Grant Title: NIH PATHWAY TO INDEPENDENCE (PI) AWARD (K99/R00)

Funding Opportunity Number: PA-10-063. CFDA Number(s): 93.213, 93.389, 93.172, 93.233, 93.837, 93.838, 93.839, 93.271, 93.855, 93.856, 93.173, 93.121, 93.847, 93.848, 93.849, 93.279, 93.859, 93.281, 93.853, 93.894, 93.879, 93.989, 93.307, 93.867, 93.866, 93.846, 93.865, 93.286, 93.398.

Agency/Department: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Area of Research: Facilitation of independent researchers.


Application Deadline: New: February 12, June 12, October 12 annually; Resubmissions: March 12, July 12, November 12 annually.

Amount: The total cost per year for the initial mentored phase generally should not exceed $90,000 at either an NIH intramural or an extramural sponsoring institution site, but may be higher in the case of individuals with exceptional salary needs. Salary and fringe benefits may be requested up to the level provided by other Mentored Career Awards offered by the awarding Institute or Center. Research support costs will generally be provided up to $20,000 for a 12 month budget period.

Length of Support: Candidates may request up to 5 years of support consisting of two phases. The initial phase will provide 1-2 years of mentored support for highly promising, postdoctoral research scientists. This phase will be followed by up to 3 years of independent support contingent on securing an independent tenure-track or equivalent research position.

Eligible Applicants: Public and State controlled institutions of higher education. See the full announcement for a complete list of eligible applicants.

Summary: The primary purpose of the Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented NIH-supported independent investigators. The program is designed to facilitate a timely transition from a mentored postdoctoral research position to a stable independent research position with independent NIH or other independent research support at an earlier stage than is currently the norm. The initial mentored phase will provide support for the most promising and exceptionally talented new investigators who have no more than 5 years of postdoctoral research training experience at the time of initial application or subsequent resubmission(s) and do not already have a full-time tenure track assistant professor position (or equivalent). This initial phase of mentored support will allow the candidate time to obtain additional training, complete research, publish results, and bridge to an independent research position. The candidate must propose a research project that will be pursued during the K99 phase and transition into an independent project during the R00 phase of the award. The candidate and mentor(s) together will be responsible for all aspects of the mentored (K99 phase) career development and research program. An individual may submit an application from an extramural or intramural sponsoring institution/organization that has a rich and extensive research program in the area of interest as well as the faculty, facilities and resources to support the proposed research endeavor. The individual must select an appropriate mentor with a track record of funded research related to the selected research topic and experience as a supervisor and mentor. The sponsoring institution must ensure that the candidate has the protected time needed to conduct the proposed research. Following the mentored phase, the individual may request support to conduct research as an independent scientist at an extramural sponsoring institution/organization to which the individual has been recruited, been offered and has accepted a tenure-track full-time assistant professor position (or equivalent). This support is to allow the individual to continue to work toward establishing his/her own independent research program and prepare an application for regular research grant support (R01).