Grant Title: RUTH L. KIRSCHSTEIN NATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE AWARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS TO PROMOTE DIVERSITY IN HEALTH-RELATED RESEARCH (PARENT F31 - DIVERSITY)

Funding Opportunity Number: PA-11-112. CFDA Number(s): 93.273, 93.173, 93.113, 93.282, 93.853, 93.866, 93.361, 93.847, 93.855, 93.856, 93.286, 93.865, 93.121, 93.233, 93.837, 93.838, 93.839, 93.172, 93.398, 93.213.

Agency/Department: National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Area of Research: Improve the diversity of the health-related research workforce.


Application Deadline: April 13, August 13, December 13, annually.

Amount: Ruth L. Kirschstein-NRSA F31 awards provide stipends to predoctoral fellows as a subsistence allowance to help defray living expenses during the research training experience. The NIH will contribute to the combined cost of tuition and fees at the rate in place at the time of award. Currently, the NIH will provide an amount per individual fellow equal to 60% of the level requested by the applicant institution, up to $16,000 per year for individuals enrolled in a doctoral degree program and up to $21,000 per year for those individuals enrolled in a dual degree (e.g. MD/PhD) program. Tuition, for the purposes of this policy, means the combined costs of tuition and fees. NIH will currently provide an institutional allowance of up to $3,100 for F31 fellows sponsored by Federal or for-profit institutions for expenses associated with travel to scientific meetings, health insurance, and books.

Length of Support: Individuals may receive up to 5 years of aggregate Kirschstein-NRSA support at the predoctoral level (up to 6 years for dual degree training, e.g., MD/PhD), including any combination of support from institutional training grants (e.g. T32) and an individual fellowship award. Fellowship awards are often limited to 2-3 years.

Eligible Applicants: The applicant fellow must have a baccalaureate degree and be currently enrolled in a PhD or equivalent research degree program (e.g., EngD, DNSc, Dr PH, DSW, PharmD, PsyD, ScD), a formally combined MD/PhD program, or other combined professional/clinical and research doctoral (e.g., DDS/PhD) in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences at a domestic or foreign institution. The Kirschstein-NRSA F31 may not be used to support studies leading to the MD, DDS, or other clinical, health-professional training (e.g., DC, DMD, DNP, DO, DPM, DVM, ND, OD, AuD).

Summary: The purpose of the F31 predoctoral fellowship to promote diversity in health-related research is to provide up to five years of support for research training leading to the PhD or equivalent research degree, the combined MD/PhD degree (up to six years of support); or another formally combined professional degree and research doctoral degree in biomedical, behavioral, health services, or clinical sciences. These fellowships will enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral, health services, and clinical research labor force in the United States by providing opportunities for academic institutions to identify and recruit students from diverse population groups to seek graduate degrees in health-related research and apply for this fellowship. The goal of this program is to increase the number of scientists from diverse population groups who are prepared to pursue careers in biomedical, behavioral, social, clinical, or health services research.