Grant Title: NIAID SCIENCE EDUCATION AWARDS (R25)

Funding Opportunity Number: PAR-11-086. CFDA Number(s): 93.856, 93.855.

Agency/Department: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

Area of Research: Provides support for organizations that focus on the development of science education for K-12 students. It is expected that these education programs will provide outreach to a large audience of students, directly or through their teachers, using approaches whose success can be measured.


Application Deadline: January 25, May 25, September 25 annually.

Amount: The total direct costs are limited to $175,000 annually.

Length of Support: Up to 5 years.

Eligible Applicants: Public, state, or private institutions, such as universities, colleges, hospitals. See the full announcement for a complete list of eligible applicants.

Summary: This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) encourages applications from applicant organizations that propose creative and innovative programs that focus on the development of science education for K-12 students in research areas directly relevant to the mission of NIAID. It is expected that these education programs will provide national outreach to students directly or through their teachers, using (approaches/metrics/methods) whose success can be measured. The NIH Research Education (R25) grant mechanism is a flexible and specialized mechanism designed to foster the development/training of biomedical, behavioral, and clinical researchers through creative and innovative science education programs. The overall goals of the NIAID in developing science literacy enhancing education programs are: 1) to provide and increase public education and outreach on NIAID-funded research to diverse audiences; 2) to raise awareness of scientific method and the availability of careers in the biomedical sciences among K-12, 3) to encourage the integration of the NIAID scientific mission areas in the day-to-day teaching of science at the K-12 level in the hope that the public at large will understand and appreciate the work of NIAID more fully. NIAID accepts R25 applications that propose new methods of training and curriculum development for K-12 teachers and/or students using innovative approaches with an outreach at a national level. The applicant organization should determine the nature of the program, state the specific goals for the program, and define specific measurable objectives. NIAID will seek applications that can provide evaluation of measureable outcomes for K-12 student education programs and teacher professional development. The NIH encourages all proposed programs to foster the participation of individuals from a diverse population base that include the participation of individuals currently underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences such as persons from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds (socially, culturally, and economically), individuals with disabilities, and persons from underserved communities. Proposed projects for NIAID Science Education Awards may focus on any area of NIAID-funded basic, behavioral or clinical research and should have a national scope. Examples of appropriate Science Education projects include, but are not limited to, those listed: (a) K-12 curriculum that will increase student understanding and interest in science and the scientific method; (b) professional development and/or research internship opportunities for K-12 teachers that deliver scientific content, an understanding of the scientific research process and pedagogical skills; (c) science center and public outreach activities (e.g., Science Cafes and after school programs) that will educate students, teachers and the community on topical, health related research such as: HIV/AIDS, immune mediated diseases (including allergies and asthma), vaccines and their importance, and emerging and re-emerging infectious disease.