Program in Neuroscience
The Florida State University

The NIH F31/F32 NRSA

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Program in Neuroscience

How do I know if it is right for me?

- Read the "Program Announcement"
  - F31 Individual Pretdoctoral Fellowship
    - **https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-21-051.html**
  - F32 Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship
    - **https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-21-048.html**

- Contact the Program Officer
  - https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/contacts/parent_F32.html

Eligibility?

- "By the time of award, the individual must be a citizen or a non-citizen national of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence."

What type of science/training?

- Concept of the grant "mechanism"
- F31: "The purpose ... is to enable promising predoctoral students to obtain individualized, mentored research training from outstanding faculty sponsors while conducting dissertation research in scientific health-related fields relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers. The proposed mentored research training must reflect the applicant's dissertation research project and is expected to clearly enhance the individual's potential to develop into a productive, independent research scientist."

- F32: "The purpose ... is to support research training of highly promising postdoctoral candidates who have the potential to become productive, independent investigators in scientific health-related research fields relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers. Applications are expected to incorporate exceptional mentorship. "

When can I apply?

- Standard dates for NIH

- F awards: April 8, Aug 8, Dec 8

  - https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/due-dates.htm

What does it provide?

- Stipend; some "training related expenses"
  - https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-049.html
  - Not really to fund the science itself (animals, chemicals etc.). Sponsor must have adequate support.
  - New: childcare allowance
    - https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-074.html
- Max 3 years

NRSA Parts of the application

(particularly RESEARCH & RELATED Other Project Information and the Fellowship Supplement Form)

- Various standard info in forms

- Biosketch (in specified format)

- Background and Goals (6 page limit)

- The Science

- Lots of info about doing that science

- Sponsor Section

- Recommendations (3)

The science and related info:

- Parts for Research Plan
  - Aims (1 page)
  - Strategy (6 pages)
  - Also:
    - Project Summary
    - Project Narrative
    - Human/Animal Subjects
    - Facilities and Resources
    - Select Agents, Resource Sharing Plan
    - Respective Contributions
    - Selection of Sponsor and Institution
    - Responsible Conduct in Research

Bottom Line: Plan on taking LOTS of time

Sponsor(s) and Co-Sponsor(s)

- A lot of info is required here; give them plenty of time
  - Biosketch (make it about training)
  - Sponsor/co-sponsor Statement (6 page limit):
    - Research support available
    - Training history
    - Training plan, environment, facilities
      - Make sure it is not "generic"; prove individual attention and good sponsor-student relationship
      - Make sure it lines up with your stated goals
    - Number of current trainees
    - Qualifications and Potential of Trainee

Recommendation Letters

- Who to ask:
  - People you know will write strong letters
  - People who you say will collaborate
  - People for whom it would be weird if you didn't ask them for a letter (e.g, for postdoc, should probably have Ph.D. advisor)
  - Your sponsor(s) cannot be a letter writer

Review Criteria

F31/32

- Overall Impact

- Applicant
- Sponsor
- Research Training Plan
  - Significance
  - Approach
- Training Potential
- Environment

RO1

- Overall Impact

- Significance
- Investigator
- Innovation
- Approach
- Environment

Feasibility and Promise

How do I know which Institute/study section to send it to?

- http://reporter.nih.gov/
- Contact the Program Officer