# The Art & Science of K Grant Application Planning

### Laying the groundwork for a successful K application

### September 12, 2016









EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE Department of Medicine

Department of Pediatrics

# **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, <u>including grantwriting</u>...

#### 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:

- <u>http://www.pedsresearch.org/bird</u>
- <u>http://medicine.emory.edu/research/internal-research-resources/funding-opportunities/external-research-funding.html</u>

### **Survey Drawing**











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# **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

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- 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



# **Eligibility & Preparedness**

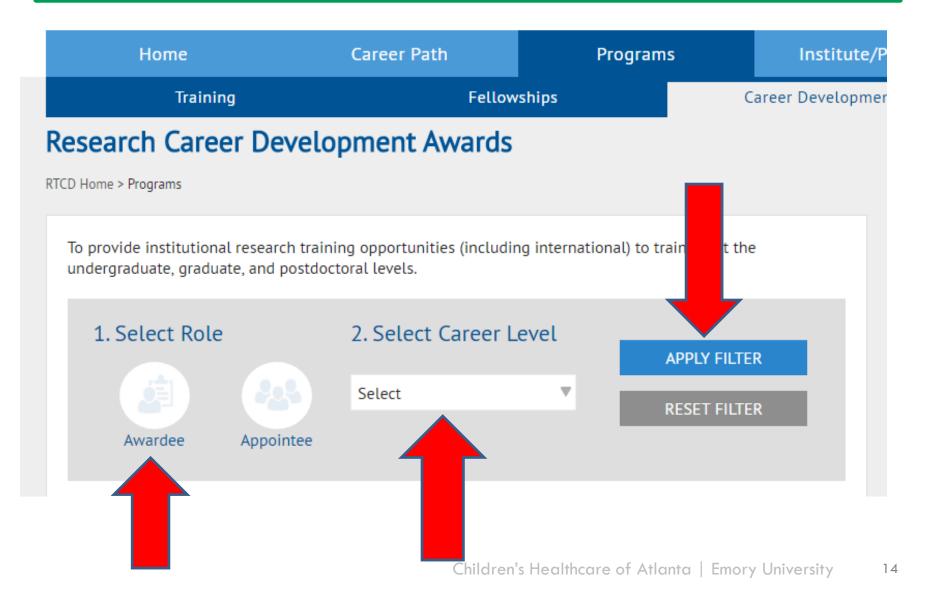
- Request eRA Commons credentials (Research Administration Services can facilitate)
- Select Funding Opportunity Announcement and ensure basic career stage criteria and citizenship status requirements are met



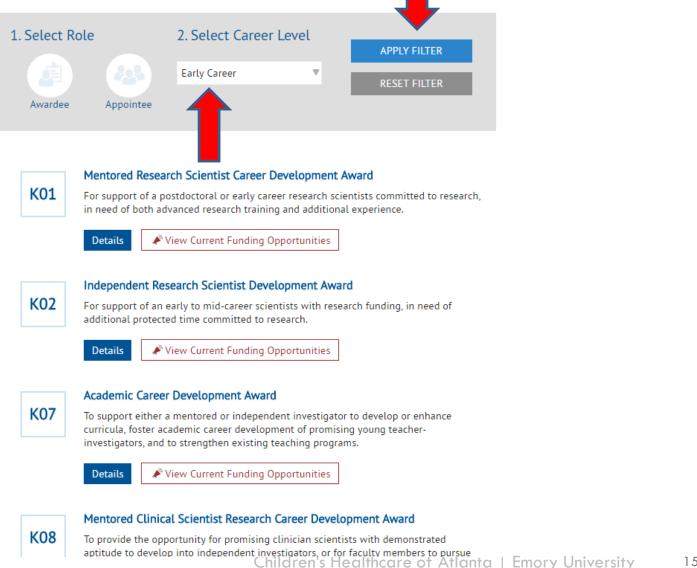
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### Finding The Right FOA (Funding Opportunity Announcement)



### **Finding The Right FOA** (continued)



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# Finding The Right FOA (continued)

K99/ R00

### Pathway to Independence Award

#### **Program Purpose**

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



### **Diving into the Finer Print**





#### Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award

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.



# 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

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of	NICHD Specific Information:
Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)	
	NICHD offers fellowships and career development awards in research areas relevant to the institute's
Scientific Program Contact:	scientific objectives In pursuit of these goals, NICHD supports a broad spectrum of research on More
Dennis A. Twombly, Ph.D.	detailed information can be found at: http://www.nichd.nih.gov/research/by-nichd/pages/index.aspx.
Phone: 301-451-3371	
Email: dtwombly@mail.nih.gov	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).
Grants Management Contact:	
Bryan S. Clark, MBA	Salary Support: Up to \$100,000 plus fringe benefits per year.
Phone: (301) 435-6975	Research Support: Up to \$25,000 per year.
Email: clarkb1@mail.nih.gov	

### **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?



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# 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?



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- 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?

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# 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?

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# 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

