National Research Service Awards:
The Sponsor and the Applicant

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National Research Service Awards

- What are NRSAs?
- Who is the Applicant? Who is the Sponsor?
- What is involved in submitting a competitive application?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Category</th>
<th>Predoctoral OLD</th>
<th>Predoctoral NEW</th>
<th>Postdoctoral OLD</th>
<th>Postdoctoral NEW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stipend</strong></td>
<td>$20,772</td>
<td>$20,772</td>
<td>$36,996 - $51,036</td>
<td>$36,996 - $51,036</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition/Fees</strong></td>
<td>$3,000 + 60% above $3,000</td>
<td>60% up to $16,000</td>
<td>$3,000 + 60% above $3,000</td>
<td>60% up to $4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$3,000 (includes health insurance)</td>
<td>60% up to $21,000 for dual degree</td>
<td>(does not include health insurance)</td>
<td>60% up to $16,000 for additional degree</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Institutional Allowance</strong></td>
<td>$2,750*</td>
<td>$4,200*</td>
<td>$7,000*</td>
<td>$7,850*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,650*</td>
<td>$3,100*</td>
<td>$5,900*</td>
<td>$6,750*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(includes health insurance)</td>
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</table>
The F31 individual predoctoral fellowship is a research training award designed to prepare future generations of outstanding scientists for research careers relevant to the NINR scientific and public health mission.
Applicant/Candidate

- Major considerations in the review of each application include:
  - the applicant’s/candidate's potential for a productive career,
  - the candidate's need for the proposed training,
  - and the degree to which the research training proposal, the sponsor, and the environment will satisfy those needs.
Applicant

- The applicant's potential for, and evidence of commitment to, a productive scientific career.
- The reviewers may take into account the applicant's history as a student, as well as past and current involvement in research activities.
- Letters of reference regarding the candidate's qualifications, commitment, and scientific potential.
Research Training Plan

- objectives, design, and direction of the proposed research program;
- soundness and feasibility of the experimental approach and methodology proposed to carry out the research;
- specificity and clarity of the description of the research skills and knowledge to be acquired;
- overall coherence and potential of the research training plan to provide the fellow with individualized supervised experiences that will develop research skills;
Research Training Plan

- clarity, completeness, originality, and significance of the goals of the proposed research training plan;
- adequacy of knowledge and presentation of relevant literature and current methods in the proposed research area;
- potential of proposed research training to serve as a sound foundation that will lead the applicant to a productive research career in scientific areas relevant to nursing science.
Research Proposal

- clarity, specificity, and scientific significance of the candidate's stated research interests, questions, and objectives;
- organization, coherence, and thoroughness of the candidate's critical review and synthesis of the literature in support of the stated research interests, questions, and objectives;
Research Proposal

- adequacy and feasibility of the proposed research design, including methods, measures, procedures, sample composition, subject recruitment, and data analytic plans.
- details and specificity of the research design should be commensurate with the candidate's level of research experience, training, and completed coursework;
Research Proposal

- adequacy of plans for the protection of human subjects, animals, and the environment, to the extent they may be adversely affected by the research proposed;

- adequacy of plans to include women, children and minorities as subjects in research, if applicable.
Sponsor

- caliber of the sponsor as a researcher, including successful competition for research support;
- evidence of the proposed sponsor's understanding of and commitment to fulfilling the role of sponsor and mentor;
Sponsor

- evidence of an understanding of the applicant's research training needs and a demonstrated ability, on the part of the sponsor, to assist in meeting those needs;
- the goodness of fit between the research interests of the candidate and scientific experience and expertise of the sponsor;
- past research training record of the sponsor in terms of the rate at which former predoctoral trainees obtain their doctoral degree and go on to postdoctoral or other scientific careers;
- a co-sponsor is allowed if additional expertise, not duplicative of that of the primary sponsor, is essential to the training program.
Additional Review Criteria

- Protection of Human Subjects from Research Risk
- Inclusion of Women, Minorities and Children in Research
- Care and Use of Vertebrate Animals in Research
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FAX: (301) 480-8260
Email: HussK@mail.nih.gov
Submission Dates

- Individual NRSA (Standard; F31)
  - April 8, August 8, & December 8

- Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (F31) to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research
  - April 13, August 13, & December 13
Timing & Planning

- Focus on your research training & research plan
- Start early!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Respect faculty/sponsor schedules
- Plan for 40 hr./week full-time commitment
- Take responsibility!
Timing & Planning

- Work back from submission dates
- Create a timeline for completing tasks and parts of the application
- Respect faculty/sponsor & co-sponsor re: reality of time and commitments
Moving Ahead

- Plan now
- Consult with your advisor
- Identify your sponsor/co-sponsor
- Negotiate roles
- Work very hard
- Plan for review by CSON CERES group
- Build in revision time
- See all work as a foundation for your dissertation!
Get to the finish line!

Good luck!