding support through the NIH Diversity Supplements program across all ICs.

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Common FAQs

Do administrative supplements and competing revisions (i.e., Type 3s) need to include a separate Data Management and Sharing Plan?

No. Administrative supplements and competing revisions are not subject to the DMS Policy. However, if an awarded supplement request, including competing revision, changes the parent award's approved approach to data management and sharing, the DMS Plan of the parent award should be updated.

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