The Art & Science of K Grant Application Planning

Laying the groundwork for a successful K application

September 12, 2016
Announcement...

K-Club Specials

Special Interest Funding Announcements

Emory CFDE Scholarly Writing & Publishing Fund

• **Deadline:** Rolling through 8/1/17
• **Amount:** Up to $2500 for hiring editorial support or a writing coach

The Emory University Center for Faculty Development and Excellence (CFDE) offers the Scholarly Writing and Publishing fund, a grant program designed to help faculty seeking professional editorial support for projects in development across a range of serious scholarly works, including grantwriting...

PhRMA Foundation Research Starter Grants: Health Outcomes and Translational Medicine

• **Deadline:** 2/1/17
• **Amount:** $100,000 for one year

Research Starter Grants offer financial support to individuals beginning independent research careers at the faculty level...

More funding announcement highlights found at:
- [http://www.pedsresearch.org/bird](http://www.pedsresearch.org/bird)
- [http://medicine.emory.edu/research/internal-research-resources/funding-opportunities/external-research-funding.html](http://medicine.emory.edu/research/internal-research-resources/funding-opportunities/external-research-funding.html)
Survey Drawing
Fall 2016 K-Club Schedule

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.htm#inst#

September K-Club (today!)
## Fall 2016 K-Club Schedule

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.htm#inst#

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**How to Apply - Application Guide**

Use the application forms and guidance found with the funding opportunity announcement together with the instructions for the SF424 (R&R) and Public Health Service (PHS) forms below to submit grant applications to NIH and other PHS agencies, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

### Prepare to Apply and Register
- Understand Key Systems and Roles
- Get Registered!
- Find and Understand Funding Opportunities
- Identify, the Type of Application Submission
- Choose a Submission Option
- Obtain Software

### Format and Write
- Write Your Application
- Develop Your Budget
- Format Attachments
- Refer to Table of Page Limits
- Utilize Biosketch, Data Tables and Other Format Pages

### Submission Process
- Submit, Track and View Your Application
- How We Check Your Application for Completeness
- How We Check Your Application for Completeness

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**Forms Version D**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Instructions</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>View/Download</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General (G) Instructions</td>
<td>Comprehensive guidance for research, training, fellowship, career development, multi-project, and small business applications</td>
<td>HTML, PDF</td>
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**October K-Club**
Fall 2016 K-Club Schedule

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.htm#inst#

November K-Club
Fall 2016 K-Club Schedule

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.htm#inst#
Today’s Learning Objectives

1. Recognize the importance of planning a year in advance of the grant application deadline.

2. Identify key milestones to achieve during that time.

3. Learn successful strategies and best practices from funded junior faculty and seasoned mentors.
Today’s K-Club Contributors

Panelists:

• Lou Ann Brown, PhD, Professor, Dept. of Pediatrics (Neo)
• Anita McElroy, MD, PhD, Assist Prof, Dept of Pediatrics (ID)
• Igho Ofotokun, MD, MSc, Professor, Dept of Medicine (ID)
• Kehmia Titanji, PhD, Assist Prof, Dept of Medicine (Endo)

Discussion Facilitator:

• Stacy S. Heilman, PhD, Emory University & Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta
Fall 2016 K-Club Schedule

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.htm#inst#

September K-Club
Timeline:
1 year in advance of the deadline

- Ensure eligibility and preparedness
- Identify suitable funding opportunity
- Collect and publish preliminary data
- Establish track record and meaningful relationships with mentor/mentor team
- Aims development/study design
- Establish relationship with PO

12-6 months  3 months  Deadline
Eligibility & Preparedness

• Request eRA Commons credentials (Research Administration Services can facilitate)

• Select Funding Opportunity Announcement and ensure basic career stage criteria and citizenship status requirements are met
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12-6 months  3 months  Deadline
Finding The Right FOA
(Funding Opportunity Announcement)
Finding The Right FOA (continued)

1. Select Role
   - Awardee
   - Appointee

2. Select Career Level
   - Early Career

**Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award**
K01
For support of a postdoctoral or early career research scientist committed to research, in need of both advanced research training and additional experience.

**Details**  View Current Funding Opportunities

**Independent Research Scientist Development Award**
K02
For support of an early to mid-career scientist with research funding, in need of additional protected time committed to research.

**Details**  View Current Funding Opportunities

**Academic Career Development Award**
K07
To support either a mentored or independent investigator to develop or enhance curricula, foster academic career development of promising young teacher-investigators, and to strengthen existing teaching programs.

**Details**  View Current Funding Opportunities

**Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award**
K08
To provide the opportunity for promising clinician scientists with demonstrated aptitude to develop into independent investigators, or for faculty members to pursue...
### Pathway to Independence Award

#### Program Purpose

The purpose of this program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented, NIH-supported, independent investigators. This program is designed to facilitate a timely transition of outstanding postdoctoral researchers or clinical scientists from mentored research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent appointments, and to provide independent NIH research support during the transition that will help individuals launch competitive, independent research careers.

#### Eligibility

- U.S. citizen or non-citizen, with research or clinical doctoral degree, and no more than 4 years of Post-Doctoral research experience.

#### Career Level

- Postdoctorate/Residency, Early Career
Diving into the Finer Print

1. Select Role
   - Awardee
   - Appointee

2. Select Career Level
   - Early Career

Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award

K08

To provide the opportunity for promising clinician scientists with demonstrated aptitude to develop into independent investigators, or for faculty members to pursue research, and aid in filling the academic faculty gap in health profession's institutions.

Details

View Current Funding Opportunities
### Agency-Specific Eligibility Requirements

**Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award (Parent K08) (PA-16-191)**

**PA-16-191**

**Table of IC-Specific Information, Requirements and Staff Contacts**

*Release Date: April 15, 2016*

*Expiration Date: January 8, 2018*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)</th>
<th>NICHD Specific Information:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Program Contact: Dennis A. Twombly, Ph.D. Phone: 301-451-3371 Email: <a href="mailto:dtwombly@mail.nih.gov">dtwombly@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
<td>NICHD offers fellowships and career development awards in research areas relevant to the institute's scientific objectives... In pursuit of these goals, NICHD supports a broad spectrum of research on ... More detailed information can be found at: <a href="http://www.nichd.nih.gov/research/by-nichd/pages/index.aspx">http://www.nichd.nih.gov/research/by-nichd/pages/index.aspx</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Management Contact: Bryan S. Clark, MBA Phone: (301) 435-6975 Email: <a href="mailto:clarkb1@mail.nih.gov">clarkb1@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
<td><strong>NICHD has a 6 year limit of cumulative support on institutional K awards (e.g., K12, KL2) and individual mentored K awards (e.g., K01, K08, K23, K25).</strong></td>
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**Salary Support:** Up to $100,000 plus fringe benefits per year.

**Research Support:** Up to $25,000 per year.
Eligibility & Preparedness

*Important consideration for physician scientists*

Securing 75% protected research time

- Must secure Dept/Division support for protected research time (i.e. release from clinical effort) and commitment for cost share if budget doesn’t provide adequate funds

- Panelist input?
Timeline:

1 year in advance of the deadline

- Ensure eligibility and preparedness
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12-6 months → 3 months → Deadline
The Importance Of Preliminary Data

Panelist Input:

• Should preliminary results be published before the grant is submitted?

• How many first author publications make an applicant competitive for a K award?

• Do second author publications count for anything?

• While it may be ideal to have publications with your mentor/mentor team, what if you don’t? Are there other activities that can be highlighted within the application to compensate?
Timeline:
1 year in advance of the deadline

- Ensure eligibility and preparedness
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12-6 months

3 months

Deadline
Role of Mentor/Mentor Team

- Help define training goals at the outset and evaluate at regular intervals throughout training
- Meet regularly, one-on-one, to discuss progress towards goals
- Listen and discuss ideas
- Provide constructive and timely feedback on scientific work
- Support growth through encouraging training opportunities and professional development
- Facilitate networking
- Acknowledge research contributions (ex - through authorship on publications)
Establishing Meaningful Relationship with your Mentors

Panelist Input:

• How did you meet your mentor/mentees?
• How many mentors do you have and how do their strengths complement each other?
• What are some positive examples of building good mentor/mentee relationships?
• What is the optimal meeting frequency with both the primary mentor and mentor team?
• Can a mentee expect a mentor to review the entire K application before submission? What about the rest of the mentor team? How much advanced notice should be given?
Timeline:
1 year in advance of the deadline

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12-6 months → 3 months → Deadline
Specific Aims and Study Design

Panelist Input:

• What kinds of resources and input are necessary and useful when writing your Specific Aims and designing the corresponding studies?

• How involved can/should the mentee ask the mentor to be when developing Specific Aims? Can the entire mentor team get involved in this activity and if so, what is a productive format?
Timeline:
1 year in advance of the deadline

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12-6 months 3 months Deadline
Establishing a Relationship with the PO

• Confirm that the NIH Institute/Center (IC) you have identified supports research in your area
• Ask about special research priorities
• Confirm your eligibility and competitiveness
• Request guidance and input on proper IC or study section assignment
Establishing a Relationship with the PO

Panelist Input:

• What are your experiences with PO’s? Have they been helpful and if so, which what types of input?
• Can PO’s be asked to comment on Specific Aims?
• Will PO’s reliably point you to other agencies or funding opportunities if they aren’t interested?
• How helpful are they in talking through study section assignment?
• What do you know about selective pay and has it ever worked in your favor?
Wrap Up and Final Questions