

NIH K22 - Career Transition Award

Description of Award

The goal of this program is to facilitate the transition of investigators to independent, productive research careers. One or two phase award; an initial period of mentored research (often, but not always, intramural at NIH), followed by a period of independent research at an extramural institution.

NIH awards are applied to through specific Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs). See a list of [active K22 FOAs here](#). *What's an FOA and what do all these NIH acronyms mean? Click [here](#) to find out!*

Looking for additional information? Try this link:

- [Career Transition Award | Research Training](#)

Eligibility

- US citizen or permanent resident
- Research or clinical doctoral degree
- Postdoctoral fellowship/residency or early career investigator career stage
 - **Note:** Given that the initial period of the award often provides an intramural appointment at the NIH, eligibility criteria differs by appointment agency. For example, the NCI K22 requires at least 2 years of postdoctoral cancer research training, while the NIMH K22 requires applicants be currently be conducting research as a postdoctoral fellow in the NIMH Division of Intramural Research Programs
 - *See specific funding announcements for eligibility criteria by agency appointment*

Funds Provided

- Funds are provided toward PI salary and project-related expenses; amounts and award timelines vary by funding institute

Deadlines

NIH has 3 submission cycles for new K22 applications under the current FOAs.

- Cycle I: February
- Cycle II: June
- Cycle III: October
- New K22 applications may be submitted by any of these deadlines. For each date, applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of application organization.

Note: Check with the grants office at your home institution because internal deadlines can vary. Oftentimes materials must be submitted internally prior to the NIH deadline.

Major Application Components

- Comprehensive application instructions can be found [here](#) and should be considered in conjunction with your specific FOA
- Major application components and length (general NIH page limit guidelines found [here](#))
 - Biosketch - 5 pages
 - Highlights qualifications for the individual's specific role in the project through the following sections:

- Personal Statement
 - Positions and Honors
 - Contributions to Science
 - Research Support
- View [Biographical Sketch Format Page \(non-fellowship\) here](#)
- Candidate Information and Goals for Career Development - *12 pages combined with Research Plan*
 - Candidate's Background
 - Career Goals and Objectives
 - Candidate's Plan for Career Development/Training Activities During Award Period
- Research Plan - *12 pages combined with Candidate Information & Goals*
 - Specific Aims - *1 page*
 - Research Strategy - *~6 pages*
 - Significance
 - Innovation
 - Approach
 - Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Plans and Statements of Mentor and Co-Mentor(s) - *6 pages*
 - Mentor and co-mentor(s) (if applicable) each document:
 - Plan for candidate's training and research career development
 - Source of anticipated support for candidate's research project
 - Nature and extent of supervision and mentoring of the candidate
 - Candidate's time available for research and anticipated other commitments during the award period (e.g., teaching, clinical activities, administrative activities)
 - Plan for transitioning candidate from mentored stage of career to independent investigator, including previous mentorship experiences and their outcomes
- Reference Letters

Contact information for Successful Applicants:

References

<https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/career-development/K22>